

Gnosall Parish Council
Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting
Held on 19th November 2013 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr T Simkin (in the chair), Cllr D Willetts, Cllr Sue Green,
Cllr M Deegan, Cllr J Tomkinson, Cllr M Cowie, Jayne Cooper

Press and Public Open Forum (one present)

Mr Tony Barrow representing Gnosall Allotments and Gardens Association informed the committee of changes to GAGA's Chairman, Secretary and Treasures following the recent AGM as well as fee changes. Mr Barrow informed council members of the concerns raised by GAGA members regarding the condition of the allotment road. This was noted by councillors and it was explained that plans for Phase 3 of the Acres project includes the resurfacing of this road.

1	To receive any apologies and record absences Apologies received from Cllr Cook, Cllr Greatrex	
2	To receive any Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest.	
3	To receive and confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 8th October 2013 The minutes of the meeting were approved as a true and accurate record.	
4	To consider any matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda BT Phone Boxes – Cllr Tomkinson, had reviewed the terms and conditions of the adoption scheme and confirmed it was possible to relocate kiosks at the expense of the Parish Council. This would be addressed during budget discussions. Stafford Borough Council Green Awards – Cllr Simkin and the Clerk had attended this event on 18 th October and accepted an award for Phase 2 of the Acres Project as well as a cheque for £50 that had been used to purchase spring flowering bulbs to be planted within the picnic site. Cllr Green offered to plant bulbs. Cllr Green reported an old tractor being driven on and around the Acres by a group of teenagers on Sunday 17 th October. This had been reported to the police. The Clerk would follow this up and the Acres would be checked for any damage. The Clerk was asked to write to John Hall to cut the new hedge at the allotment site.	Cllr Green Clerk Clerk
5	<i>To exclude the press and public whilst confidential information is discussed</i> To agree Open Spaces projects and associated budget requirements for 2014/15 Income: Allotment Rental It was accepted allotment income would be lower than usual as many of the	

	<p>plots at the far end of the allotment site had been relinquished and planned works would take the remaining bottom plots out of use for the majority of 2014. Income however would include water usage costs for 2013 (bill yet to be received).</p> <p>The budget headings were reviewed with the previous financial year as well as expenditure to date in the current financial year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bus Shelters – it was accepted that the shelter on Brookhouse Road needs significant work to make it good and this was also on the Best Kept Village project list for 2014. Maintenance work on Knightley bus shelters would remain therefore the budget was increased accordingly.• It was agreed the Village Green and Chippy Jumps are no longer separate projects as they are regular Open Space areas and therefore these budget headings to be amalgamated and increased slightly to justify the increase in maintenance fees and anticipated tree work.• The grass cutting contract would be in the first year of a new 4 year contract and includes extra maintenance on The Acres, Village Green, Boardwalk etc• Two new projects planned for 2014/15 are an Open Day to showcase all the open space areas with family activities and the relocation of the phone box in Knightley.• The Acres Phase 3 is the largest of the Council’s projects in 2014/15 and would be subject to funding however £3000 was allocated to meet any shortfall. <p>Therefore the budget proposals to be presented to Resources Committee are as follows:</p> <table><tr><td></td><td>2014/2015</td></tr><tr><td>Water Allotment</td><td>£400</td></tr><tr><td>Water Burial Ground</td><td>£130</td></tr><tr><td>Burial Ground Maintenance</td><td>£4250</td></tr><tr><td>Bus Shelters general maintenance</td><td>£1500</td></tr><tr><td>Open Spaces Equipment (inc park, benches, notice boards repairs etc)</td><td>£10,000</td></tr><tr><td>Grass cutting/Trees & Shrubs</td><td>£11,745</td></tr><tr><td>Relocation of phone box</td><td>£300</td></tr><tr><td>Open Spaces Open Day</td><td>£500</td></tr><tr><td>Acres Phase 3</td><td>£3000</td></tr><tr><td>Income</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Grass cutting grant from SCC</td><td>£2880</td></tr><tr><td>Allotment income (including water)</td><td>£1000</td></tr><tr><td>Burial Fees</td><td>£3000</td></tr></table> <p>This information to be presented to Resources Committee on 25.11.13</p>		2014/2015	Water Allotment	£400	Water Burial Ground	£130	Burial Ground Maintenance	£4250	Bus Shelters general maintenance	£1500	Open Spaces Equipment (inc park, benches, notice boards repairs etc)	£10,000	Grass cutting/Trees & Shrubs	£11,745	Relocation of phone box	£300	Open Spaces Open Day	£500	Acres Phase 3	£3000	Income		Grass cutting grant from SCC	£2880	Allotment income (including water)	£1000	Burial Fees	£3000	
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6	<p>To agree additional play park equipment from grants received</p> <p>Examples of equipment were shown that match the amount received in grants from The Cooperative Fund and Skivvys (£2470). It was noted that the Handyman had agreed to dismantle the current piece of equipment and</p>																													

	<p>install the new piece saving a considerable amount meaning a higher specification piece of equipment could be purchased. It was agreed to purchase the Uni Mini Rya climbing frame from HAGS SMP at £2742 (currently at a reduced fee until 20th December). The Clerk to action.</p> <p>Play area car park</p> <p>It was reported that the condition of the car park adjacent to the play area is in need of urgent repair work to make it safe prior to any permanent work carried out on it as part of Phase 3. The Clerk had received letters of complaint from parishioners. The Clerk was asked to obtain three quotations for a temporary but safe surface to last at least 12-18 months. The Clerk to action as a matter of urgency and circulate details to committee members.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
7	<p>To confirm the time and date for the next meeting</p> <p>16th January 2014</p>	