

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Facilities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Yaxley Parish Council on 23rd January 2018.**

Present:- Councillors J Lusted – Chairman

Councillors C Bolton, R Butcher, K Gulson, D Porteous, M Southgate, J Willis and A Wood.

In attendance – H Taylor and Reg Bingham, Tree Warden.

CF58. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received and accepted on behalf of Councillors G Bellamy (personal), J McMullon (personal), J Orchard (personal), P Richardson (personal) and S White (work).

CF59. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

CF60. MINUTES

Councillor R Butcher proposed approval of the Minutes of the Committee held on 28th November 2017. This was seconded by Councillor J Willis and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

CF61. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No Member of the Public wished to speak.

CF62. REPAIR/REPLACEMENT OF GATES AT ALLARD CLOSE PLAYAREA

The Committee were presented with a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) outlining the cost of either repairing or replacing the gates at the Allard Close Play area. Having considered the information before them, Councillor R Butcher proposed that the gates be replaced with two premier safe spring assisted self-closing gates at a cost of £2,965.00 and a request be made to Full Council for this cost to be met from the General Reserves. This was seconded by Councillor K Gulson and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

CF63. COMMUNITY FRIDGE UPDATE

Further to Minute No.17/57, consideration was given to a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) outlining plans to set up a community fridge. Members were informed that a fridge could be sourced locally and that a Food for Nought, a volunteer run organisation, could deliver surplus food procured from local farms and supermarkets on a weekly basis. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher that a glass fronted fridge be purchased at a cost of £422 plus VAT and that the Parish Council become a member of Food for Nought at a cost of £32 per month. This was seconded by Councillor D Porteous and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

CF64. OUTDOOR GYM SESSIONS

Continuing discussions from their previous meeting (Minute No.CF55 refers), Members were advised that the District Council would be happy to continue with the over 55s sessions on the outdoor gym and to introduce additional sessions for other groups. These would start in the Spring. Having been advised of the minimal cost to the Council it was

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proposed by Councillor C Bolton, seconded by Councillor M Southgate and unanimously **RESOLVED** that these sessions be approved.

CF65. COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

Pursuant to Minute No. 17/53, Members discussed various ideas for laying out and accessing the proposed community allotment on the Whiteheads site. Councillors G Bellamy, R Butcher, K Gulson and P Richardson would be meeting soon to get the project moving.

CF66. TREE PLANTING PROGRAMME

With the aid of a drawing, Reg Bingham laid out a proposed programme of tree planting for the Recreation Ground. Members were advised that rather than long rows of trees next to paths the plan would be to create a triangular section of trees in the corner of the grass area next to the pond and a similar belt in the top left-hand corner next to the footpath. This would make maintenance and mowing of the grass around the trees easy. Reg added that the trees would be ^{smaller} slow growing. At the same time, the gaps in the hedging at the back of the Infants School, adjoining the Recreation Ground, would be filled and a dead cherry tree at the Cemetery would be replaced with a red leaf acer. Reg explained that the cost to the Parish Council should be minimal as he may be able to source most of the trees through his work with the Great Fen. The Committee having thanked Reg for his work as the local Tree Warden, Councillor D Porteous proposed that the tree planting programme be approved. This was seconded by Councillor R Butcher and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

CF67. CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS

Members considered ways in which to improve the appearance on next year Christmas trees. In so doing, attention was drawn to a number of acts of vandalism whereby branches on the tree outside William De Yaxley School had been saw off or snapped. Members were reminded that the school were intending to fence the open space at the front of the school, which may cause an access easy for the lorry that delivers and erects the Christmas trees. With regard to lighting, it was suggested that net lights be investigated, which Councillor C Bolton agreed to do, and local companies be approached to see if they could provide a cherry picker to help with the lights installation. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor D Porteous, seconded by Councillor C Bolton and **RESOLVED** unanimously that only one tree be provided next Christmas and that this be for the Green on Main Street, and efforts made to improve the lighting.

Meeting closed at 8.07pm

Signed *J. Husted*

Chairman.