

AMENITIES & RECREATION COMMITTEE

4 JANUARY 2017

Committee Members present:	Cllrs D Keeley (C), Mrs D King (VC), P Hickmott, A Keeley, Mrs D Crook, Mrs L Downes, Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf
Council Members present:	Mrs K Sowten (Chief Executive) and Miss E Jones
Members of the public:	Mr W Mallard

1.	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Cllrs Mrs B Keeley, Mrs S Bell, Mrs B Brown and P Misy.</p>
2.	<p><u>Declaration of Interests</u></p> <p>None.</p>
3.	<p><u>To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2016</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Amenities & Recreation Committee held on 16 November 2016 were agreed a correct record of the meeting.</p>
4.	<p><u>Questions from the public (<i>Members of the public are advised that they may speak for up to three minutes</i>).</u></p> <p>Mr Mallard did not have any questions.</p>
5.	<p><u>To receive a report and recommendations from the Allotment Advisory Committee</u></p> <p>Cllr A Keeley reported that the meeting was very well attended (between 40-50 attendees) and there was nothing to report. He said that he had attended a course on allotment law which was very informative.</p> <p>The CEO informed the Committee that 3 key coded padlocks had been purchased for the allotment gates. She explained that each allotment holder would be given a code to gain access to their allotments once they had returned their keys to the office.</p>
6.	<p><u>To consider proposals for the purchase of a replacement wheelchair/mobility scooter for use at the Cemetery – Appendix 1</u></p> <p>The CEO read out a letter of complaint that she had received from a local resident regarding the lack of mobility scooters located at the Cemetery. The initial proposal was to purchase a mobility scooter, however, a local resident has now kindly donated a mobility scooter for the use in the Cemetery. Further discussions also took place regarding the security arrangements for the scooter and it was recommended that a tracker could be installed on the scooter and the CEO will investigate this option further. It was agreed that the mobility scooter would be stored away in the evening and left to charge up overnight. In order for residents to use the scooter, it was agreed that an appointment system would be the best option to ensure the scooter was made available to the resident. It was also suggested that a small awning could be acquired to protect the scooter from the rain. A further proposal was made to also purchase a manual wheelchair.</p>
0209	<p>RESOLVED to purchase a manual wheelchair.</p>

7.	<p><u>To receive a report relating to the vandalism received by Snodland Town Football Club at Potyns sportsground</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that she had received an email from the Chairman of STFC regarding acts of vandalism carried out on property at Potyns sportsground.</p> <p>It was reported that the Football Club's pay booth has been vandalised several times and there has been considerable damage done to the new floodlights caused by youths catapulting the lamps. The Committee discussed security and alternatives to deter criminal behaviour and the option of installing security cameras was agreed as a viable option. It was also agreed that lighting in both car parks should also be investigated.</p> <p>It was also discussed that more robust fencing could be erected around the sportsground, similar to that at the Bowls Club, but current agreements are that there would need to be a height restriction of 1.8m. Councillors were requested to observe the Bowls Club's fencing and STFCs current fencing to compare the strength, structure and durability and report back at the next Amenities meeting with their views and comments.</p>
8.	<p><u>To receive information and consider support to purchase equipment relating to Kent Community Speedwatch Scheme – Appendix 2</u></p> <p>The CEO asked the Committee if they wanted to embark on the Kent Community Speedwatch Scheme. The scheme would involve three police trained volunteers to monitor motorists' speed using portable speed indication devices. It was reported that residents at Holborough Lakes, Offham, Burham and Wouldham were all interested in taking part in the Scheme. Councillors felt that it would be more beneficial to have sole use of the equipment due to the area that needs to be covered. It was discussed that several options could be put forward to advertise for volunteers such as leaflet drops, advertising in local schools etc.</p> <p>The cost of the scheme would be £2,000 of which KCC would fund 50%. The CEO also reported that the Partnership Group may also contribute towards the costs.</p> <p>0210 RESOLVED to embark on the Speedwatch Scheme as soon as possible.</p>
9.	<p><u>To receive a report and consider future actions relating to CCTV within Snodland Open Spaces</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that she had sought CCTV quotations for 3 key locations in Snodland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cricket Pavillion; • The Community Centre (Potyns); • Nevill Park <p>The cost to install 6 cameras and associated equipment at different location points would be £10,000.</p> <p>It was agreed that although these areas, particularly Nevill Park, require CCTV, the likelihood of poor quality recording in the dark was inevitable as there was no immediate solution to rectify this.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED that further investigative work be carried out before embarking on CCTV installation within Open Spaces.</p>

10.	<p><u>To consider and agree a request from Snodland Medical Practice to enter into discussions relating to the Medical Practice's business continuity Plan – Appendix 3</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that she had received a letter from Snodland Medical Practice requesting emergency location support from STC in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>It was agreed that in the short term, the Medway Room could be used after 3pm when pre-school finish for the day. In the longer term, the Moyerve-Grande would be accessible to the public when a lift has been installed.</p> <p>It was proposed that Cllr A Keeley would liaise with the surgery regarding the Medical Practice's Business Continuity Plan.</p>
11.	<p><u>To consider proposals and discuss if we would like to participate in the KCC Volunteer Support Warden Scheme – Appendix 4</u></p> <p>The CEO asked the Committee if they were interested in participating in the Volunteer Support Warden Scheme which has been designed to work alongside Kent Community Warden Service (KCWS) and Local Councils. The aim is to improve the community and create resilient neighbourhoods allowing residents to enjoy a good quality of life.</p> <p>The closing date for applications is Friday 20 January 2017.</p> <p>All Councillors present agreed that STC should participate in the scheme and RECOMMENDED to be discussed further at the Policy and Resources meeting on January 12 2017, due to the budget implications.</p>
12.	<p><u>To consider further developments relating to Brook Street Bridge – Appendix 5</u></p> <p>The CEO provided a letter from Brookstreet Property Developments Limited dated 13 December 2016 relating to the original enquiry made in 2009 relating to the vehicular access rights at Brook Street bridge dating back to April 2009.</p> <p>The matter is again under review and it was agreed that a new valuation be sought from the District Valuer.</p> <p>0211 RESOLVED that the CEO reply to Brookstreet Property Developments Limited (BPD) requesting a revised valuation from the District Valuer for the access rights and BPD to bear the DV costs.</p>
13.	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>There was no correspondence.</p>

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.04pm.