



**Playing Fields Committee meeting  
The Council Chamber, Cinderford,  
Tuesday 25th January 2022, 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Cllr Chris Witham  
Cllr Mark Turner  
Cllr Tim Holder  
Cllr Chris Brown  
Cllr Roger Sterry  
Cllr Lynn Sterry  
Cllr Jeremy Charlton-Wright  
Cllr Graham Morgan  
Cllr Di Martin  
Cllr Sally Reader

**In attendance:**

Emma Bennett (Clerk, CTC)  
Les Love (Facilities & Estates Manager, CTC)  
Ryan Morgan (Ground & Maintenance, CTC)  
0 Members of the public

**Apologies:**

Cllr Max Coborn  
Cllr Mason Coborn  
Cllr Rachel Lewis

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

Noted as above.

**2. Declarations of Interest – to receive any declarations of interest in any matter to be discussed at the meeting. Members and Officers are requested to identify the nature of the interest**

Item 12 Dockham Road - Cllr Brown declared his role as Chief Executive Officer of FVAF, Cllr Martin & Cllr Morgan declared they were Trustees of FVAF.

Item 10 Trees - Cllr Reader declared knowing the tree surgeons.

Cllr Brown, Martin, Morgan & Reader would abstain from voting on the items mentioned.

**3. Public Participation Session – to provide the opportunity for Members of the Public to raise questions or comment on items on the Agenda (limited to 15 minutes, with a maximum 3 minutes per person).**

None.

**4. Chairman's Urgent Business**

None.

**5. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th November 2021 (copy herewith)**

The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

Proposed; Cllr R Sterry, Seconded Cllr Charlton-Wright. Abstained: Cllr Brown.

Remaining Councillors were in favour.

## 6. Matters Arising from Minutes

ACTION	STATUS
Identify budget items Vehicle replacement - build up funds Playground replacements	Considered at Budget Committee meeting and budget allocated.
Undertake repairs as detailed in operational inspection report	In progress. One play area (Double View area) done to date.
Signage to be updated	Draft signage options provided. Comments received and suggestions forwarded to designer.
CW to provide dates for demo of PSS equipment	To do.
To monitor dog waste issue in Miners Welfare & Steam Mills area	To make decision in March.

## 7. Skatepark

The Clerk updated on requirements relating to awarding contracts.

- a. **To receive car park quotes and appoint contractor/agree way forward**  
4 local firms had been contacted to quote for the works based on the Maverick/planning application. Only one quote had been received by the deadline date. Council agreed to refer the quotation to Maverick for comment and use the Contracts Finder.
- b. **To receive fencing quotes and appoint contractor/agree way forward**  
Council received one initial quote for ROSPA compliant fencing. The Clerk would seek further quotes for comparison.
- c. **To receive lighting quotes and appoint contractor/agree way forward**  
Three quotes had been received which varied in price. Council discussed the raising option which was highlighted as best practice from Coleford. Planning and surveys would be required. The Clerk would forward quotes to Maverick for advice regarding lighting requirements.
- d. **To note submission of planning application**  
The skate park planning application had been submitted - see FODDC planning www reference P0002/22/FUL. FODDC had contacted local residents for comments.

## 8. Play areas

### A. **To receive copies of the staff weekly play area checks**

Reports received and contents noted. These were signed off by the Chair. .

### B. **To receive the January 2022 ROSPA Operational Play Safety Reports**

Councillors were provided with the links to the reports. Items raised would be taken forward by the Maintenance Team. Kompan is due to meet staff tomorrow to discuss issues raised in the Miners Welfare inspection.

Council noted that the Grounds Property Maintenance apprentice had started.

Double View play area repairs had been undertaken. The Maintenance Team planned to have all checks completed by next week.

### C. **To receive the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association Annual Report 2020/21**

Report received and noted.

### D. **To receive FODDC latest information on the S106 position**

FODDC had confirmed monies for the Off-site Play Space Contribution could be awarded to the Hildene Juniors playarea. For the Adult/Youth Recreation Contribution a number of ideas had been submitted to FODDC for consideration.

