

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Open Spaces Meeting held on Monday 15th February 2016

Present: Councillor T Threlfall, (Chair)

Councillors, Mrs. N Griffiths, Mrs. M Whitehead, St J Greenhough K McKay and three representatives from Freckleton in Bloom.

1) To receive declarations from anyone (public or Councillors) if they propose to record the meeting (film or audio) under the Open of the Local Government Bodies regulations 2014

There was no declarations.

2) To accept Apologies for absence.

Councillors, T Fiddler (other business)

It was resolved that the reason for absence should be accepted.

3) To record the Declaration of interest from members in any item to be discussed.

All Councillors, as Landlords of the Bowling club, declared an interest item 7

Councillor Mrs. N Griffith declared a personal interest in item 8.

4) To review the quotation for the Litter picking contract for 2016/17

The Clerk confirmed that the current Contractor (Golden Leaf) had requested a 50p increase in the hourly rate for litter picking effective from 01/04/16. In addition, he pointed out that they were currently paid for 1 hour per day Monday to Saturday each week.

It was agreed that all the areas should be cleaned on a Sunday and that at the moment the work was not being completed satisfactorily.

It was suggested that one and half hours per day for seven days a week should be allocated in order to undertake the work satisfactorily. The rate of pay should be between £8 and £10 per hour.

It was agreed that the Clerk should make enquiries to see if any other contractors are willing to undertake the work.

5) To consider who should be offered the Watering contract for 2016/17.

The Clerk reported that Contractor (Golden leaf) no longer wished to undertake this work with effect from 01/04/16. The current rate of pay was £10 per hour.

It was suggested that FIB should take over the work, with the Council making a grant to them to cover the costs of the work, (similar to the grants made to the Bowling and the Cricket clubs). The Chairman and the Clerk will meet with representatives of FIB to progress this option in the near future.

Alternative suggestion for doing the work were The Prison and Fylde Parks department.

6) To consider how to help FIB's with the comments made about judging.

The report from last year's judging was discussed in detail and a number of points were raised for improvement before this year's judging. It was agreed that they should be progressed.

7) To consider the proposals from the Tree officer, at FBC, regarding the two trees adjacent to the Bowling club.

The Clerk confirmed that he had met with the Tree officer from FBC and he recommended that the trees should not be cut back as they would not grow back properly and would do little to improve the shading.

He pointed out that the trees were growing into the metal fencing and would be damaged over the next few years. He recommended that the trees should be removed at some stage in the future.

It was agreed that the trees should be removed if the Bowling club approved this recommendation.

8) To consider the type of trees that should be planted in the Open spaces area on Memory Close.

The Chairman suggested that the replacing of the trees should be left until after the existing trees have had a chance to grow and come into leaf.

It was resolved to defer this decision until July '16.

Signed.....T Fiddler.....

Date.....07/03/16.....