

## **ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held at the Community & Youth Building, rear of Redfield Edge School, Oldland Common on Tuesday 26 November 2019 at 7.30pm.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: J Allinson, M Bridge, R Coales, P Collins  
L Efthymiou, K Scudamore

Mrs K Fry – Clerk

There were also 3 members of the public present

### **171. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Coales (for whom R Coales was substituting).

### **172. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Councillor R Coales noted he was at the previous meeting as a member of the public and not in a Councillor capacity. His name is to be removed from the minutes.

**RESOLVED** that with the above amendment the minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **173. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS AS APPROPRIATE TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE**

A member of the public discussed the letter they had received from the Parish Council with regards to the removal of a hawthorn tree. They gave the meeting a presentation on why they felt it shouldn't be removed. They were upset that they hadn't been informed of any complaints that had been received by the council and that they did not know that it was an issue and that nothing was noted on the minutes. Councillor Bridge explained that due to GDPR and confidentiality that this was put forward to the Council under confidential business and was discussed under that item. The member of the public continued to put forward a proposal that their allotment plot become a bio-diverse plot with a reassurance that they will pollard the tree every 2 years.

### **174. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR**

The financial report had been circulated and was noted. The clerk reported the New Street Furniture balance will be spent by the year end with the installation of new noticeboards at Bitton Station and outside of the hairdressers on Bath Road.

### **175. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO THE ALLOTMENT SITES**

Councillor Coales explained to the member of the public the reason why we were here and the reasons behind her receiving her letter. Councillors discussed the issue at length and it was agreed that the decision to remove the tree remains the same. Councillor Bridge explained this to the member of the public and discussed an appropriate timescale for its removal.

**RESOLVED** the resident to remove the tree by 10 January 2020 and if it is not removed by this date the Parish Council will arrange for someone to remove it.

**176. CREATIVE ARTS COMPETITION 2020**

Councillor Allinson reported that thoughts are underway with the Creative Arts competition and that she aimed to get into schools early next year with the theme. She has 2 topics in mind and will put these forward at the next Full Council meeting.

**177. PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION**

It was agreed to run the photography competition again in 2020 and details of this were to be put in the next newsletter.

**178. TO CONSIDER ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

- a) **Local Footpath Walks.** The footpaths walks continue to be successful. 18 walkers attended the November meeting and returned to the Blaithwaite Arms for a Christmas gathering. Councillors thanked Clive for his efforts in making this so successful and invited him along to the December meeting so they could express their thanks.
  - b) **Buggy Walks.** The group celebrated their 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday in November. The walk will need to be put on hold until we have a qualified leader to help lead the group. Once the new Leisure Officer starts a new drive will be needed. The next leader course is in March 2020.
- Friendship & Exercise Club.** The two groups continue to be well attended.

**179. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

Councillor Allinson reported we had interviewed 3 candidates for the role of the Leisure Officer and was pleased to report Rosalyn Dodsworth had accepted and she will start in January 2020.

Councillor Bridge asked if the website link for the Biodiversity was in place.

**RESOLVED** the clerk to look into this.

Councillor Bridge asked if the Facebook competition was successful for the buggy walks. The clerk reported that it had been successful and the raffle was held at the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

The meeting ended at 8.17 pm.

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Chairman