

SERVICES COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2020 – 6.00 PM
To Be Held Virtually On The Zoom Platform

AGENDA

To Join Zoom Meeting copy link into browser

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87549360746?pwd=akNyY016WnNQdGdOdjhFYWIPcXBvdz09>

Meeting ID: 875 4936 0746

Passcode: 455743

1. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Apologies have been submitted by Cllr's Drew & Miss Blissett

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members will be asked whether they have any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members are reminded that a declaration can be given later in the meeting if a need arises during discussion.

3. SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 17 FEBRUARY 2020 – MINUTES (ENCLOSED)

Recommendation – That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

4. ALLOTMENTS

The 2020/21 Allotment Tenancy Agreement and Rules were sent out in early May. All rentals have been paid and all tenancies returned.

The two vacant gardens on the Town Head and Crook Lane sites have been re-tenanted and there are currently no vacant gardens.

Since the last Services meeting in February, twenty new applications have been received and the waiting list currently stands at twenty-nine: comprising of twenty parishioners and nine non-parishioners.

Due to the Covid situation, no allotment inspections have taken place since the last meeting. It is hoped that these will resume in the near future.

Recommendation – That the information be noted

5. PLAY AREAS

Members to note the quarterly inspections have been carried out – details of repairs or items noted for concern.

5.1 Demesnes

Toddler Swing – damaged due to fire brigade action.

5.2 Bouch Way

Damaged rope bridge – Parts have been ordered. Hazard tape in place and upon receipt arrangements will be put in place to carry out the repair.

5.3 Green Lane

Minor issues identified and mainly on the wet pour surface wear and tear.

5.4 Tenfields

Rental received.

Bowes FC have approached the council with proposals to extend the changing facilities to include three showers and a toilet in each changing room and also to improve parking facilities and access. (Email attached.)

Recommendation: The council consider the request and approve in principle subject to confirmation from Fields in Trust that these changes are acceptable.

5.5 Swing for Wheelchair Users

Request received to consider allowing a swing for wheelchair users to be fitted into one of the Council's play areas.

Recommendation: The council look at the options regarding the location and funding opportunities to install a swing for wheelchair users before a firm agreement is given

6. MINI GOLF

The mini golf was open for 10 days allowing the public to play safely. Payment was by donation to avoid handling of cash. The total amount of donations received was £207.00.

Recommendation – That the information be noted

7. WEDNESDAY MARKET

The Wednesday market re-opened on 10 June 2020 after a period of 'lockdown'. The market re-opened under strict social distancing guidance and with the complete co-operation of the stall holders who put in place hand sanitisers and other measures to keep customers safe. On 10 June, no stallholder were charged.

Between 17th June and 9 September 2020 inclusive total rental receipts have been £1,875.00. During this period we have had one charity stall from the Friends of the Richardson Hospital.

Recommendation – That the information be noted

8. FLORAL AND OPEN SPACES

8.1 Floral Displays

General update on the success of summer planting will be given at the meeting.

8.2 Survey Barnard Castle Town Flower Beds (ENCLOSED)

Cllr Child will update members of the recent 'walkabout' with the Clerk to identify all flower beds.

8.3 Lower Demesnes Barriers

On the 16 March 2020 item 91 Clerks report it was recommended and agreed that the council replaces the bollard at the entrance to the Lower Demesnes with a gate in the same location. The action to take this forward has been delayed with the consultation with the residents of the Mill Cottages about to begin on the design.

8.4 Upper Demesnes Bollard

Revised quotation, to be considered at item 13.

9. BIG SPRING CLEAN 2020

Due to COVID 19 the Big Spring Clean did not take place. Cllr Child will update members on the plans and rules for the Great British September Clean (11-27 September 2020).

Recommendation - The information be noted

10. PUBLIC AND MEMORIAL SEATS

A request has been received for a memorial bench under the councils Memorial Bench Scheme from a member of the public to commemorate the passing of her Grandad, a resident of the town since 1967, and employee of Glaxo Smith Kline.

Recommendation – The council agree in principle to the request under the Memorial Bench Scheme and the Clerk arrange to discuss the matter in more detail with the resident.

11. WAR MEMORIALS

The Galgate Green memorial area has been regularly cut and has recently ben weeded and tidied.

Recommendation – That the information is noted

12. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (IN RESPECT OF ITEM 13)

Recommendation – That, under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 §1(2), the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the matters referred to at item 13 below, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

13. UPPER DEMESNES BOLLARD (CONFIDENTIAL) (ENCLOSED)

Revised quotation received for the replacement of the retractable bollard at the Upper Demesnes.

Recommendation – That members accept the revised quotation to move ahead with replacing the damaged bollard.

¹ Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, recording of the meeting by any person is permitted. Those filming or otherwise recording the meeting should respect the rights of other members of the public attending and should not disrupt the meeting.