

Minutes of the meeting of the
Estate Committee of Broseley Town Council
held at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 15th May 2018
at the Birchmeadow Centre

Standard abbreviations used throughout: BMC – Birchmeadow Centre
BCMC - Birchmeadow Centre Management Committee
SC – Shropshire Council

1. **PRESENT**

Councillors Burton, L Garbett, Michael Garbett, Goodall, Taylor, West.

2. **IN ATTENDANCE**

Councillors Mark Garbett, Harris

Members of the BCMC: C Bagnall (Chair), B Webb (Treasurer).

MUGA Group: M Kaiser (Chair)

TM Barrett – Clerk, one member of the public

3. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

RESOLVED to elect Councillor Michael Garbett as Chair of the Committee.

4. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

RESOLVED to elect Councillor Taylor as Vice Chair of the Committee.

5. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

S Milan (BCMC)

6. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors L Garbett and Michael Garbett: agenda item 14/minute 12, Park View Play Area – Pecuniary as owner of land adjacent to the site.

7. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ESTATE COMMITTEE HELD ON 20TH MARCH 2018**

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2018 as a true record.

8. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ESTATE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20TH MARCH 2018**

Minute 111: work on the water tanks for the van was progressing and would be finished later in the week.

9. **REPORT FROM THE BIRCHMEADOW CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

- a. Councillors noted a report from the BCMC. The AGM had been held the previous evening and existing officers had been re-elected. The Centre continued to be busy, although two regular bookings had been lost: the Healthy Friendships Group, whose funding had come to an end, and the Pole Fixation class, which had moved to a location more convenient for the tutor.

A report on maintenance issues was provided:

- The new front doors were due to be completed and installed early the following week
- The stairway lighting had been completed
- The vision panels for the interior doors were due to be completed by the end of the week
- The extra lighting to the stage had been completed the previous day
- The first feed in tariff payment from the solar panels was due on 4th June.

No action had been taken yet with regard to the damp in the ladies toilet and the Chair offered to follow this up.

- b. Councillors noted the BCMC accounts and bank balance. The annual accounts had been approved at the AGM and would now be provided to the Council.

10. BIRCHMEADOW CENTRE MAINTENANCE

- a. Maintenance issues were considered under 9a above.
- b. It was noted that the main project for the BCMC for the forthcoming year would be improving the Studio room.

Members of the BCMC left the meeting.

11. MULTI-USE GAMES AREA (MUGA)

Councillors noted a report from the MUGA Chairman. The main football season had just finished and the bank balance was reported. There had been problems with the MUGA lighting and the Committee had agreed that a relationship with an electrical contractor was required to ensure prompt repairs could be carried out.

Some organisational issues had arisen and the Chair made the following requests:

- a. That no work be carried out on the MUGA without reference to the committee.
- b. That the Council representative(s) regularly attend MUGA committee meetings. If this were not possible, that the representatives liaise with the Chair.
- c. That any comments or questions for the MUGA Co-ordinator be directed through the MUGA Chair, as her line manager.

It was noted that the Chair and Secretary of the MUGA Committee would definitely be standing down at the forthcoming AGM (13th June) and that new officers and volunteers would be required.

M Kaiser left the meeting.

Agenda item 14 was considered next.

Having declared a prejudicial interest in the following item, Councillors L Garbett and Michael Garbett left the meeting.

12. PARK VIEW PLAY AREA

Councillors noted a petition submitted by members of the public requesting that the play equipment be retained and that the Council re-open Park View Play Area.

Councillors noted that the decision had been taken in 2015 to close the play area due to concerns about safeguarding, due to the enclosed and secluded nature of the site, as well as ongoing problems with vandalism, anti-social behaviour and theft. Consequently, the Council had decided to remove the play equipment and return all responsibility for the site to Shropshire Council, the landowner.

Councillors were alarmed that some members of the public had recently gained access to the locked site and used equipment which had not been recently maintained.

Unanimously RESOLVED to remove the remaining play equipment from Park View Play Area as a matter of urgency.

Councillors considered a possible alternative sports use for the site which would be discussed with Shropshire Council. It was noted that there were no S106 restrictions on the site.

Councillors L Garbett and Michael Garbett returned to the meeting.
Councillor Mark Garbett left the meeting.

Agenda item 16 was taken next.

13. STREET LIGHTING

Councillors noted a report from the street lighting working group. A draft tender document had been prepared for a three year contract for the maintenance of the Council's street lighting stock as well as a replacement programme. The Council had funds in an allocated reserve towards the cost of the replacement programme and the hope was to use additional CIL Local funds for the scheme. This would involve replacing the Council's concrete columns with aluminium columns fitted with LED lanterns, which would be programmed to allow timed dimming or part-night lighting if appropriate (part-night lighting would require consultation). The draft tender document had been passed to the relevant SC Officer for his comments prior

Councillor West left the meeting.

14. LIBRARY AND CAR PARK

- a. Councillors noted an update on groups using the library for meetings, drop-in sessions, etc. There was regular usage from various local community groups including the WI book club, a craft club and Food for Thought talks as well as other occasional sessions and meetings all on a free of charge basis. Other agencies had been in contact but had been unwilling or unable to pay a hire fee, as required by the Council's policy. The Clerk was asked to request information from other libraries about their usage and hire policies.
- b. No progress had been made with obtaining quotations on electric car charging points for the library car park. However, it was noted that SC were working on a scheme to install electric charging points in Ludlow and, if successful, this might be extended to other towns. No further action would be taken on this pending the outcome of the Ludlow scheme.
- c. Councillors noted that the light on the back of the library building had been repaired and that SC had been asked whether it would be possible to keep the street light on the car park lit all night. This would need to be considered by the Bronze Tasking Group and information provided on anti-social behaviour to justify a change in the lighting.

15. CEMETERY

- a. No progress had been made with having the necessary drawings and tender document drawn up to invite tenders for the construction of a restroom, etc. at the Cemetery. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries about the cost of connecting to the mains sewer.
- b. Councillors requested that the Clerk obtain quotations for reducing the height of the taller conifers bordering the road to bring them down to the height of the other trees in the row.

16. MEMORIAL GARDEN


- a. Councillors noted that many positive comments had been received about the appearance of the Memorial Garden in the spring, following the planting of new daffodil and tulip bulbs.
- b. Contact had been made with the Royal British Legion to obtain a "Silent Soldier" for the Memorial Garden.

17. BENCHES

- a. Councillors noted that new benches had been obtained for Cape Street and the Memorial Garden and that these would be installed by the groundsmen in the next few weeks.
- b. Councillors noted the concerns of a resident with regard to the installation of a memorial bench for former Town Councillor, Eric Cox, on Maypole Green. It was noted that the Council had given permission for the planting of a tree and installation of a circular bench and that the tree was already in place. **RESOLVED to proceed with the installation of the bench around the tree in the current location.** (Councillors voted four in favour and one abstention).

18. PLAY EQUIPMENT FOR GUEST ROAD

Following the full Council meeting the Clerk had been in touch with residents of Guest Road regarding alternative pieces of play equipment. Once the details had been agreed, the Clerk would place the revised order with the supplier.


Chairman