

SNODLAND TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES & RECREATION COMMITTEE

16 NOVEMBER 2017

Committee Members present:	Cllrs D Keeley (C), Mrs D King (VC), P Hickmott, Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf, Mrs B Brown, Mrs D Crook, A Keeley, Mrs L Downes and P Misy
Council Members present:	Mrs K Sowten (Chief Executive) and Miss E Jones
Members of the public:	Mr A Totham (Snodland Town FC), Mr D Jeal (Snodland Town FC) and Mr P Rimmer (Town Talk).

1.	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs B Keeley and Mrs S Bell.</p>
2.	<p><u>Declaration of Interests</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
3.	<p><u>Minutes - To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2017</u></p> <p>The minutes of 2 October 2017 were agreed as a correct record.</p>
4.	<p><u>Questions from the public</u> (<i>Members of the public are advised that they may speak for up to three minutes</i>)</p> <p>Mr Totham and Mr Jeal explained to the Committee that they would have questions in respect of Item 9 so the item was brought forward.</p>
9.	<p><u>To consider the future use of the MUGA in relation to the surface and management</u></p> <p>The CEO presented this item detailing possible financial projections for the 3G pitch to be hired on a 26 week basis and 50 week basis. The figures were detailed in a table for the Committee to consider. She explained that the MUGA was not currently being used regularly and the 3G pitch would be used for football training and football matches.</p> <p><i>Standing Orders were lifted</i></p> <p>Mr Totham and Mr Jeal, who were representatives from Snodland Town Football Club (STFC), gave the Committee relevant information about the types of groups that would use the 3G pitch and when these groups would be likely to use the facility. They advised that currently, football groups are having to travel to Kings Hill Sports Park to train on their 3G pitches in the winter months - having a 3G pitch in Snodland would be much more convenient for parents taking their children to training sessions. Also, the costs currently paid to Kings Hill would be re-cooped by the Council.</p> <p>A question was asked if a 3G pitch was installed, would this remain a sufficient surface for its life span of 8 years? It was confirmed that if a 3G pitch was</p>

	<p>installed, it would be sufficient for its use – there would not be a demand for a more superior quality ie 4G.</p> <p>The CEO reported that as well as the initial installation costs, there would also be maintenance costs to manage the pitch hire and its upkeep which she urged the Committee to take into consideration.</p> <p>Finally, the STFC representatives asked that if the Council decided against the project, would they consider leasing the MUGA to a private investor to move forward with the project?.</p> <p>Cllr Hickmott proposed that the Council agree to consider the venture on the proviso that there was enough funding to carry out the work. Cllr P Misy seconded this motion.</p> <p>4 - Agreed 2 - Against 1 – Abstained</p> <p>RECOMMEND – that further discussions regarding the financial feasibility and financial implications of installing a 3G pitch at the MUGA be carried out.</p>
5.	<p><u>To receive a report from Remembrance Day & Firework Night</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that the Remembrance Day went very well and was pleased that the Deputy Lord Lieutenant Mrs Anne West, the Deputy Mayor Cllr Pam Bates and Tracy Crouch MP attend this years' Service.</p> <p>The CEO explained that it was unfortunate that the Army Cadets were not present this year due them missing the deadline for their own internal Risk Assessment application. The CEO confirmed that they would attend the Parade next year and that they would also liaise with the Air Cadets to also attend.</p> <p>The CEO reported that the Firework Display was also a successful event with 3200 members of the public attending and £1400 raised from donations. She advised that the Health and Safety Officer attended the event to assess whether any further safety measures could be implemented. The CEO reported that she has sent the Risk Assessment and the Event Plan for him to review and is awaiting feedback from this.</p> <p>The CEO advised the Committee that the orange fencing surrounding the football pitches, (to alleviate litter being strewn on the pitches), was not needed due to hampering the lack of space for the public to stand. It was also agreed that the metal stakes could also be a danger to the public. The CEO reported that the road closures only received one complaint and the CEO would take the comment on board and put further signage on the lamp-posts next year advising motorists that the road ahead was closed.</p> <p>The CEO advised that she may need to apply to KCC for a separate road closure next year which was advised by the police due to the road closure being classed as an event on the highway. Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and KCC approved the current Road Closure Order and made no comment regarding the need for an amended order to be made.</p>

6.	<p><u>To receive an update relating to Christmas in Snodland</u></p> <p>The CEO advised that the Christmas in Snodland had not been advertised in Town Talk this year as she was not advised of the deadline. New banners have been ordered to be displayed on the Snodland Town crests to advertise the forthcoming event, which can be reused each year reducing advertising costs.</p> <p>The CEO informed the Committee that the old overhead lights had unfortunately broken and these would be replaced for next year.</p> <p>The CEO finally requested that volunteers arrive at 8.00am next Saturday to erect Santa's Grotto so that there was enough time to decorate it.</p>
0323	<p>7. <u>To consider the closing of the Permissive Path at New Potyns due to the persistent dog fouling on the pitches</u></p> <p>The matter of dog fouling on the football pitches was discussed again and it was decided that, despite constant warnings, the Permissive Path should now be closed to the public. It was recommended that a sign be erected to advise the public and the reasons why it has been closed.</p> <p>RESOLVED – to close the Permissive Path at New Potyns with effect from 2 January 2018 and erect a sign to inform people why this has been carried out.</p>
0324	<p>8. <u>To consider installation of additional low fencing in the Dog exercise area to prevent small dogs from escaping into New Potyns</u></p> <p>The CEO advised the Committee that she had received several complaints from dog walkers that there was a gap under the gate at the dog exercise area at New Potyns which small dogs were getting through.</p> <p>RESOLVED - to fix chicken wire across the base of the gate to stop small dogs getting out of the exercise area.</p>
10.	<p><u>To receive an update regarding play equipment for Nevil Park and The Recreation Ground</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that a Project Manager had now been assigned to oversee the work to be undertaken. The Project Manager has plans under way and will report back to the Council once revised plans and estimates had been received. The CEO also advised that the playground equipment would be scheduled for replacement in early Spring 2018 (weather dependent).</p>
0325	<p>11. <u>To consider and if agreed accept a quotation for the installation of CCTV in the Cemetery following 2 break-ins</u></p> <p>The CEO reported that she had received one quote for the installation of CCTV in The Cemetery.</p> <p>Only one quotation has been received as others have been unable to compete with the current CCTV Installer on past quotes and have declined the offer to quote. The CEO had checked prices for a similar system with online "off the shelf equipment" and this was still more expensive than the quote received.</p> <p>RESOLVED - to accept the quote to install CCTV and signage at the Cemetery.</p>
0326	<p>12. <u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>The CEO advised the Committee that she had received an e-mail from Townsend Hook Bowls Club requesting a letter of support for funding from KCC to assist with the purchase of new mower.</p> <p>RESOLVED - to agree that the CEO write a letter of support to THBC for the grant application.</p>

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.27pm.