

DEREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

28th January 2020

A meeting of the **Recreation Committee** held in the Assembly Rooms **on Tuesday 28th January 2020** upon the rising of the Heritage and Open Spaces Committee meeting.

Present: Councillors C Bunting (Chair), P Duigan, L Monument and P Morton.

Also in attendance: Town Clerk Tony Needham and Deputy Town Clerk Jillian Barron.

1. **To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Brooks and K Grey

2. **Declaration of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Update on playing pitch strategy.**

The final scope of the work has been agreed with the Football Association (FA) and Sports England (SE). Both the FA and SE along with a Breckland Council representative are part of the steering group for the project. Other representative bodies such as the RFU along with Active Norfolk have been made aware of the project, are being copied into relevant correspondence, will be consulted directly and have an open invitation to be part of the steering group.

The consultants KKP will now start the process of assessing pitches in Dereham to assess quality and supply and demand for the pitches. It is hoped that we will have the winter sports strategy by May/early June.

4. **Update on Colin McLean trust land.**

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had not written to Breckland Council yet but had spoken to the Land owner and the developer, both of which are keen for the land to be transferred to Breckland Council. The issue that was holding up the transfer of the land to Breckland Council is the requirement for a Public Right of Way (PROW) to be instated at a specific location at the Northern end of the land. The PROW will be dealt with at a later agenda item.

5. **To consider call for evidence for rights of way (PROW) claims.**

In order to resolve the Colin Mclean Trust land it may be necessary to prepare evidence to enable a claim for a PROW. Within the same area of Dereham there are two other routes with a history of long and continued usage which would benefit from being added to the definitive PROW map.

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| <p>The committee recommended that evidence be prepared to enable a claim to be made for Public Rights of Way on Colin Mclean Trust land, the steps at South Green Gardens, the path leading from Sandy Lane along side the Golf</p> |
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Course and onto Quebec Road and the path south of Colin Mclean Trust land leading to FP9.

6. **Exclusion of Press & Public**

Proposed by Councillor C Bunting seconded by Councillor L Monument it was agreed to pass a resolution to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting on the grounds that the Business to be transacted is confidential and publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

7. **To discuss Recreation Ground boundary.**

The Recreation Ground is a charity of which the Town Council is the Trustee. The Council had agreed to correct the line of the physical boundary between Holly Lodge and the Dereham Recreation Ground with the Council agreeing to cover the cost.

The Council has received correspondence from the solicitor of the owner of Holly Lodge who has requested that the Council holds off carrying out any work until their client sells the property as their client is very elderly and the disruption to her life would be considerable which she would find distressing.

The committee recommended that provided the Town Council have written confirmation that the current owners acknowledge no claim for adverse possession then the correction to the boundary fence will be carried out at a later date. Details of this agreement should also be included in the Deeds.

8. **To discuss flooding at Paddock on allotments.**

The owners of the Paddock have complained that their property floods on occasion due to water running down the allotment track. There are grips dug out on the corner of the track allowing the track to drain into a small 'pond' on the corner.

The owners of the Paddock have previously cleaned out the grips but because of age are unable to do this and are claiming that the Council has a duty to protect their property from flooding.

The committee recommended that the Town Clerk consult with the Council's solicitors on the wording of the letter that would be sent to the owners of the Paddock advising them that the Town Council do not believe that they have any liability to prevent flooding of their property.

Chairman