

DRAFT minutes of the Services and Amenities Committee meeting held remotely (Zoom) on Tuesday 2nd March.

Present: Councillors Crawford (Chair), Karen Baker, Pickering and Robinson.

Also present: Councillor Fradley

Locum Officer: Zöe Godden

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

The meeting started at 19:32

1) Apologies - to record apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Councillor Buckland.

2) Declarations of Interest - to register Councillors' interests in Agenda items.

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Minutes - to confirm as correct the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2020.

<https://brutontowncouncil.gov.uk/2020/10/26/draft-agenda-services-amenities-committee-20-october-2020/>

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes as presented.

4) Inspection Reports

To receive reports from Councillors and agree any actions to be taken:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| a. Allotments (Cuckoo Hill & Durslade) | d. Jubilee Park |
| b. Cemetery | e. Eastfields Play Area |
| c. Churchyard | f. Dovecote |

Reports were received as follows:

- Three upright stiles had been installed at Jubilee Park. (KB)
- CV-19 safety signs had been put up at Jubilee Park at every entrance and exit (KB)
- The wooden play equipment at the Jubilee Park playground will need to be replaced soon (JR)
- Churchyard memorial has been fenced off temporarily but still needs attention and Councillor Robinson has arranged to meet with the new Rector to discuss. (JR)
- When marking out a grave, Councillor Robinson noticed that some litter at the cemetery and returned later to remove it, filling a black bag. There was more rubbish in the hedges and Councillor Robinson said that this would need to be removed using proper litter picking equipment. (JR)
- The Chair had submitted a report, written by herself and Councillor Pickering. Councillor Pickering highlighted that several benches and fences need to be maintained. Councillor Pickering said that perhaps the land at Eastfields could be used



for accessible raised planting beds, accessible play equipment and a sensory garden because there were no such facilities in the town. Councillor Robinson reminded the committee that the Town Council policy, in relation to the land at Eastfields, was to have the covenant removed that required the land to be used as a play area and to dispose of it but said that, should the committee have ideas about how the land could be used, these should be presented to the Full Council for consideration. The decision by Full Council to dispose of the site was over six-months old. Councillor Robinson advised that the covenant should still be removed so that the land could be used for other purposes.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Pickering and unanimously agreed to recommend to the Full Council that it reconsiders its decision to dispose of the Eastfields site and, instead, considers exploring community uses for the land.

- The Chair asked if permission would need to be sought from the Friends and landowner to plant more trees at the Dovecote. Councillor Robinson said that the Town Council leased the land from the landowner and had permission to sublet it for grass keep during the summer, so both the Friends and the landowner would have to be consulted before more trees could be planted.
- Jubilee Park play ground had not been regularly inspected but Councillors Baker and Fradley had volunteered to start weekly inspections and would send reports to the Town Clerk. (JC)
- Councillors discussed various maintenance work that was needed around the town, including repair and varnishing of some benches at the cemetery and lower park and some fences. The Chair had prepared a list of works required. Councillor Robinson said a list of regular works required would be useful. It was **agreed** that such a list could be compiled by the Town Clerk from the report that the Chair and Councillor Pickering had produced.
- Some trees had been planted on the Riverside Walk but had died, leaving just the plastic tree guards. The Chair thought these should be removed but Councillor Robinson pointed out that they were not on Town Council land.

5) Junior Playground – To consider the condition of the play equipment and agree any action to be taken.

It had been agreed, at item 4 on the agenda, that Councillors Karen Baker and Fradley would undertake weekly inspections of the play area.

Councillor Pickering reported that the wire fence between the MUGA and the Dovecote field had been damaged because users of the MUGA regularly had to climb over it to retrieve lost balls. It was **agreed** that SLR, as the Town Council's maintenance contractor, should be asked to offer options for a gate or opening of some sort, as the fence had already been repaired three times.

6) Allotments – To hear an update on lettings and agree any action to be taken.
The Chair reported that all allotments were let and that there were four people on the waiting list. The Chair had spoken with a local gardener about the condition of the trees in the orchard at Durslade allotments and had been advised that most were in good condition, although a regular regime of mulching and other maintenance was required. It was **agreed** that the Chair would ask the contractor to submit a quote for the work that might be needed.

7) Community Food Bank – To hear an update and agree any action to be taken.

Councillor Robinson noted that the Community Foodbank project was now the responsibility of the Full Council. A contractor had been chosen and it was hoped that work would take place in early May. There was some discussion about the sand and salt that was stored in the Engine Shed and options for their relocation. It was noted that the shed at the Durslade allotment site and the shed at the Community Hall could be used, as keeping the sand and salt at more than one location would be advantageous.

8) Jubilee Park Development Programme – To hear an update and agree any action to be taken.

Councillor Robinson reported that the BruBowl project would be on the agenda for the next Full Council meeting in March.

9) Litter pick – To consider organising a litter pick event and agree any action to be taken.

Councillors discussed the issue and agreed that a litter pick event should be organised when the CV-19 restrictions had been lifted.

The meeting ended at 20:09.

Zöe Godden
Locum Officer