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C. Haughton
Deputy Clerk.

LPCOS Cttee 2021/22

EARL SHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the

LEISURE, PARKS, CEMETERY & OPEN SPACES (LPCOS) COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at 7.00 p.m. on
Tuesday 07 September 2021

At The Independent Chapel, Earl Shilton LE9 7LR.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors: Cllrs I Faver, Chairman, Ms D Almey, A Bates,
Mrs A Burton, Mrs G Granger and R Hills.

In attendance: Town Clerk: Mr ME Jackson.

Members of the public: Nil.

21/031 *Chairman's welcome and opening remarks.*

The Chairman opened the meeting welcoming all Cllrs and proceeded directly to the agenda.

Noted and received.

21/032 *To receive apologies for member absence.*

Resolved: to accept the apologies from Cllrs Mrs C Coe and B Granger for their reasons as stated, tabled and recorded by the Town Clerk.

21/033 *Declarations of interests. To receive disclosures of member's interests, i.e. the existence and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this agenda.*

a. Cllr D Almey: a non-pecuniary interest in item 21/037 h. (ii) as she is well acquainted to one of the correspondents.

b. Cllr A Burton: a non-pecuniary interest in item 21/077 d. as she is an active member of ESiB.

Resolved: to allow Cllrs Almey and Burton to remain in the meeting for the said agenda items, answer any factual questions from fellow members but not to be able to vote on any motion put forward regarding these matters.

21/034 *To receive and approve as a true record the minutes of the LPCOS Cttee meeting held on 03 August 2021.*

Resolved: that the minutes of the LPCOS Cttee meeting of the 03 August 2021, as tabled, be accepted as a true record of proceedings.



21/035 *Public Participation:*

- a. Public speaking protocol – requests received by the protocol deadline to be submitted to the Clerk with details of the agenda item they wish to address/relate. **None.**
- b. That the meeting may be adjourned to allow members of the public to make representation about items that are not on the agenda (*Electors' Time*). **N/A.**

21/036 *Maple Way Park – report of unserviceable play equipment for remedial action.*

Within the toddler play park fenced off area, a piece of play equipment is now subject to wear and tear becoming unserviceable for use. It has now been taped off to prevent use on safety grounds. Members discussed costing options and resolved the following *action-on* motion.

Resolved:

- a. **Cost the bespoke replacement parts from the original supplier.**
- b. **Obtain 3 quotes for a total replacement of this particular piece of play equipment.**

21/037 *To consider correspondence received:*

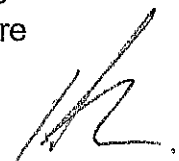
- a. *ES Town Cricket Club (ESTCC) – continued vandalism report and request for financial assistance.*

ESTCC's wooden fence adjacent to the top of Wood St Park has yet again been subject to significant vandalism. Staff have placed 3 CCTV warning signs on the remaining fence and will train the AGE UK based Town Council cameras on this area to attempt to gather evidence for the police to take action. The Cricket Club have been directed to the Borough Council for '*grant in aid*' funding to repair and hopefully strengthen the fence line which they own. The Town Council has already provided grant funding on more than one occasion to the Cricket Club and has fully supported its plans for total redevelopment. The Town Council will look once more at the possibility of 'high' netting to prevent any footballs being kicked over the fence from the MUGA.

Noted and received.

- b. *HBBC – Borough Council defibrillator provision survey.*

The Town Clerk has completed the survey and suggested if funding from the Borough or other such source becomes available or is suggested; attempts will be made to secure



devices for EST Cricket Club and the Town Council's Weavers Springs Park Pavilion, (used by football teams).
Noted and received.

- c. *Mill Lane Cemetery – adjacent resident's request for amicable remedy.*

A resident has requested sensible and limited pruning of a Cemetery tree that is now well over the adjacent fence line and will soon start to touch the upper part of his property. Members, as they always will, passionately debated the issue of significant pruning of any tree under the Council's stewardship. A carefully considered decision was arrived at.
Resolved: to obtain 3 tree surgeon tenders for works to carry out the minimum pruning required to allow the resident(s) the quiet enjoyment of their property but without damaging the tree(s) long term health.

- d. *Earl Shilton in Bloom (ESiB) – July 2021 meeting minutes and Wood St Park wildflower seasonal works update.*

The ESiB meeting minutes were noted and received with thanks and the Town Clerk informed Cttee Members that the seasonal wild flower meadow works have been completed at the expense of ESiB. Cllr Burton reported to members the recent wanton vandalism to Wood St placed wooden flower planters. The Town Clerk will ask for HBBC CCTV coverage to be checked if ESiB can come forward with a likely day and if possible time frame for the offence.
Noted and received.

- e. *Used 'sharps' needles in ESTC parks – out of hours safe clearance provision.*

The recent instance of sharps needles being left by drug addicts in Weavers Springs Park was discussed. The kind offer by a Town Cllr to clear them if called on was politely declined with thanks because of the risk to him as an out of hours lone worker. The Town Clerk has spoken to Officers at HBBC however they do not currently have the capacity to provide such cover to Town and Parish Councils across the Borough even on a repayment basis. Additionally, HBBC cannot currently recommend a local commercial service provider. Members reluctantly agreed for now the recourse will be to put up signage at sharps hot spots informing members of the public to call the Office to leave a message for the ESTC Groundcare Team to clear any sharps with their PPE gloves and clothing asap.

Noted and received.



f. *Wood St Park tree pruning – 'Bowls Club private road.*

Two letters from the Club have been answered by the Town Clerk and the Groundcare Team have lightly pruned the Park TPO'd trees to obviate the issue of low hanging new branches interfering with delivery vehicles. Members agreed that the Town Council cannot 'police' the Bowls Club private road to prevent children entering and exiting it and costs of appropriately fencing it on the park side at public expense is not considered commensurate with the perceived problem. As an aside it has been noted that someone has during August 2021 cut down certain non-TPO'd trees and left them laying as brash. The culprits are unknown to Cllrs or Staff.

Noted and received.

g. *Wood St Park – destruction of wasps nest in skateboard play equipment.*

The Town Clerk reported that the task was expedited with speed of response and efficient effectiveness by an HBBC operative on repayment.

Noted and received.

h. *Late items received since this agenda was set:*

i) *Geo-sense Wi-Fi 'footfall' data for August 2021.*
Footfall was slightly down for the month but the free HBBC service is much appreciated by the Town Council on behalf of residents.

Noted and received.

ii) *QEII Hall Field Pk complaints – lime trees.*

Three residents, 2 in writing and one elderly gentleman by 'phone have complained about the lime trees in column overhanging their gardens because of an accumulation of growth. The issue for the Town Council is to preserve all healthy trees under its stewardship especially when trees were long in place decades before houses were built. As for item 21/037 c. above a lengthy and passionate discussion took place regarding the issues and possible amicable remedies. The 2nd issue of further park path lighting is not considered a priority project for the short or medium term.

Resolved: to obtain 3 tree surgeon tenders to lightly prune the lime tree column but not at any risk to the health of the trees.

The meeting closed at 7.47 pm with the Chairman thanking members for their attendance and contributions.

