

LANCING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities & Environment Committee held on Wednesday 8 January 2020 at 7:00pm.

Present

Councillors: Lee Cowen (in the Chair); Ann Bridges, James Butcher, Geoff Patmore.

Ex-Officio: Cllr Lydia Pope (Minutes 21 to 26.9) and Mick Clark.

Officer: Helen Plant, Clerk.

Public: 4 (including members of World of Widewater, Keep Lancing Lovely and Shoreham by Cycle) and West Sussex County Councillor Kevin Boram.

21. Apologies

Apologies had been received, and with the reasons outlined, were accepted from Cllrs Danny Jackson and Liz Haywood.

22. Declaration of Substitute Members

None.

23. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Bridges and Patmore – item 26.4ii. Widewater Footbridge update (non-pecuniary).

Cllr Pope – item 26.2ix. Request to hold an Electric Vehicle Display (non-pecuniary).

Cllr Patmore – item 26.8. Outdoor Gym Equipment (non-pecuniary).

24. Public Forum/Questions

None.

25. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 6 November 2019

Resolved – That the Minutes of the previous meeting be approved.

26. Clerk's Report

At this point, it was agreed to bring forward Agenda items 26.4ii and 26.9.

26.4ii Widewater Footbridge update

Pursuant to Minute 20.4ii/Nov/19, West Sussex County Councillor for the Widewater area, Mr Kevin Boram, attended the meeting to provide reasons for the delay to the Widewater replacement footbridge project.

Cllr Boram acknowledged that WSCC had underestimated the work to be done which therefore required a redesign and retender. Cllr Boram reiterated that the proposed scheme, which included significant remodelling of the south end of the bridge leading to the existing footpath, had been priced by contractors significantly above budget, which included s106 monies, available for this project. A Quantity Surveyor had now been appointed to undertake a review of the costings. This concluded that renewing and replacing the bridge and the north end so that it was accessible for all, would be in budget. It would also be consistent with the conditions of the s106 contract which referred only to the north end of the bridge. As a consequence, contractors would now be asked to bid for the amended scheme, and subject to appropriate tenders being received, the work was planned for 2020.

The Committee, and members of World of Widewater and Keep Lancing Lovely, expressed their extreme disappointment at this situation especially taking account of the length of time the works had been promised, however Cllr Boram offered his support to this project and assured Members that, as a Member of the WSCC Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committee, he would keep them updated. Cllr Boram also urged Members to contact him when needed.

Cllr Boram was thanked for his attendance and his commitment to this scheme.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

26.9 Consultation - Adur & Worthing Councils Draft Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

AWC, with key partners, had been preparing a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for the last 12 months. Mr Joshua Baxendale, representing Shoreham by Cycle, discussed with Members the need for further recommendations to include improvements between The Perch and Lancing Sailing Club and that the A259 be considered as a secondary cycle route.

Resolved – That the following feedback be submitted:

- (a) Lancing Parish Council welcomes this proposal.
- (b) Additional recommendations are requested to resolve the ‘pinch-point’ issues between The Perch and Lancing Sailing Club (NCN2) and while the Parish Council welcomes and encourages high quality infrastructure, recommends that due consideration be given to the A259 being a secondary route.

26.1 Monks Rec Matters

i. Improvement Project Update

Pursuant to the decision at Committee Minute 20.1(b)/Nov/19, it was reported that views had been sought from the local football community confirming there was an area pitch shortage in Lancing. It was also commented that fancy new facilities were not necessary – somewhere to make refreshments and toilet facilities would suffice.

The Working Group had met on 21 November, primarily to meet the new Groundwork Project Manager and stressed that there was a need for progress to be made to the point of some tangible work being started in the new year. The Project Manager recognised that the design might need to morph/adapt/change to achieve the aspirations of the masterplan, including looking at different ways to construct the building. Notwithstanding, the Group considered the project should not be scaled back too much.

The Project Manager had submitted an updated Partnership Agreement and Action Plan outlining ‘quick win’ schemes within the project so some works could be started. However, it was noted that there could be some difficulties around these as to start the works contradicted other advice. A Fundraising Strategy and Options Appraisal had yet to be received.

Notwithstanding, it was felt that wildflower patches could be sown on the northern mound areas and done as part of a community day, such as the tree planting day following the next delivery of saplings from the Woodland Trust in March. It was also considered possible to realign the football pitches after the end of the current season and possibly install the

foundations for the new paths. It was acknowledged that a meeting of the Working Group was necessary to take these suggestions forward.

However, as the work of the Groundwork Project Manager was already behind schedule, and the fact that the Council was imminently due to employ its own Project Officer, it was suggested to end with Groundwork's services, and thereby retaining close to £10,000 in the Monks Rec Improvement Project fund.

In respect of potentially leasing the football pitches and changing rooms to a specific club, Members' agreed to consider this option further when the project had progressed further.

Resolved – (a) That the use of the Groundwork South Project Manager services be discontinued.

(b) That the proposal of Lancing Football Club potentially leasing Monks Rec football pitches and changing facilities be considered at a later date.

ii. Request for a Fun Fair

A request from Showtime Amusements had been received to hold a family fun fair at Monks Rec in May 2020 with 10% of the profits being paid to this Council for the hire of the ground.

Resolved – (a) That permission be granted to Showtime Amusements to hold a family fun fair at Monks Rec in May 2020 (subject to the progress of the Monk Rec Improvement Project).

(b) That the income received be specifically earmarked towards the Monk Rec Improvement Project.

