

MINUTES OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at the Town Hall on
Tuesday, 2nd February 2016 at 10.00am

Present: Cllr C Bentley
Cllr H Chapman
Cllr V Hawkins
Cllr G Moss
Cllr J Trower (Chair)
Cllr G Wilkinson

In Attendance: Mrs B Ball – Town Clerk
Mrs M Holmes – Deputy Clerk

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor Frame. Apologies accepted.

2. Members observations of visit to Green Space Sites

The Deputy Clerk confirmed this was item was on the agenda following the tour of the Green Space Sites that took place in September last year. The meeting that had been scheduled the week following the tour had been cancelled due to members being unable to attend. Only Councillors Moss and Wilkinson from the Committee had visited the Green Space Areas and it was agreed that the sites were generally looking good and well maintained.

Councillor Moss remarked that the play area at Scaur Bank was the play area that, in his view, required new equipment as soon as possible. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that she had obtained quotes for replacing the multi-activity equipment with similar items that would be suitable for placing on a flood plain and these ranged in price between £4,000 and £14,000 depending on the size of the equipment.

Following discussion it was agreed that Councillor Wilkinson would ask at Leeds CC to ask if one of their officers would visit to advise on the kind of equipment and safety surface that would be appropriate in this area. If this is not possible, the Deputy Clerk will endeavour to obtain advise from two or three companies who provide play equipment.

3. Scaur Bank

3.1 Trees

The Deputy Clerk reported that Mike Rhodes had been due to start the work on the trees yesterday. Due to the high winds it may not have been possible to commence work but it was hoped that it would be completed this week, weather permitting.

3.2 Footpath

The Deputy Clerk reported that the repairs to the footpath had been completed and the office had received one compliment regarding it. Councillor Hawkins confirmed that the repairs had been undertaken well.

3.3 Play Equipment

It was agreed that this item had been covered under Item 2.

4. Sandringham Park Flag Pole

The Deputy Clerk had obtained the following quotes for a replacement fibreglass flagpole:

Harrison External Display Systems £349.95+ VAT

House of Flags £293.08 + VAT

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that these flagpoles were similar to the original one.

Following discussion the Deputy Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for an aluminium flagpole in order to reduce the risk of the flagpole being damaged in the future.

5. Security at the Bath House

Following discussion it was agreed that the Town Clerk or Deputy Clerk would approach the Leeds City Council Conservation Officer to ask whether the Council would be allowed to undertake the following work:

- cover the lower windows with perspex
- fit a metal grill to cover the bottom door
- install sensor lights.

Quotes would then be sought for work that would be allowed.

6. Nidd Approach – State of ground at access point to play area

The Deputy Clerk reported that the ground at the pedestrian gate into the play area was muddy and a local resident had asked the Council if steps could be taken to improve the access. The Deputy Clerk proposed that some rubber matting, removed from Nidd Approach when the new matting had been installed, be fixed at the entrance to try and reduce the mud at that point.

7. Cemetery – Removal of Waste Soil

The Deputy Clerk reported that it was going to be necessary to have the excess soil, left after a grave has been dug, to be removed off site. Until now the waste soil had been used to create bankings but ther bankings could not be extended further. Some families, with graves near a banking, had asked for the banking to be reduced (which it had). Enquiries had been made of the gravedigger and a price of £90 per grave had been quoted. The Deputy Clerk has asked if this could be reduced but an answer was still awaited.

Following discussion some members agreed to visit the Cemetery to see if they could suggest an alternative.

8. Items for Information

8.1 Railings at Garden of Rest

Councillor Trower had informed the Town Clerk that there may be some funds left after the improvements on the Old Man's Parliament had been completed and requested that a figure for the painting of the Railings at the Garden of Rest be obtained. The Town Clerk confirmed she had received an approximate figure of £3,102 from Rudgate Engineering.

9. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk would liaise with the Chair to arrange the date and time of the next meeting which would, hopefully, take place on a Wednesday.

The meeting closed at 10.35am

JT/MH