

LEICESTER FOREST EAST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parks, Hall, Events and LiFE Magazine Committee Meeting on Tuesday 3rd October 2023, held in the Parish Hall, Kings Drive, Leicester Forest East commencing at 7.34pm.

Present: D. Dawes (Acting Chair) P. Kitchen C. Wells M. Bozzoni

Mrs H. E. Mann – Clerk to the Council

PH&E 23.68 To receive apologies for absence

Resolution: The Committee resolved to accept apologies from Cllrs Darlison and Di Palma.

PH&E 23.69 To receive disclosures of interest in accordance with the code of conduct

None.

PH&E 23.70 To adjourn the meeting to receive questions from members of the public

None.

PH&E 23.71 To confirm the minutes of the Parks, Hall, Events and LiFE Magazine Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5th September 2023 as a true and accurate record

Resolution: The Committee resolved to accept the minutes Parks, Hall, Events and LiFE Magazine Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5th September 2023 as a true and accurate record

PH&E 23.72 To discuss matters arising from those minutes:

(a) To discuss alterations to the Parish Office and consider architects final drawings

The architects are in the process of preparing the submission to building control. Also, the quantity surveyor is reviewing the information and preparing to cost the project; he will also be preparing a document to support the Parish Council when it puts the project out to tender.

(b) To discuss issue with edging of surfacing, large activity centre on Boyers Park & related quote

Resolution: As there is approximately £7,852 in the play equipment maintenance budget, the Committee resolved that instead of continuing to chase NoMow for a second quote to amend the surfacing under the large climbing frame on Boyers Park, it would accept the one quote which has been received of £2,585 to replace the sleepers and make good the surfacing. This is because this issue has now been raised on the annual play inspection and because despite numerous attempts to get NoMow to provide a second quote they have continually failed to do so.

Clerk to contact NoMow and accept quote of £2,585 to replace sleepers etc. under the large climbing frame, Boyers Park and add quote to quotations file, along with this minute.

(c) To consider three quotes for trees/bushes to be cut back on one park and complaint of overhanging branches of Kings Walk Park

Quotes are awaited from Arboreco so this item will be added to the October Council meeting for a decision.

On walking round Kings Walk Park it was noted that there do not appear to be any overhanging branches.

(d) To consider whether to apply for a Community Grant from Blaby District Council for changing from gas to electric heating

The solar panel battery company are attending a meeting with the Clerk this Friday.

(e) To consider the Autumn edition of LiFE magazine

The deadline for articles to be submitted to the Clerk is Thursday 19th October. Distribution of the magazine will be w/c 13.11.2023.

Clerk to ask if the PC can mention a specific County Councillor by name in one of its LiFE magazine articles.

(f) To consider budget items for 2023/2024 budget

The Clerk recommended that the Committee add to the budget to start to save over, perhaps, the next three to five years to replace the play equipment on Boyers Park, which is now 15 years old. To that end, the Clerk has asked the monthly play inspector to give an estimate of the length of time the equipment has left before it will need replacing and has contacted the company who installed the new equipment of Kings Walk Park for a formula to calculate an approximate cost for replacement.

Additionally, the following items were suggested for the 2024-2025 budget:

- Larger capacity bin near to the MUGA; and
- Fence to replace boulders at Kings Walk Park (to stop vehicle ingress)

(g) To consider potential funding for a community orchard and associated issues

The Clerk has sent a letter of support to LCC regarding its application for Coronation Living Heritage Funding for fruit trees and free tree packs in November.

(h) To consider quotes for tree surveys

Resolution: The Committee resolved to accept the quotation from Severn Arboricultural Consultancy Services of £975.00 for tree surveys on Kings Walk Park & Spinney and Forest East Park.

Clerk to:

- Contact all those who quoted for tree surveys to let them know of the Parks Committee's decision.
- Add quotes for tree surveys, plus this minute and corresponding report, to quotations file.

Cllr. Wells declared an interest in agenda item PH&E 23.72(i).

(i) To consider adding a battery to the solar panels at the Parish Hall

A company is coming to the Parish Hall on Friday to look into the feasibility of adding a battery to the solar panels in the Parish Hall.

(j) To consider if the Parish Hall could be switched from gas to electric heating

This is being investigated by the Clerk.

PH&E 23.73

To discuss Forest East Park, Kings Walk Park and Spinney matters:

(a) To consider if the food vendor who is permitted to sell from the Parish Hall's car park is also permitted to sell on the Forest East Park itself

Resolution: The Committee resolved that the food vendor can only use the Parish Hall car park or the Somerfield Way car park to sell food and beverages, they cannot park on any grassed area.

Clerk to inform food vendor of Committee's decision that they can only sell food from Parish Hall and Somerfield Way car parks, not the grassed areas.

(b) To receive quote to scarify the wildflower garden ahead of planting the wildflower seed

The company contacted do not have the equipment to scarify.

Clerk to obtain a quote(s) to scarify the wildflower garden area before the November Parks Committee meeting.

(c) To consider Orchard Development training slides provided by LCC

Clerk and Vice-Chair of Parks to read through the orchard training slides from LCC ahead of planting of any fruit trees.

(d) To consider redecorating the foyer and café area in the Parish Hall

The Committee decided to decorate the foyer and café area of the Parish Hall after the Parish Office works are completed.

(e) To consider pollarding one tree on Forest East Park on advice of tree surgeon

The Committee decided to leave the pollarding of one tree to be completed as part of the upcoming tree survey works.

PH&E 23.74 To discuss other Parks and Hall Matters

(a) To consider who will clear Parish Hall gutters and carry out roofing work at Parish hall

This will be added to the October Council agenda.

PH&E 23.75 Events

(a) Quiz Night – October 2023

The Clerk asked if any Cllrs. wanted to purchase tickets.

PH&E 23.76 To consider the vandalism of teen shelter, including the ground around it being used as a fire pit

The ground around the teen shelter has been vandalised and used as a fire pit. This is a health and safety concern; the bin has previously been moved away from the shelter as it was also being used to make fires. The ground there was previously paved but people were stealing the bricks so the Parish Council removed them.

Clerk to:

- *Add to the 2024-2025 budget to concrete under the teen shelter.*
- *Add to LiFE magazine the question, do residents want the teen shelter removed? It has been heavily vandalised (include photos), including fires being made there and having to move the bin away etc. Do residents want the ground concreted to prevent fires being started?*

PH&E 23.77 To consider quote to replace the broken hand drier in the disabled toilet

Clerk to

- *Get quote to fit Dyson/Dyson style hand dryer to the disabled toilet a.s.a.p.*
- *Add to budget to replace the other two hand dryers in the gents and ladies toilets also.*

PH&E 23.78 Date of next Meeting

Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.29pm.