

**MINUTES OF PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING 16th OCTOBER 2023
IN RUNWELL VILLAGE HALL AT 8.15PM**

IN ATTENDANCE: - Chairman Cllr Clark; Messrs: Redway, Sloane & Tarplett; Mesdames Ellis, Evans, Gould, Hutson & Payne

Minute 114 Apologies: Cllr Rogers. Apologies accepted.

Minute 115 Declarations of Interest: None reported

Minute 116 Budget Items for Precept 2024/25

The Park committee recommend to Full Council to include the following items in the costings for the Precept covering the period 2024/25

Carry over Ear-marked Reserve Projects & Projects from 23/24

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| • Public Toilets | £80000.00 |
| • Car Park improvements (to inc wheelchair bays) | £10000.00 |
| • Path improvements (around Pavilion & ramp to Runwell Shed) | £10000.00 |
| • Hard Play Surface Improvements (Lining) | £1500.00 |
| • Noticeboards/signage x2 (noticeboard by main entrance & Quart Pot) | £2000.00 |

Other items to include:

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| Replacement Park benches/seats x3 | £2000.00 |
| 1.8 Acre Deer Field improvements | £500.00 |

Minute 117 Security Fence Report

The installation of the security fence had been completed but several issues occurred during the process. Land levels between the Park and Meadow Lane differed considerably, the reasons for this were discussed. To enable the height of the fence to be consistent along its length it had been necessary to purchase clay to compact along the low areas to achieve the correct height. The number of fence panels ordered had originally included the area by the footpath access and lower corner of the park, the fencing in this area is being re-assessed and 5 panels stored by the contractor to be installed later when resolved. Further costs will be applied for the extras. The Park Committee recommend these actions to the Full Council.

Minute 118 Fly-tipping Report and removal costs

Following the clearance of the land in the park by the fence the amount of fly-tipping uncovered was considerably more than first thought (pictures circulated) and old asbestos roofing was found and tested. It was not possible to shred “green” matter due to the rubbish entanglement. Dunmow Waste was engaged to clear the area with grab lorries enabling proper disposal and verification with extra charges for old mattresses and tyres etc Final costs for general removal awaited plus extras for the asbestos removal. The Park Committee recommend these actions to the Full Council and to cover the costs involved.

Minute 119 General Maintenance Report

- 1.8 Acres (“The Deer Field”) - New paths cut through; placement of benches debated but discounted; safety issues discussed; path areas to be covered with chippings; Owl box still to be straightened.
- Plantation – All areas cleared at the expense of this council, waiting for CCC to replace the dead trees (sprayed pink) and plant further saplings between Autumn 23 - Spring 24
- Memorial Oak trees (x3) – Currently in storage and waiting to be planted. It was agreed that the Clerk should purchase metal tree guards, stakes/posts and compost for planting.
- CCTV - Regularly serviced. Car park camera adjusted.
- Play Equipment (Zip Line, Roundabout, Bridge) – Maintenance completed as recommended by inspection reports from Kompan.

Minute 120 Runwell Shed Report. Open Wednesdays currently. Work areas now well kitted out and safe for approximately 6 members to work in. Need to encourage to open for more days.

Minute 121 Questions/Other. Wickford Carnival Report/Review; for transparency Cllr Hutson to ask organisers for the amount raised and which local groups are supported and by how much.

Meeting Closed 9.00pm