



**Westbourne**

Parish Council

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**Minutes of Westbourne Parish Council's Recreation Leisure and Amenities Committee which took place on Thursday 25 March 2020 at 8.00pm. The meeting was held remotely using Zoom video conferencing.**

Present: Cllr Lade Barker, Cllr Roy Briscoe, Cllr Richard Hitchcock, Cllr Nigel Ricketts, and Clare Kennett, Clerk to the Parish Council.

Meeting chaired by Cllr Ricketts. No members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence: None.

2. Declarations of interest in the items on the agenda: None.

3. Minutes of the meeting on 19 November 2020: The minutes were agreed to be a correct record and were signed as such by the Chair.

4. Issues and updates from the minutes of 19 November 2020: None.

5. Risk assessment: Members noted the risk assessment for the two recreation grounds during coronavirus based on the latest government guidance.

6. Monk's Hill recreation ground charity: Westbourne Parish Allotment for Exercise and Recreation (Charity Commission number 265105):

- Members discussed drainage issues at the playground which resulted in its closure in February and March 2021. It was agreed to get three quotes to find out how much it would cost to improve the drainage system and unblock some of the pipes. It was also discussed that WSCC Highways might be able to do a drainage survey although this could be at cost. It was discussed that the removal of the large ash trees may have had an impact, as well as the base for the large climbing frame and the development north of the boundary line. Cllr Ricketts said he would be opening the playground again and that Longmeadows would be spreading the new playback before the Easter school holiday.
- Members considered the Kompan inspection report from January 2021 and the latest report from the playground inspector. It was noted that there were some low risk issues that could be repaired by a handyman. The Clerk said she would contact Longmeadows to find out if they could help. It was also discussed that a volunteer may be able to help with ad hoc repairs. It was discussed that the bank next to the slide had deteriorated again and the Clerk suggested moving the steps nearer to the slide to prevent children from running on the grassed area. The Clerk agreed to contact Longmeadows to find out a price. Cllr Ricketts also said he had a smaller slide which could also be put on the mound.

- The Clerk had written the copy for the interpretation board which had been circulated to members for comments. This had been sent to the designer and a first proof would be circulated for comment shortly. The Clerk was still to place the order for the benches.
- It was agreed that a 3-4m strip of grass would be left uncut around the edge of the recreation ground to help support flora and fauna.
- Cllr Ricketts said he would contact Monster Creative to produce new telephone number plaques to cover the existing.
- The Clerk said that the solicitor had been in contact about the land registration. The Land Registry had acknowledged the application to register the land and had a minor question about the value of the land.

#### 7. Mill Road recreation ground:

- Members consider the Kompan inspection report from January 2021 and the latest report from the playground inspector. It was noted that there were some medium-risk issues that needed to be rectified and Cllr Ricketts said that he would go to the site to see if he could mend them. If not, it was agreed that Longmeadows could be asked to support or the Parish Council could recruit either a volunteer or a paid employee to support with regular repairs. It was noted that the barrier that had been vandalised would be removed in the next week by Longmeadows.
- Frank Campbell, Chair of the Westbourne Community Trust, had provided an updated on redevelopment of the recreation ground and sports/exercise/play equipment before the meeting. He said that if planning permission was granted, the WCT would be tendering for construction of the scheme in autumn 2021. Once work started, some of the equipment would need to be removed and it would not be replaced until towards the end of the scheme, which would be late 2022 or into 2023.
- Members discussed the side fence at 56 Mill Road, Westbourne. It was agreed that the Council should patch up the gaps. Cllr Ricketts would speak to Longmeadows to see if they could help with this.

#### 8. Announcements and items for the next meeting: None.

9. Date of next meeting: The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled to be held on Thursday 17 June 2021 at 8.00pm.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.