

SNODLAND TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES & RECREATION COMMITTEE

31 MAY 2018

Committee Members present:	Cllrs D Keeley (C), Mrs D Crook, Mrs S Bell, Mrs L Downes, P Hickmott
Council Members present:	Mrs K Sowten (Chief Executive), Miss E Jones and Cllr B Garlick
Members of the public:	Members of the public present

1.	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs D King and Mrs B Keeley.</p>
2.	<p><u>Declaration of Interests</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
3.	<p><u>Minutes - To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2018</u></p> <p>The minutes of 12 April 2018 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.</p>
4.	<p><u>Questions from the public</u> (<i>Members of the public are advised that they may speak for up to three minutes</i>)</p> <p><i>Standing Orders were lifted</i></p> <p>The Chairman advised that questions would be taken from the members of the public regarding accessibility around Leybourne Lakes and then item 15.1 would be discussed in more detail.</p> <p>A member of the public gave a brief presentation on the difficulty that wheelchairs, mobility scooters, pushchairs and bicycles experience while trying to get around the pathways surrounding Leybourne Lakes due to the loose hardcore which covers the surface. She demonstrated this with a brief video showing her body jostle while in her wheelchair and explained that this could cause back pain and headaches, especially after spending up to one hour while getting around the lake. Another member of the public explained that the surface was also not suitable for young cyclists as it hampered their confidence and also could cause a serious injury if they fell on to the loose gravel.</p> <p>RESOLVED – for Cllr Mrs S Bell to hand deliver the letter of support and a copy of the video (via zip drive) to TMBC and to also ensure a copy of the letter is sent to the Chairman of East Malling and Larkfield Council.</p>
5.	<p><u>To receive a report from the Christmas in Snodland Committee</u></p> <p><i>Standing orders were re-instated</i></p> <p>The Chairman gave a report on the last Christmas in Snodland meeting which took place on 17 May 2018. The following points were raised:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childrens fairground rides – this is still to be confirmed from the Fairground staff due to the Dickens Festival taking place on the same weekend; • Santa’s Grotto – Cllr Mrs S Bell advised that she has sourced a reasonably priced wooden shed which would also be easy to assemble. She advised that it could also be insulated for warmth at an extra cost and painted; • Cllr P Hickmott advised that he and the CEO had visited the High Street to enable them to decide whether it would be a viable option to close the High Street – it was agreed that this was not a viable option; • It was agreed that a fence panel between Rocfort Road car park and the Cricket meadow could be removed in order to create a pathway from the market stalls to the beer tent/band marquee.
6.	<p><u>To receive a report from the Carnival Committee</u></p> <p>The Chairman gave a report on the last Carnival meeting which took place on 17 May 2018. He reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were more floats and walking groups taking part this year; • The CEO advised that she had spoken to an Amateur Dramatics Society, based in East Malling, who initially wanted to have a stall in the Carnival. She asked if they would take part in the arena and they have tentatively agreed to present a 10 minute pantomime set; • The Chairman advised that the chosen charity was Youcan, who are a cancer charity.
7.	<p><u>To receive a report from the Allotment Committee including a request to install new gates at Sharnal Lane</u></p> <p>Cllr Mrs L Downes gave a brief report on the last Allotment meeting which took place on 7 March 2018.</p> <p>The CEO informed the Committee that a request had been made to be put forward to the Committee, to install wider gates at the Sharnal Lane entrance. This would be to enable larger lorries to reverse on to the hard stand (ie for manure deliveries). It was agreed that Sharnal Lane is a private road and vehicles should not be encouraged to use this road on a regular basis. It was agreed that if the gates were made wider it could encourage allotment holders to park their vehicles on the hard stand. For this reason, therefore, the request was disallowed.</p>
8.	<p><u>To receive a report from the Cemetery Committee including an update on the resurfacing of the northern driveway</u></p> <p>The Chairman gave a report on the last Cemetery meeting which was held on 16 May 2018 and reported 2 recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the CEO seek competitively priced cemetery design contractors to assist with the design for the new cemetery extension; <p>RESOLVED – for plots in the lawn section to be sold when the remaining 33 graves in the main section are sold.</p> <p>RESOLVED - that graves in the new extension (when built) to have a headstone only (not the full kerb/borderstone) in order to allow more grave spaces and the ease of mowing.</p>

