

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES AND PLAY PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD IN COLBURN VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 10th OCTOBER 2022 AT 5.30 PM

Present:

Chair: Cllr Miles Burnham

Councillors: Angela Dale, Andrea Crowe, Michelle Dunning, Jag Sharma, Akuila Tutora

Deputy Clerk: Angie Pickersgill

In attendance: Barry Robertson, Groundsman

1. **APOLOGIES:** None
2. **“DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST”** – None

3. **GROUNDSMAN REPORT**

All weekly jobs have been carried out as normal, all the play parks have, had their monthly inspections carried out by the Groundsman and Cllr Burnham. Repairs from the monthly inspections have been done and some of the repairs from the Zurich report have been carried out. Parts are on order to repair some pieces of equipment and other jobs are on the Groundsman’s Autumn job list for repairs and maintenance, during the quieter months. Grass cutting comes to an end for the year at the end of October.

4. **GARAGE STORAGE**

Cllr Burnham enquired if there was any storage space in the garage. The Groundsman informed the committee of the contents and that the garage is well used.

5. **ZURICH INSPECTION REPORT**

The yearly independent inspection of all of our play parks has been carried out. The office received the report and has been emailed to all Councillors. The groundsman has a copy, and is working his way through a repairs list. Some of the jobs require to be completed when the parks are quiet. He will send a report of completed jobs to the office.

6. **CONTRIBUTION FROM THE LAND TRUST FOR MAINTAINING AREA**

A discussion took place regarding the time which the groundsman spent maintaining the area throughout the year and emptying the bins. Grass cutting, weeding, spraying and wild flower beds etc are seasonal work but the bin emptying is all year-round. The Committee took into account work involved and fuel costs etc. It was **RESOLVED** that the Land Trust are contacted and a suggested contribution of £2100 per annum to the Town Council is put forward to them. Office to email the Land Trust with this proposal.

7. **BROADWAY RAISED BEDS**

Cllr Crowe reported that she had formed a plan for the planting of the raised beds at the Broadway. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Dale and Cllr Crowe will organise the purchase of the required planting and a working party will go and plant the raised beds up. These plants will be purchased from the money kindly given to this project from the previous Mayor’s charity fund.

8. **LITTER PICK DATES**

The litter picks have had a short break, but now will be back to the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. Cllr Dale reported that some of the litter pickers were now broken and new ones were required. Cllr Burnham informed the committee that he noticed them in a local shop and would enquire and let the office know. The Colburn Community Hub & Café have kindly donated free refreshments for after the litter picks in the Village Hall.

5 of our new litter bins have arrived are in place around Colburn: Grasmere Grove, Forest Drive by the bus stop, First/Fifth Ave junction, Fourth Ave corner & Forest Drive Walnut Ave. The remaining 7 litter bins will be put in place in the near future. It was observed that they have not been secured to the ground. Office to contact RDC regarding this matter.

9. COLBURN IN BLOOM

The blue tub sponsorship for the year has now come to an end. The tubs have looked amazing this year and given a fantastic display of colour. Cost of plants has risen dramatically and after a discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the sponsorship for a year will now cost £80 per single tub and £185 for the three-tier planter. The office to contact the sponsors that kindly took part this year to see if they would like to continue for another year.

10. PLAY PARKS WALK AROUND DATE

The play park walk around will take place after the litter pick on Saturday 15th October

11. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

A discussion took place. It was **RESOLVED** that after the fantastic response from the prize winners last year we will once again hold the Christmas lights competition.

Cllr Dunning and the Groundsman left the meeting at 6.30pm.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The office received an email from Just a Job to ask if we would like a Christmas Tree for a donation. The committee were delighted to accept.

The Council now went into closed session to discuss the Groundsman's Pay Review.

Meeting Closed at 7pm

Next meeting will be held on Monday 14th November at 5.30pm