

TOWN COUNCIL OF FRINTON AND WALTON

**MINUTES of the Recreation and Amenities Committee
held at the Council House, Frinton-on-sea,
Thursday, 19th December 2019 commencing at 7.15 pm**

Present:

Councillors: Mrs F. Robertson (Chairman)
E.T. Allen, Mrs L. Allen, Fiona Knowles, Miss P. Walford, Mrs A. Davis, C.S.
Keston, Mrs A. Oxley.

Absent:

Councillors: P.R. Clifton, Mrs I. Johnson, D. Oxley

In Attendance:

Town Clerk: J. Wedge

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors P.R. Clifton, Mrs I. Johnson and D. Oxley.

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MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 7th November 2019 (pages 13 – 15) be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

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MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ABOVE MEETING

Minute 41, page 13 – Wooden Bollards, The Spinney. Councillor Mrs A. Oxley asked what was happening with the loose wooden bollards at The Spinney. It was noted that the contractor had been instructed to strengthen the foundations around the base of the bollards.

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COLUMBINE CENTRE

- a) A list of future bookings including regular hirers at the Centre had been included in the papers. It was noted that future bookings were increasing steadily.
- b) Councillor Fiona Knowles reported that the regular Carnival bingo night on Sunday would be cancelled for the early part of 2020, starting again in April 2020. Councillor Mrs A. Davis said that Tendring Music School may be interested in hiring the Columbine Centre and she would follow up this enquiry.

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SEAFRONT & BUS SHELTERS

- a) Members considered the report about Bus Shelter repairs agreeing that it was a good description of the repairs that are required. It was agreed that a seat should be provided at the bus shelter adjacent to Great Holland Playing Field, Kirby Road. It was moved, seconded and

RECOMMENDED

that a specification for the repair of the Town Council's bus shelters is sent out to suitably qualified contractors and the results from this tender exercise be considered at the next R&A Committee.

- b) The vandalized seafront shelter near Oxford Road was discussed. Glass panels had been broken and repairs were urgently required. Four quotations for the repair of the 11 broken glass panels had been obtained with prices ranging from £295 to £680 (excluding VAT). It was moved, seconded and

RECOMMENDED

that the contractor providing the most competitive quotation of £295 be appointed immediately using the Recreations and Amenities Committee's delegated powers.

Councillor C.S. Keston raised the matter of an overhanging hedge blocking the view of arriving busses of those people waiting at the bus shelter adjacent to Great Holland Playing Field, Kirby Road. He agreed to talk to a resident who had offered to cut the hedge back at no cost to the Town Council.

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LETTING SPACE AT THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

Members considered the report about letting space at the Town Council Offices. It was agreed that the two rooms available for letting should be let for short-periods only, ideally to community groups or charities and usually when Town Council office staff are present in the building. Potential customers such as the Citizens Advice Bureau should be approached and Councillor Mrs A. Oxley agreed to contact them about the lettable space.

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ALLOTMENTS

- (a) The Clerk reported that the tenant had agreed to clear Plot 5, Wittonwood Road following receipt of a strongly worded letter, so avoiding the Town Council having to pay £800 to have this plot cleared.
- (b) Ellisons had quoted £262 to write a letter to a tenant chasing payment for clearing a site. Consequently, it was agreed that engaging a solicitor to chase defaulting allotment holders should be a last resort given the costs involved.
- (c) Members considered a report about handing back Kirby-le-Soken allotments to the landowner. It was agreed that this is a good idea in principle given the costs involved in administering this site. The Clerk was asked to work up a more detailed proposal and bring this back to a future Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting.

It was moved, seconded and

RECOMMENDED

that the Town Council agree in principle to handing back the Kirby-le-Soken Allotment site to the landowner.

- d) Members considered a report about forming a Gardening Association at Wittonwood Road Allotments. It was agreed that this is a good idea in principle and the Clerk was asked to work up a more detailed proposal and bring this back to a future Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting. It was moved, seconded and

RECOMMENDED

that the Town Council agree that the formation of a Gardening Association at Wittonwood Road Allotments is a good idea in principle.

- e) There were no other allotments matters discussed.

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GRANTS

Members considered a grant application from Frinton Community Association which was for £2000 towards the cost of new flooring on the first floor and stairs of Soken House Community Centre, at the Triangle Shopping Centre. It was agreed that the application could be brought back to a future Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting if more financial information about the applicant could be provided.

The Chairman noted that through the two competitions she had organised an additional £386 had been raised for the Mayors Charity Fund.

There were no further matters that the Chairman considered urgent, those present were thanked for their attendance and the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

CHAIRMAN