

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Facilities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Yaxley Parish Council on 28th September 2021 at
7.00pm.**

Present:- Councillor J Lusted – Chairman;

Councillors R Butcher, D Chapman, K Gulson, S McMullon, G Needham, M Oliver and S Wayland.

In attendance – R. Bingham, Councillor S Sanderson, Mrs H Taylor (Clerk) and one member of the public.

CF18. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received and accepted on behalf of Councillors A Knight and A Minns (work related and personal respectively).

CF19. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors R Butcher, K Gulson, S McMullon declared “other” interests in Item No.CF24 by virtue of being allotment holders. Councillor K Gulson also declared “other” interests in CF22 and CF26 by virtue by being a volunteer of the Yaxley Countryside Group and the Community Fridge.

CF20. MINUTES

Councillor R Butcher proposed approval of the Minutes of the Committee held on 22nd June 2021. This was seconded by Councillor D Chapman and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

CF21. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident addressed the meeting to express their concerns over the lack of engagement by the Parish Council with existing youth clubs and youth provisions in the village, namely the Social Echo and Young Yaxley Network and the future of the skatepark and the use of public money on an old worn-out piece of equipment. The Chairman thanked the resident for their observations adding that the recommendations he had suggested would need to be submitted to the next meeting of Full Council for consideration. The resident agreed to forward his written report to the Clerk to enable this to happen.

CF22. WILLOW POND UPDATE

The Clerk was pleased to report that the pond in the recreation ground had been scrapped out that morning by Callum Watt with the spoil being placed discretely around the park. Members asked that their thanks be passed onto Des and Callum Watt, mention was made also of the involvement of Councillors Butcher and Gulson who helped arrange the work. In response to a question regarding the ongoing maintenance of the pond, Mr Bingham advised that this would be placed on the Countryside Volunteers yearly work schedule for September/October.

CF23. ACTION PLAN

Members received and noted a schedule of the Committee’s projects included within the Council’s Action Plan, the schedule would be used as a basis for the budget setting in November.

CF24. ALLOTMENT UPDATE

Members were advised that following a recent allotment inspection, ten requiring improvement letters and two termination letters had been sent out. Sixteen names were on the waiting list, eight of which were current allotment holders looking to move plots and three were non-residents.

CF25. COMMUNITY AUTUMN LITTER PICK

The Clerk reported that the next Community Litter Pick would be the weekend of 16th and 17th October. In the meantime, William De Yaxley School were organising a school litter pick and would be borrowing the Council's litter pickers and high viz waistcoats.

CF26. COMMUNITY FRIDGE UPDATE

Councillor K Gulson advised that the Community Fridge has handed out over 9 tons of food since April, supporting 5,604 people. The success of the fridge was down to the volunteers who collected and bagged the surplus food, many of those being Parish Councillors, and to Food for Nought for their weekly deliveries.

CF27. MIDDLEGROUND REPAIR CAFÉ UPDATE

The Clerk reported that she was looking to relaunch the repair café in January. Talks have been held with the Carbon Footprint Group on the best way to restart the sessions and previous volunteers would be emailed soon. A resident had shown an interest in being involved in running the sessions and Councillor S Wayland would speak to someone in the village who did small general repairs to see if they would be interested in helping.

CF28. TREE WORKS UPDATE

By way of a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book), Members were advised of the work identified during the annual tree survey. Members were pleased to note that the level of work was low which reflected the Council's ongoing tree maintenance programme.

CF29. VE DAY AFTERNOON TEA ARRANGEMENTS

The Clerk reported that the rearranged VE Day afternoon tea would be held on Friday 6th May 2022 in the Austin Hall. Quotes to supply the food would be sourced locally.

CF30. PLANT A TREE FOR THE QUEENS JUBILEE

Further to CF14, the Clerk advised that the Grounds Team were aiming to plant twenty-one trees next week to replace those lost due to disease or damage which would coincide with the Green Canopy project celebrating the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Councillor Gulson suggested that Des Watt may be a position to provide a small digger to dig out the holes and Mr Bingham offered the support of the Countryside Volunteers in planting the trees.

CF31. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor R Butcher and seconded by Councillor D Chapman that the meeting should be closed to the public and press at 7.56pm.

CF32. RESURFACING OF THE WETPOUR ON THE CRADLE SWING AREA AND THE SEESAW, MIDDLETONS ROAD RECREATION PLAYAREA

Consideration was given to quotes received for the resurfacing of the cradle swing and see-saw areas on Middleton's Road Recreation Playarea (copies of the quotes are appended in the Annex to the Minute Book). Members were reminded that both sites had been highlighted in the annual playground inspections as requiring attention. Having considered the information before them and in noting that the cost would exceed the playground maintenance budget, Councillor R Butcher proposed that the quote from Wicksteed for £4,944.32 (excluding VAT) be approved and Full Council requested to fund the monies from the General Reserves to allow the works to proceed. This was seconded by Councillor K Gulson and unanimously **RESOLVED.**

CF33. SKATE RAMP REPAIRS

By way of a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Annex to the Minute Book), Members were advised of the action taken to repair the skate ramps. Whilst undertaking the repairs an inspection of the framework had revealed that the plywood, to which the skatelite is attached, needs replacing. The meeting recognised that in the long term a more weather resistant construction may need to be looked at but in the short term, given the sport's popularity, the ramps needed to be repaired. Having considered the options available to replace the plywood, Members agreed that the whole of the under surface should be replaced with new plywood sheets. Given that other quotes were still awaited and the lack of specific funding in the budget for the work, Councillor K Gulson proposed that the quote(s) be taken to Full Council for consideration with a recommendation that the costs be taken from the General Reserves and that alternative contractors be approached to do the extension to give the current generation of skate park users a facility to use. This was seconded by Councillor R Butcher and unanimously **RESOLVED.**

CF34. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

That in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business being concluded, the Press and Public be re-admitted to the meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor R Butcher and seconded by Councillor S Wayland that the press and public should be readmitted to the meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed

Chairman.

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