

**MINUTES OF THE RECREATION & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING
18TH NOVEMBER 2024, THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE GALTRES CENTRE**

Present: Councillors C. Bilson (Chairman), P. Nottage, F. Johnston-Banks, K. Butcher, R. Varney, I. Buckle

In attendance: Councillors C. Barnes, N. Madden

Clerk: Mrs J Bentley

1.	<p>Apologies Apologies were received from Helen O’Kelly and reasons for absence approved.</p>
2.	<p>It was resolved to adjourn the meeting for up to 15 minutes to take questions or comments through the Chairman from members of the public. No members of the public were present therefore no questions were asked.</p>
3.	<p>Clerk’s Progress Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playworks have been appointed to undertake the refurbishment work on Claypenny Park • The tree surveys have been received from Elliott Consultancy and quotes have been requested for the recommended works • The Memorial Park walls have been completed • The Blue Cedar near Larch Rise has been assessed and the arboriculturist has provided a report • The Horseshoe and Bike Track work has been completed • The goalposts have been installed in Millfields Park • The one-way signage has been installed on the bike track • Joe Tate has carried out the work on the daffodil bank, and Councillor Johnston-Banks will decide when best to sow the wildflower seeds based on advice from Forest of Flowers • The boundary issue has been resolved with the Cricket Club and a 50:50 contribution has been made to erect a new fence • A site visit has taken place in the Memorial Park with HAGS, Councillors Varney, Butcher and the Clerk to resolve the snagging issues • The Assistant Clerk has requested quotes for grass cutting to be reviewed at the February meeting <p>It was AGREED that the Blue Cedar report should be sent to the residents, that no work is necessary at this time, but the Clerk should make a diary note to have it reinspected every 18 months.</p>
4.	<p>Action Plan The action plan was received and updated.</p>
5.	<p>Trees</p> <p>5.1 The tree survey was received from Elliott Consultancy as well as quotes from contractors for the work and it was AGREED to go ahead with Top Cut Trees quote, excluding the Lilac Tree (no 65 on the Market Green) until Councillor Butcher confirms requirements to the Clerk. It was AGREED that the Chase Garth Working Group would decide on the treatment required for the Veteran Oak.</p> <p>5.2 An email was received from a resident regarding a lime tree on Lime Tree Avenue and it was AGREED to get a quote from Top Cut Trees on the work required.</p> <p>5.3 An email was received from a resident regarding the lime trees on Lime Tree Avenue and it was AGREED to get a quote from Top Cut Trees on the work required.</p> <p>5.4 A quote was received from Elliott Consultancy on a decay assessment of a tree, and it was RESOLVED to confirm with Top Cut Trees what is included in their quote.</p>

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	<p>5.5 An email was received from a resident on Larch Rise. It was AGREED to request that a tree surgeon deals with the tree so that the branches are not within 1.5 metres of the property.</p>
6.	<p>Signage</p> <p>6.1 The proposed replacement wording was received from Councillor Bilson for the signage in Longlands Park and it was RESOLVED to approve it with the inclusion of the Clerk's email address. It was RESOLVED that the signs should be replicated at the Memorial Park and Claypenny Play Parks.</p> <p>6.2 An email was received from Councillor Bilson regarding signs in Millfields and it was RESOLVED that two rustic wooden street signs would be more appropriate than metal ones for Jacko's Way. The wording for the finger posts was agreed as:</p> <p>Wetland Junction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation Area • Claypenny Play Park • Claypenny Estate • Wetland • Friendship Garden <p>Copperclay Junction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre • Recreation Area • Claypenny Play Park • Wetland • Friendship Garden <p>6.3 An email was received from Councillor Butcher regarding signs/information boards in Millfields and it was AGREED that this item would be considered by Millfields Working Group.</p>
7.	<p>Millfields</p> <p>7.1 The management plan was received, progress reviewed and required actions added.</p> <p>7.2 An email was received from Easingwold Primary school regarding Environmental Ambassadors and litter picking and it was AGREED that Councillor Butcher and the Clerk would liaise with the school regarding litter picking, and to confirm that in principle the signs would be acceptable but no more than 3 should be produced, with designs being approved by Easingwold Town Council.</p> <p>7.3 An email was received from a resident regarding a bench in Millfields and it was AGREED to move the item to the Social & Events Committee meeting in December and to inform the resident.</p> <p>7.4 An email was received from a resident regarding dogs in Millfields and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should respond to him to explain that there are currently no plans to put dogs on leads but that his concerns will be reported to the dog warden to monitor.</p>
8.	<p>Memorial Park</p> <p>8.1 A proposal on the Cricket Club hedge from Councillor Varney was received and it was AGREED that this would be put on the Memorial Park Working Group's agenda.</p> <p>8.2 It was confirmed that Councillor Butcher would meet Forth Plant regarding the re-profiling of the Memorial Park Play Area on Thursday 21st November.</p>
9.	<p>Chase Garth</p> <p>An update was received from the Chase Garth working group and it was AGREED that Councillors Butcher and Madden will meet Forth Plant to review the Tiplady Close entrance.</p>
10.	<p>Playgrounds</p> <p>10.1 The quarterly Playground Inspections were received and it was RESOLVED that the Skate Park will need top soil and seeding in Spring, it was AGREED that the Youth Shelter</p>

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	<p>should not be included in the report, the gate at Longlands should be mended with the correct mechanism, ensure that the Miscellaneous Works Contractor is aware of strimming damage, and that timber edges be replaced on the path in the Memorial Park Play Area.</p> <p>10.2 An email was received from a member of the public regarding the Memorial Park and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should respond to his email points.</p>
11.	<p>Vision Actions relating to the new Vision were reviewed and AGREED.</p>
12.	<p>Risk Assessment The revised Risk Assessment was received, and it was RESOLVED that the Allotments be transferred to the Operations Committee. It was AGREED that Councillors should review the Risk Assessment, send any comments to Councillors Buckle and Bilson who will then resend the final version for approval.</p>
13.	<p>Budget 13.1 The proposed budget for 2025/6 was reviewed and it was AGREED to include the replacement pirate ship, and the revised version will be used at the Finance Committee meeting on the 4th December 2024. 13.2 The financial position as of 31st October 2024 was noted.</p>
14.	<p>Date of the Next Meeting 17th February 2025 at 7.30pm or on the rising of the Planning Committee.</p>

The meeting closed at 21.09