**E. To note the removal of the Freeminers (wooden play equipment) and consider plans for the area**

The wooden equipment which failed its inspection had been removed. Plans for the area were discussed. Cllr Martin and Cllr Reader would consult local residents.

**F To discuss Councillors visit to Bells' Field Coleford and ideas and path plans**

A number of Councillors and staff visited Bells Field. It was well used by all ages. Good features and issues were highlighted. The path was popular and accessible. The natural drainage ponds helped with water issues. The need for a clear vision and plan for the area was discussed. It was agreed that Councillors would meet with residents to obtain ideas.

**G. To discuss the athletic track proposal**

Feedback from a Council was provided on their athletic track noting that the running track was only used by a few residents and is costly. Council discussed creating an accessible path for use by walkers, wheelchair users and joggers would be more beneficial for greater use.

**H. To receive drawings and quotations and stakeholder feedback on the Latimer Road site**

3 plans were received. Council considered the plans and following discussion agreed to appoint Kompan to provide a new play area and undertake repairs to existing items based on the equipment provided in the design. Feedback from the local school had also been received and considered. .

Proposed: Cllr D Martin, Seconded Cllr S Reader to appoint Kompan. .

**I. To receive drawings and quotations and stakeholder feedback on the Steam Mills site.**

The Clerk updated positively on a recent grant submission request. Council were advised that one company were behind on requesting designs. Plans would be taken to the next Council meeting to progress installation for the April Steam Mills event and feedback obtained from the local school.

**9. Allotment/Land Request**

**To receive any feedback from other Councils, the Allotment Society & Charity Commission**

The Clerk updated on correspondence with the Charity Commission and advice received from allotment organisations.

**10. Trees - To receive quotes for tree works and agree contractor**

Independent Arboriculture & Urban Forestry had undertaken a site visit and inspected the Town Council trees. Documents were provided to Councillors which included findings of the tree assessments and schedule of works. 3 firms had been asked to quote for undertaking works identified. Councillors considered the 3 quotations and agreed to the appointment of Abbey Tree & Hedge Services based on price and works undertaken previously.

Proposed: Cllr Charlton-Wright, Seconded Cllr Turner.

**11. General Update**

**Maintenance Vehicle Update**

This passed its MOT. Funds for a future replacement would be built up.

**Progress at Crumpmeadow wetland area**

Severn Trent have finished digging works. They have sown grass and wildflower seeds and will plant the wetland areas – reedbeds, marginal veg etc in the spring. Joint visit to be arranged externally in due course.

**To discuss potential wildflower meadow areas**

Somerset Road - Forestry England are happy for us to manage subject to a management plan in place. Council were happy for the Clerk to take this forward with FE.

GCC Highways had been asked about wildflower meadows on their land - a reply was still awaited. .

Town Council land - Councillors agreed to the area by Steam Mills car park and brook being planted.

Council discussed maintenance. Council would ask Steam Mills school children to make a sign for the area.

**12. Dockham Road - to discuss the green space area (joint discussion with Estates Committee)**

In advance of the meeting C Brown, CEO of FVAF had circulated a paper titled FVAF Community & Youth Centre Proposal and provided 4 floor plans. The CEO took the Council through the proposal for the building highlighting FVAF services, community need, vision, sustainability & green space, value for money, schedule of works, budget, sustainability plan, funding strategy, community ownership, alternatives and questions. FVAF currently rented a room from Cinderford Town Council which they had outgrown. Council noted the plans to turn the current Health Centre into a Youth & Community Hub with significant investment and provide support and services to Cinderford and the Forest. A number of new organisations had indicated they wished to work with FVAF and be part of the space. Planned improvement included the green space around the building, job creation and increased footfall and event planning. Details of funding secured was covered along with FVAF plans to maintain the building and grounds going forward.

The CEO answered Councillor questions around deprivation, links to NHS and other organisations and plans to break down service barriers. He highlighted that it was a fantastic space which could benefit the community and that the charity benefits the Town.

It was proposed that FVAF Community & Youth Centre Proposal Plans were taken to full Council to consider.

Proposed: Councillor M Turner, seconded: Cllr Reader.

**13. Date of next Meeting – TBC**

**Signed:**.....

**Date:**.....