26.2 Beach Green Matters

i. Beach Green Lighting Update

Pursuant to Minute 20.2i/Nov/19, it was reported that planning permission had been approved to install the 8 columns and associated power supply and the project was now well underway with works anticipated to start at the beginning of April 2020.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

ii. Boat Winch Information Panel Update

It was reported that the information panel and renovated winch are now installed and an 'unveiling' event took place on 5 December 2019.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

iii. Wildlife Information Panel Update

An update on the draft panel designs was circulated at the meeting for Members approval. It was agreed to amend the background to be in keeping with those already on Beach Green.

Resolved – That the information panels, as amended, be approved.

iv. Water Fountain/Bottle Filler Update

It was reported that the arrangements for the water fountain to be installed at Beach Green had now been finalised with Southern Water. Installation would be arranged in early

spring. It was also confirmed that a wall mounted water fountain was on order to be attached to the kiosk at Widewater.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

v. Fireworks Event

a) 2019

A letter of thanks had been received from St Barnabas House via Showtime Amusements, the organiser of the Beach Green fireworks event, confirming that £961.98 had been raised from the collection at the event and would be published on the Councils FB page. Thanks were also extended to those Councillors who had acted as marshals at the event.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

b) 2020

It was confirmed that this year's Fireworks event would take place on 4 November 2020, under the same format as in previous years.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

vi. Playzone operation

It was confirmed that £1,000 had been received from DSH Leisure for the concession of the children's entertainment equipment on Beach Green during the school holidays. DSH Leisure had requested permission to return for the 2020 season.

Resolved – That permission be granted to DSH Leisure to provide children's entertainment equipment on Beach Green for the 2020 season.

vii. Bathing Water Classification 2019

The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs had advised that Lancing's bathing water classification, based on monitoring data collected by the Environment Agency, had been classified as 'Good'. This is the same result since 2016 and an improvement on 2015's which classified as 'Satisfactory'.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

viii. Request to hold a 10k Run

A request had been received from MCC Promotions for permission to hold a 10k Run to start/finish on the seafront at Beach Green, with the route turning around at The Burlington in Worthing and the necessary public liability insurance was in place.

Resolved – That permission for a 10k Run by MCC Promotions be granted.

ix. Request to hold an Electric Vehicle Display

A request had been received by the organisers of Eco Open Houses Worthing to hold an Electric Vehicle Display on Beach Green on 26 April 2020. It was confirmed that the organisers had relevant public liability insurance.

Resolved – (a) That permission be granted for this event to take place and that no charge be made for the use of the green (as electric vehicle ownership ties in with the Council's Climate Emergency declaration).

(b) That investigations be made regarding the feasibility of LPC's Climate Emergency Group having a stall at this event.

26.3 Croshaw Play Area

Pursuant to Minute 20.3/Nov/19, it was confirmed that the order for the installation of the games line markings had been placed with the work being carried out once the weather was dryer and warmer. It was also reported that a review of the bolts used on the new equipment was taking place due to product failure on three occasions.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

26.4 Widewater issues

i. World of Widewater Visitor Centre update

Following the decision by Council to allocate £35,000 from spare General Reserves to be specifically earmarked towards a replacement Widewater kiosk (Council Minute 58.1i/Nov/19 refers), it was confirmed that WoW were now fervently exploring all grant funding sources suitable for the project. It was anticipated that the Council's new Project Officer would oversee this scheme to help with the overall progress of it. Members of Wow reported that the Steering Group was due to meet.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

26.5 Christmas Festival

Despite the heavy rain that was not forecasted, the event went well. There was little take up for the market stalls on the Parish Council side of the event, but this was considered to be down to the lateness of the event taking place in December.

It was confirmed that this year's Christmas Festival would take place on 19 December. The costs of the event were kept well within budget, so was recommended that £1,500 from the Events budget continued to be allocated to the Christmas Festival, unless Members considered otherwise. Discussion ensued around the type of attractions and stalls that would most appeal to Lancing residents.

Resolved – That Members consider ideas for potential new attractions i.e. to include a new showstopping element to the event at the next committee meeting.

26.6 Antisocial Parking Flyer

Pursuant to Minute 20.6/Nov/19, the Police had confirmed that their logo could not be used on the flyers due to parking not being a policing matter (except in extreme circumstances). After discussion, it was agreed that all logos should be removed before reprinting.

Resolved – That the Antisocial Parking flyer be reprinted without any logos.

26.7 Keep Britain Tidy – Great British Spring Clean

Following the introduction of the Council's Litter Campaign in early 2018, Members were reminded that it was subsequently agreed to run the campaign in conjunction with Keep Britain Tidy campaigns (Minute 8.6/Jul/18 refers). It was therefore agreed that the Council joined with Keep Lancing Lovely to do a clean-up at Beach Green on 29 March 2020.

It was confirmed that the novelty plastic bottle recycling bin (Committee Minute 20.7/Nov/19 refers) would be located at Beach Green for this period. Investigations had been made with Bins for Green Seas (Minute 20.7/Nov/19 refers) however, due to the cost of £2,415 per bin, it was agreed not to progress this option.

- Resolved** – (a) That the Council joins with Keep Lancing Lovely to do a clean-up at Beach Green on 29 March 2020 as part of the Great British Spring Clean.
(b) That £500 be allocated from the events budget for this event (to purchase give-aways such as drinking bottles etc.)
(c) That a Bins for Green Seas bin not be purchased.

26.8 Outdoor Gym Equipment

Following the approval to fund the installation of outdoor gym equipment to this Council's recreation grounds (Council Minute 58.1ii/Nov/19 refers), the necessary three quotations had been sought and the different options were presented for Members' views at the meeting. After discussion it was agreed that Sunshine Gym be the chosen supplier as their quote was within the £20,000 budget.

Resolved – That Sunshine Gym be the chosen company to supply outdoor gym equipment.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.