

COES MEADOW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Coes Meadow Management Committee, held at 6pm on Thursday 4th March via Zoom Video-conferencing.

Present: Cllr Antonia Crawshay, Cllr Sarah Kershaw, Cllr Laurence Nichols, Mr David Orrell, Ms Jess Soper, Cllr Christine Street,

In the chair: Cllr Sarah Kershaw

Clerk: Claire Waters, Bulmer Parish Clerk

Also in attendance: Cllr M Crome, Bulmer Parish Council and Mr Allen Burbridge

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Raymond Chair of Bulmer Parish Council apologised for absence due to hospital attendance.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PUBLIC MEETING:

The minutes of the public meeting of Coes Meadow Management Committee held on 14th January 2021 were approved as a correct record of events

Proposed: Mr D Orrell

Seconded: Ms J Soper

Agreed unanimously

3. FINANCES

To confirm current financial position for Coes Meadow charity, including ring-fenced funds and S106 money available. The Unity Trust bank account is now open and all members had received their log in instructions for online banking.

RESOLVED: To transfer the ring-fenced Coes Meadow funds of £3,787.91 from the Bulmer Parish Council account to the new Lawrence Coe Recreational Trust account. Decision to be ratified at the Bulmer Parish Council meeting on Monday 15th March

Proposed: Cllr M Crome

Seconded: Cllr L Nicholl

Agreed unanimously

In response to a question about use of S106 funding, Cllr Crome confirmed that as long as the work required was stated in the current Open Spaces Action Plan held by BDC, the S106 funding can be requested to pay for it, provided 3 quotes are obtained. The current balance of S106 funds is £4,213.14.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

4.1. Mr Allen Burbridge raised a question about land adjacent to Coes Meadow which has recently been the subject of a planning appeal in which permission to build 7 houses was refused. He asked whether it was possible for the village, with Heritage Lottery Funding and Parish Council support, could buy the land for a wildlife area and walking access to Coes Meadow. Mr Burbridge also praised the work done on the pond, and suggested a reed bed to take water from Vicars Orchard or drain from the meadow to keep the pond full. The current drain goes through the land adjacent to Coes Meadow

Action: This will be considered by Committee Members and Bulmer Parish Councillors

4.2. Cllr Crome asked that the new noticeboard at Coes Meadow have minutes and agendas of Parish Council meetings displayed promptly

Action: Cllrs Crawshay and Kershaw will make sure this is done promptly for every meeting. They will also post a list of Coes Meadow Management Committee members with contact details

4.3. Cllr Crome asked that Bulmer Parish Councillors as sole trustees of the Lawrence Coe Recreational Trust have access to view the Trust bank account.

Action: Bulmer Parish Councillors who wish view the account will be sent the registration details

5. TREE WORK AND CLEARANCE

5.1. Review and update on tree and scrub clearance carried out since the January meeting. It was agreed that the tree surgeon had done a good job. An invoice for the work is due shortly

5.2. Decision on further actions to be taken during the year. No other work is immediately necessary. Stour Volunteers had suggested planting but wildflower area will be left for now.

Action: It was agreed to keep an eye on the willow arch to avoid it getting overgrown

5.3. Cllr Street reported items floating in the pond which she had been unable to remove.

Action: Cllr Crome and Ms Soper both offered to clear the items.

6. PLAY EQUIPMENT

To review options for completing priority repairs and identify next priority actions from RoSPA inspection in 2020. Quotes had been sought from Timberplay who are the original installer and UK distributor for Richter the German manufacturer. A quote had also been received for repairs from Chris Mortimer, who runs a local company and is a qualified RoSPA safety inspector.

6.1. Goalposts: Consideration of quotes for replacement

Cllr Nichols has the matter in hand but in view of budget restrictions this is not urgent

6.2. Wobble boards (4x Rockers): Consideration of quotes for repair

6.3. See saw: Consideration of quotes for repair

RESOLVED: To accept the Mortimers quote of £1625+ VAT for repair of the 4 Rockers, the See Saw and the Tractor with replacement parts, refurbished springs and all new wood on the Rockers

Proposed: Cllr Street **Seconded:** Cllr Nichols Agreed unanimously

Action: The clerk will instruct Mortimers immediately in the hope this can be done promptly

6.4. Basketball surface: Consideration of quotes for repair. Mortimers reported that this was installed incorrectly and needs removing, then lay concrete base and wet pour surfacing at a cot of £9275 + VAT. A cheaper resin stone option was offered at £5,600.00 + VAT but this would not muffle noise effectively. The original work was done in 2005.

Action: Committee members will look for grant funding e.g. Sport England who might be approached for replacing the basketball surfacing and goalposts

Mr Burbridge offered to look at the surface with a family member who is in the flooring business and look at options for repair. This was kindly offered free of charge. The problem with removing the upper layer is that the surface underneath is uneven and would create a worse trip hazard.

Action: The clerk will check if the Lawrence Coe Recreational Trust is eligible to reclaim VAT on expenditure, as this will make a great difference to the budget

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – To be confirmed

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – To be confirmed

The meeting closed at 6.56pm