9.	<p><u>To receive an update with regards to the new play equipment installation at the Recreation Ground and Nevill Park</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that the play equipment is being removed week commencing 4th June 2018 in preparation of the installation of the new equipment.</p> <p>A pre-assessment meeting will be held on 5th June 2018 and installation will start on Monday 18th June 2018. The CEO requested that a working party be convened to paint the older play equipment.</p> <p>RESOLVED – that a working party be convened to paint the remaining play equipment.</p>
10.	<p><u>To receive a report on the progress of the refurbishment programme for the Moyeuve-Grande Suite</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that specifications have been sent out to 3 local builders to carry out the refurbishment of the Moyeuve-Grande and this will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New ceiling tiles; • New kitchen & Bar Area (removal of cooker); • New disabled toilet and refurbishment and new layout of the existing toilets; • Air conditioning; • Redecoration • New Flooring <p>The CEO advised the Committee that the summer holidays would have been the ideal opportunity to carry out the work but planning permission will need to be sought for the air conditioning which may be installed. Therefore, it is likely that the work will begin later than anticipated. The CEO advised that whilst the work is being carried out, a portable toilet will need to be hired for staff to use as the downstairs toilets are used by the pre-school children and due to safeguarding regulations, staff will not be permitted to use them.</p>
11.	<p><u>To receive a report on the progress of the 3G pitch on the MUGA</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that tender documents have been sent out to 7 specialist contractors to carry out the work at the MUGA. They will need to be returned to the Project Manager by 19 June 2018 for the completion of a tender analysis report, which will then be sent to us for consideration and a contractor appointed. The CEO advised that a meeting will be held with the Chairmen of each Committee and the Deputy VC of the Council on Wednesday 27 June 2018 to discuss the findings of the Project Manager.</p> <p>The CEO advised that she had received a first draft from STFC with a proposed timetable, and bookings would start from 1st October 2018.</p> <p>She informed the Committee that she had arranged for marketing flyers to be distributed (around mid July) and asked Councillors to consider advertising the facility in their newsletters.</p> <p>The CEO advised that the staffing arrangements for the facility still needed to be arranged and confirmed.</p>

12.	<p><u>To consider a request from the tenant at Brooklands Lake Café to install gas cylinders, including correct safety cages to enable the use of a gas grill</u></p> <p>The CEO advised the Committee that the tenant at Brooklands Lake Café has received a quote from a qualified gas engineer to install external gas cylinders at Brooklands Lake Café in order for him to cook a more varied menu for his customers.</p> <p>RESOLVED – to allow the tenant to install gas cylinders on the proviso that a safety certificate is produced by a registered engineer.</p>
13.	<p><u>To receive a report and consider proposals for a new height barrier at Brooklands Lake</u></p> <p>The CEO informed the Committee that the height barrier at Brooklands Lake has been damaged and needs completely replacing as the bottom gate does not shut either. The CEO advised that she had sourced a quote and explained to the Committee what would need to be done. The cost of the new gate would be £2,408.40. She advised that she had contacted the insurance company and is in the process of submitting a claim. The excess cost is £500.00. The CEO advised the Committee that the gate would need replacing quickly in order to ensure the area is kept secure.</p> <p>RESOLVED – for the CEO to contact the insurance company and replace the gate as soon as possible.</p>
14.	<p><u>To approve an agreement from TMBC in relation to a formal pedestrian right of way over land at Brooklands Lake to Leybourne Country Park</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that she had received an e-mail from the legal department at TMBC who have advised that the top pedestrian access leading from Leybourne Country Park to Brooklands is owned by STC but maintained as part of the Country park by TMBC. The Committee were unsure as to the exact location of the right of way and</p> <p>RECOMMENDED – that the CEO request a map showing the exact location of the right of way or to arrange to meet at the location before a decision can be made.</p>
15.	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p>
15.1	<p><u>Letter of support for people using mobility scooters, wheelchairs and pushchairs with regards to the footpath around Leybourne Lakes Country Park</u></p> <p>This item was discuss at item 4.</p>
15.2	<p><u>E-mail to support Chris and Gabs World Cycling Tour</u></p> <p>The CEO advised that an e-mail had been received from Chris and Gabs asking STC to support them with their 7 year World Cycling Tour in aid of Breast Cancer (www.chrisandgabsworldcyclingtour.com) They are planning to cycle through many towns and villages and would arrive in Snodland on 18th July 2018. They requested permission to pitch their tent overnight at Potyns Sportsground and would also appreciate some publicity for the event. The CEO suggested that the</p>

local school hold a 'teddy bear's pic-nic' to celebrate the event as it is close to the end of term. The local press would also be invited to take pictures and report on the event.
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There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.26pm.

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