

IRTHLINGBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PROPERTY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7.30PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE FETTLINEDINE ROAD
NN9 5XF

PRESENT: Councillors C Cross, J Farrar, D Maxwell R Powell and Mayor (Ex Officio)

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk Angela Daly, and Admin Assistant Kay Simmons

In the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman Councillor T Walton was elected Chairman for the meeting.

AGENDA

12. APOLOGIES

Councillor S Boyer – Work Commitment
Councillor J Gray – Ill Health
Councillor E Hopkinson – Ill Health

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/14 – that Councillors S Boyer, J Gray, and E Hopkinson’s apologies be accepted.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST AND OTHER INTERESTS AND THE NATURE OF THOSE INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No declarations were made.

14. MINUTES – TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE FOR SIGNATURE THE MINUTES OF THE PROPERTY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25TH JUNE 2024

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/15 - that the minutes of the Property and Services Committee meeting of Tuesday 25th June 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record of proceedings

15. MATTERS ARISING – TO NOTE ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PROPERTY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25TH JUNE 2024. (UNLESS COVERED BELOW)

Nothing was raised.

Chairman:

Date:

16. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST THE PROPERTY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS UP TO 17TH SEPTEMBER 2024.

Page 3 – RESOLVE 71 – Councillor C Cross informed members that she had removed all the items from the Bus Shelter Noticeboards which had made them look a bit better but the agreed works hadn't been completed.

Page 4 – RESOLVE 12 – Councillor C Cross asked if there was a confirmed date for the installation of the new basket swing yet.

The Clerk hadn't received a date for the installation, an update would be sought.

Page 4 – RESOLVE 13 – Councillor C Cross said she had had a lot of green waste removed from the Community Garden by a firm using a grab lorry. They had done a good job and left the site tidy for a reasonable price. The Clerk might like to consider adding them to list of firms to go to for quotations for any future requirements. She provided the Clerk with the company's name.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/16 - that the actions taken against the Property and Services Committee resolution list up to the 17th September 2024 is received and noted.

17. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL PLAY INSPECTION REPORTS, NOTE THE REPAIRS CARRIED OUT AND AGREE FUTURE REQUIREMENTS

Members went through the three reports item by item.

Ancillary item Central Recreation Ground - gate adjustment required asap. The Parkkeeper had been asked to look into whether this was still an issue as work was undertaken recently to correct issues with the gate dragging on the ground.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/17- that the Annual Playground Inspection Reports for Central Recreation Ground, Crow Hill Recreation Ground and Les O'Dell Park are received.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/18- that quotations be sought for the following work to be carried out on the following items at the following sites: -

Central Recreation Ground

Skate park facility - Repair cracks evident in concrete

Zip Line - Investigate movement in pivot points to cable ends and repair if needed and re-stain weathered wooden areas as required

Rotating Hat - Replace damaged rope with exposed sharp wires

1 bay flat swing unit - Relay matting to a flush condition

Outdoor gym area - Worn bearings replace as required and repair areas affected by rust/corrosion

Crow Hill Recreation Ground

Skate park facility - Repair cracks/damage evident in concrete

Multiplay Unit – Retighten loose fixings to rail

Les O'Dell Park

Multiplay Unit – Repair damaged/cracked Barriers and replace missing plastic caps

Balance and Rope Trail Unit – Replace missing fixing on roller log and retighten bolts on loose rope fixings and repair loose/damaged fixing

Chairman:

Date:

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/19 - that quotations be sought for the following: -

- i) Repair of the partial fence around the children's playground at Crow Hill Recreation Ground
- ii) Removal of the partial fence around the children's playground and installation of a fully enclosed fence around the children's playground at Crow Hill Recreation Ground

18. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE AD HOC MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AND CONSIDER A WAY FORWARD

The Clerk informed members that the current contract which was for a period of one year had expired.

She explained some of the issues and the lack of communication. Jobs were not being carried out within the agreed timescales and this was proving very difficult to manage. The Public Conveniences had been out of order for a number of weeks and another contractor had been called in to make the repair following complaints from members of the public.

Councillor J Farrar stated that at their interview they had promised a quick, thorough service by their qualified team including before and after photographs but, unfortunately this hasn't been the case.

The Clerk asked what members wanted to do going forward.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/20 - that the update on the Ad Hoc Maintenance Contract is received.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/21 - that the Clerk writes to the Ad Hoc Maintenance Contractor to terminate their contract with immediate effect.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/22 - that the Council do not go out for another Ad Hoc Maintenance Contract at this present time.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/23 – that the Clerk collates a list of contractors who offer one or more services/trades the Council needs and brings it to the next Property and Services meeting to discuss the next steps.

19. TO AGREE A BUDGET FOR AUTUM PLANTING OF THE CROSS AND HIGH STREET PLANTERS AND AGREE WHO WILL PLANT AND MAINTAIN THEM

Councillor C Cross is currently undertaking planting, maintenance and watering of the planters at the Cross and on the High Street. She is finding it difficult as she does not have adequate equipment to carry out the required watering. She had understood the watering contract throughout the summer was to have been re-added to the Ground Maintenance Contract as the Ad Hoc Maintenance Company were not fulfilling their obligation to do it but this had never happened.

She was happy to continue if a watering agreement was put in place but she was equally happy to hand it over to someone else.

The Clerk had asked Rushden Town Council what arrangements they had in place. They obtain their plants from a specialist Company, the planting is then carried out by their Ground Maintenance Contractor and they have a watering contract in place with a local contractor.

Chairman:

Date:

Members thought that although it would be more costly than the Councils current arrangements a similar arrangement for the planters at the Cross, and on the High Street would be beneficial.

The Clerk highlighted the next agenda item was the overgrown flower bed on Victoria Street and asked if members wished to consider that item at the same time.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/24 - that it is agreed that quotations are sought from the planting company used by Rushden Town Council to supply plants throughout the year for the planters at the Cross and on the High Street and the flowerbed in Victoria Street.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/25 – that the Clerk obtains a quotation from the company used by Rushden Town Council for a watering contract for the planters at the Cross and on the High Street and the flowerbed in Victoria Street.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/26 – that the planting of the planters at the Cross and on the High Street and the flowerbed in Victoria Street 4 times a year is added to the Grounds Maintenance Contract.

20. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF THE FLOWER BED ON VICTORIA STREET AS IT IS NO LONGER SPONSORED BY A LOCAL BUSINESS AND IS OVERGROWN

This item had been merged with Item 19.

21. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE CARNIVAL COMMITTEE FOR ALTERNATIVE STORAGE

The placing of a storage container in the Church Street Cemetery was considered inappropriate.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/27 – that the Council writes to the Carnival Committee to inform them that it will not be possible for them to place a storage container in the Church Street Cemetery.

22. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUOTATIONS FOR TARMACKING:

I) THE RECREATION GROUND PATH

The Clerk asked that this item be deferred.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/28 – that this item be deferred to the next Property and services meeting scheduled for the 19th November 2024

II) THE PATHS AT THE WELLINGBOROUGH ROAD CEMETERY

The Clerk asked that this item be deferred.

RESOLVE P&S/09(24)/29 – that this item be deferred to the next Property and services meeting scheduled for the 19th November 2024

Date of next meeting: 19th November 2024 at the Community Centre Fettleline Road NN9 5XF

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.44pm.

Chairman:

Date: