

DEREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

25th June 2019

A meeting of the **Recreation Committee** held in the Assembly Rooms on **Tuesday 25th June 2019** upon the rising of the Heritage and Open Spaces Committee meeting.

Present: Councillors L Monument (Chair), H Bushell, H Clarke, P Duigan, A Grey, K Grey, T 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, C Bunting, S Green and H King.
2. **Declaration of Interest.**
There were no declarations of interest.
3. **To consider project with Neatherd School.**
Neatherd High are bidding for funding from Vattenfall for a technology project, part of which is to design and construct a solar powered phone charger for a public space. The design will try to be artistic in nature as well as being practical. It is being proposed that the Town Council will ultimately be responsible for maintenance, the structure would need to be:
 1. Robustly constructed to resist vandals.
 2. Be 'signed off' by a structural engineer for insurance purposes
 3. Have parts that are easy and cheap to replace.
 4. Have a limited design life – the expectation being that it would be removed after the end of the design life if the maintenance became prohibitive, or it became unsightly i.e. from the start there will be no expectation on the Council to maintain the structure in perpetuity.

The committee recommended that the Town Council support the Neatherd School project of a solar powered phone charger in a public place in principle, subject to all details being agreed.

4. **To consider rent of Toftwood Playing Field.**
The Town Council rent School Lane playing field from St Nicholas Church for an agreed sum of £1200 per annum, this was last reviewed by the Valuation Office in March 2017 and the amount agreed by the Church and the Town Council.

St Nicholas Church is requesting that they be allowed to increase the rent on an annual basis, by an amount in line with the UK inflation rate.

The committee recommended that the Town Council would accept the rent for Toftwood Playing Field being increased annually in line with the UK CPI inflation rate. This is to be reviewed every 10 years.
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5. **To consider marking the tennis courts for Pickleball.**

The committee recommended that one tennis court at the Recreation Ground be marked out for the use of Pickleball and the Town Council would pay for the marking out of the court.

6. **To review allotment rules.**

The committee recommended allotment holders be allowed to keep up to 6 hens (no cockerels) per person regardless of the number or size of plots they have. Those allotment holders who already have cockerels or other poultry will be allowed to keep them until October 2020 providing the council receive no complaints about them.

The committee recommended that when the allotment rent letters are sent out an additional form be enclosed for allotment holders to sign to confirm if they are keeping chickens on their plot, and if so how many.

7. **Update on Dereham Recreation Ground car park gate.**

The Town Clerk updated the committee on the gate at the Recreation Ground.

The committee confirmed the previous decision to restrict access to the Recreation Ground car park and recommended that the gate be locked from the 1st August 2019.

Chairman