

Declaration of Office Order 2001 and was welcomed to the Council. Proposed Cllr Spurling and seconded by Cllr Mahony.

It was noted that arising from the recent resignation of Cllr Parkes a further two vacancies still remained to be filled,

7. Provision of Aerial Zip Wire & Youth Shelter for Recreation Ground

An offer of £15,000 of grant funding from the AmeyCespa Fund, to facilitate the purchase and installation of the above equipment on the Recreation Ground, was discussed. The terms and conditions attached to the grant were accepted and the grant offer was formally signed by the Chair and Vice Chair. This was proposed by Cllr Spurling and seconded by Cllr Newell. It was agreed that grant together with the donations and parish funding previously earmarked for the project would be sufficient to allow a works order on the contractor to be raised.

It was agreed that the zip wire would be sited along the western boundary, well away from the sheltered housing, and that the shelter would be placed adjacent to the car park but facing the football pitch. The shelter will not be equipped with radio or lighting. Installation, which is expected to take around four days to complete, should start in early October. Proposed by Cllr Newell and seconded by Cllr Mahony.

8. Playground maintenance

Councillors considered maintenance priorities for 2011/12 based on the 2011 ROSPA report, a supplementary report from Mr P Bridge (Play Area Warden) and a quotation from the specialist contractor K H Services. It was noted that action by Mr Bridge had already addressed some of the minor points raised in the ROSPA report.

Following discussion, it was decided that :-

- *A new and larger gate should be provided at play park entrance – located in same position as existing gate* *estimated cost - £ 340.00*
- *Area to be topped up with 4 bags of play bark and raked over. (not to be laid until early Spring 2012)* *estimated cost - £ 450.00*
- *To consult East Cambs DC Environmental Health Officer regarding the feasibility of spraying of weedkiller (such as Round Up) to deal with current weed growth in the Play Area.*

The above actions were proposed by Cllr Newell and seconded by Cllr Spurling.

In relation to the Carousel base, it was noted that ROSPA had assessed the risk as low. In view of this, it was felt that action to replace the base and provide new and expensive safety matting could not be justified. However, it was felt that the edges of the base could be further shaved to improve both safety and appearance. It was also noted also that whilst the surrounding fence was subject to rot in places, this was currently insufficient to justify the suggested £2,000 + refurbishment.

Action ;Clerk –to discuss further works to the Corousel base with specialist contractor

9. Recreation Ground - annual hedging contract

A quotation had been received for hedging work within the Recreation Ground, which included work to cut overhanging branches in neighbouring properties. The total cost had been estimated at £630 +VAT. It was agreed that the quotation was reasonable and that the work should proceed. Proposed by Cllr Newell and seconded by Cllr Mahony. It was also agreed that the Clerk should check with Sanctuary Housing as to whether they wished additional tree works carried out , (at their expense) whilst the contractor is on site.

Action: Clerk

10. Recreation Ground – damage to car park barrier and supplementary works

Mr P Bridge had advised the Clerk that the damaged car park barrier could be repaired. He had offered to carry out the work personally and re-paint both entrance barriers. He had also offered to re-stain the bench within the play area, in dark brown so it would be less of a target for graffiti. It was agreed that the estimated costs of around £200 were reasonable and that the work should proceed. Proposed by Cllr Spurling and seconded by Cllr Mahony.

11. Pavilion Trust report

No report was received.

12. Finance matters

(a) Approval of expenditure June/July

£

Nb: The invoices listed below include those received since the agenda was issued

- Clerk's expenses 19.80
- CGM Cambridge (Grasscutting 8& 27 July) 601.20

(b) Members noted the following urgent payment approvals from July which were actioned by agreement with the Chair

- CGM Cambridge (Grasscutting 14 June) 300.60
 - Mr H Jackson (new concrete base for seat at Wavier Pond) * 150.00
- * this payment was incorrectly recorded in the July minutes as £23.99

It was agreed that all the above payments be approved. Proposed by Cllr Mahony and seconded by Cllr Spurling.

13. Planning cases

No applications had been received.

14. Standing Orders.

The Clerk advised that New Model Standing Orders for Local Councils had been introduced in 2010. A copy of the new Orders, which updated those adopted in 2006, had previously been sent to Councillors for information. Following a short discussion it the agreed that the Model Standing Orders 2010(issued by NALC) incorporating amendment 32b 2011, be adopted as the Council's Standing Orders,

with immediate effect. This was proposed by Cllr Spurling and seconded by Cllr Newell.

It was also agreed that when time allowed, the large number of non-statutory orders should be systematically reviewed so that only those applicable to small parishes such as Ashley were retained .

15. Correspondence

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan – suggested changes to the site specific proposals plan - these could now be viewed online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk - none of the proposals appeared to affect Ashley.

Cambridgeshire County Council -Advisory Freight Map for HCVs - an updated map is now available which shows the B1063 (through Ashley) as a local route. These routes may be used by heavy commercial vehicles to get from a main through route to a specific destination. More information is available online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cambridgeshire County Council -Preparation for winter months - the County have confirmed that they will replenish grit bins as and when necessary.

Cambridgeshire County Council - Maintenance of protected verges - notice is given that the County will no longer carry out any cutting of the protected road verges in this parish. It was believed that only one such verge exists but the Clerk was asked to check and confirm the location etc. *Action: Clerk*

16. Urgent matters

(1) Sanctuary Sheltered Scheme

Members noted that Cllr Parkes decision to resign and move away from the area had been largely due to quality of life issues on the estate, which were also affecting many other residents in Sheltered Housing . It was agreed the Council should write to Sanctuary Housing, to highlight the difficulties being experienced, and ask a senior manager to visit the scheme to address residents' concerns. The letter would also stress the importance of enforcing tenancy agreements for the benefit of all residents.

(2) Hire of football pitch

Mr K Bailey, who manages two youth football teams (under 14s) is interested in renting the Recreation Ground Football Pitch for Sunday games for the coming 2011/12 season. It was agreed in principle that this should be permitted subject to fees being agreed with the Pavilion Trust. These charges would need to be finalised at the next meeting. *Action Cllr Mahony*

17. Date of next meeting

This will take place in the Pavilion on Monday 12th September.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm