



022/24            **Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation.**

Apologies were noted from Cllr. T. Bounds. There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.

023/24            **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024, which had been previously circulated, were accepted and the Chair was authorised to sign the minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

024/24            **Exclusion of the Public**

It was agreed that due to the confidential nature of the business of the next agenda item, that members of the public be excluded from the following agenda item in accordance with the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (3).

025/24            **Recreation Ground Cottage**

Members noted a verbal report from Cllr. E. Banks and E. Rolls on discussions with the tenants as agreed at the last meeting, on 7<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr. M. Woolford will confirm the next steps and a further report will be made at the next meeting.

026/24            **Recreation Ground Management Group Meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

The minutes of the Recreation Ground management group meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 were noted.

027/24            **Land Registration**

It was noted that no response has been received from Herefordshire Council by solicitors acting on behalf of the Trust regarding the original Trust Deed and any amendments thereto. Cllr. E. Banks will speak to the Charity Commission regarding the evidence they might have on file regarding confirmation that the Town Council is the trustee of the Trust. In the meantime there will be further attempts at locating the original Trust Deed.

028/24            **Acquisition of Crooked Well meadow**

**a) Update on land acquisition**

Solicitors acting on behalf of the Trust have received correspondence from Herefordshire Council stating that there had been an agreement to meet the legal costs of Herefordshire Council for the work involved in transferring the land to the Trust. Herefordshire Council

has been asked to provide evidence of this agreement as those involved in negotiations were not aware of this. Members agreed that evidence that this was previously agreed was now required before any further decision.

**b) Crooked Meadow walk around report**

Members noted a report from the management group walk around of Crooked Well when the ongoing management of the site was considered. Some repair work was identified as being required on or shortly after the land is transferred and a quotation has been obtained for grass cutting of the site. No further action is possible until the land is transferred but one option might be to consult with local residents to identify what they would like to see on the site.

**029/24 Recreation Ground Tarmac Path**

Whilst Herefordshire Council, through its agent Balfour Beatty, has confirmed that it is responsible for repairs to the path as a public right of way it is still unclear when this work will be done and further complaints have been received about the state of the path. Concern was expressed that someone may be injured as a result of the potholes. It was agreed that Herefordshire Council's Chief Executive be contacted to highlight these concerns. It was also proposed that the Town Council funds or part funds repairs in an effort to expedite the repairs but this was rejected on the grounds that this would amount to the Town Council taking responsibility from Herefordshire Council and represent double taxation.

**030/24 Toilet Block Repairs**

As noted at the last meeting, the management committee has discussed this work and agreed that a redecoration is preferable to a rebuild of the toilet block. Before the repair of the ladies toilet can take place, the wooden housing unit around the cistern must be replaced and the Clerk has discussed this with the groundsman. It was agreed that the groundsman undertake this work at an approximate cost of £500.00.

**031/24 Tree Work**

At a recent walk around of the Recreation Ground it was noted that a tree has died over the winter. The quotation of £465 (+ VAT) was accepted from Acer Tree Services for this work.

**032/24 Grass Cutting**

It was noted that the contractors engaged last year for grass cutting in the Recreation Ground had withdrawn from the contract on the grounds that they no longer had the capacity to undertake the work. The previous contractor, Countrywide, had provided a quote of £3,600 (+ VAT) for this work. Attempts at finding alternative contractors at short notice had failed. It was therefore agreed to accept the quote from Countrywide to cut the grass for the forthcoming

year. Members noted that the contractor had also indicated that they would be able to undertake grass cutting of Crooked Well meadow, once the transfer has taken place, at an additional cost of £2,112.00 (+ VAT) for the year.

**033/24 Financial Matters**

**a) Accounts for the year ended 31.3.2024**

The accounts for the year ended 31.3.2024 as attached to these Minutes were accepted.

**b) Budget report for the year to date**

A budget report detailing income and expenditure to date this financial year was noted.

**c) Review of income generation**

It was agreed to defer this agenda item until the next meeting.

**034/24 Cricket Club Pavilion roof**

Members agreed to a request by the Cricket Club regarding the choice of roof material for the repair to the cricket club pavilion.

**035/24 Next meeting and Items for next agenda.**

The date for the next meeting is to be confirmed. The following items were raised for the next meeting, other than those mentioned earlier in the meeting:

- Signage and/or notice board for the recreation ground
- Income generation opportunities

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.