**Minutes from Parks Committee Meeting 12.02.25**

**Attendance:** Cllr A Stevens (Parks Chair), Cllr A. Parrington, Cllr H. Maurice-Jones, Cllr L. Rowlands, Cllr L Todd, Cllr M. Gledhill, Cllr M Woods Cllr W. Cleaver and the Clerk.

Apologies – Cllr N. Roberts

*Phase 2 Rossett Park:*

The committee discussed potential directions for the next phase of the park to go in. The Clerk had obtained a few new quotes from Kompan to help guide some initial thoughts. Originally there was the idea for a Spider Climber style piece. Some other options including the Explorer Dome were explored briefly but this would require a bigger budget that what the council currently has available. The Clerk mentioned she had just received an email regarding the Shared Prosperity Funding for the year so would look into the application for some funding money. This would potentially change the scale of the park update if the funding was awarded to do a bigger improvement. It was suggested to ask for a funding amount of £125k as this could mean the whole park is completed. The Clerk informed there was a webinar for the funding on Tuesday 18th but wasn’t able to attend. Cllr M Woods and A Parrington agreed to try and attend. Cllr A Parrington stressed that with Ali in place again as Community Co-ordinator, it would be great to get her doing some research into the schools regarding what equipment they would favour in the park. Years 5 and 6 at St Peter’s and all Darland years were deemed the appropriate age bracket for questioning. It was also suggested reaching out to Kompan and ESP Play to ask for recommendations for these age groups as well. **Action – Clerk to email**. Cllr H Maurice-Jones commented that the shelter could do with a revamp too, perhaps new furniture in there. This was deemed a good idea and would be considered.

*Barrels:*

Cllr H Maurice-Jones reported that the majority of barrels would see through another year. She highlighted the Lavister/Pulford display, suggesting that it needed some attention to create a more welcoming display into Wales. A three-tiered display, similar to those in Chester was suggested as one option and also a raised flower bed display. Cllr A Parrington and M Gledhill would look into prices for different options. Cllr H Maurice-Jones reported that 2 barrels on the roundabout needed some repairs. Ollie (Park Warden) offered to have a look at them and see if he was able to fix them along with one by the Co-op that Cllr A Steven reported needing attention.

Cllr H Maurice-Jones mentioned that some of the trees in Rossett Park still needing staking.

*Fence by the Hwb:*

Ollie had measured up the area for the fence and gate. The posts were already in and he would just need the materials ordered from Wickes to complete the project. Ollie would price up and let the Clerk know the costs. He would just need to heck positioning of pipe works. **Action – Ollie to price up and send to Clerk**

Ollie requested if anyone would be able to volunteer with digging out the areas for wildflowers during mid-March with him and to let him know.

*Safety Equipment for Park Warden:*

Cllr A Steven informed that the council would need to purchase some new PPE equipment for Ollie following the Chainsaw course he completed this week. He would look at prices and let the Clerk know. The helmet, trousers and shoes needed to be Kevlar products to comply with safety regulations. Cllr M Woods requested that the use of Chainsaw for Park Warden was added to the current Council Risk Assessment. **Action – Cllr A Steven to price up gear and send to Clerk.**

*Cleaning of park benches and Shelter roof:*

Cllr L Rowland mentioned the park needed a bit of a spruce up. It was agreed to do this over a couple of volunteer sessions, one mid-week and one weekend date. They would access which benches needed replacement timbers at this time too. Ollie reported that he was informed a jet wash was better to clean the wet pour areas in the park rather than hiring a street cleaner that had been previously advised. This was also suggested to be done on one of these volunteer sessions. **Action – Dates to be decided**

*Zip Wire Repairs:*

The Clerk had received an email from Carla at WCBC regarding some damage and wear to the zip-line wire in Rossett Park. Unfortunately, WCBC were unable to complete the works themselves and advised speaking to Ray Parry who had installed the equipment some years ago. The Clerk had contacted him and received a price for the work for £2340.00 + VAT. It was agreed that the work needed doing but it was suggested to see if the price could be lowered with a view that there was going to be updates to the park in the near future. Cllr W Cleaver requested asking them to alter the zipline to make it go faster as this had already been done once on instalment of it originally. **Action – Clerk to email Ray Parry**

*Dogs in the Park:*

Cllr W Cleaver reported that there had been a number of people sitting in the park with dogs by the Community Hwb. Cllr H Maurice-Jones commented that the Hwb were doing what they can to stop this from happening and were creating a space at the front of the Hwb for people to sit with their dogs. Once the fence and gate were up for the side of the Hwb, it would need a ‘No Dogs’ sign to help deter as well. The Clerk would speak to Carla at WCBC and ASAP signs for this. **Action – Clerk to email WCBC and ASAP Signs**

*AOB:*

Cllr L Rowland touched on events for the next few months. She proposed an Easter treasure hunt searching for letters to make a word. This word could then redeem them a prize at the Hwb. It was suggested this should happen across a weekend not one specific time to allow lots of participation.

Picnic In The Park was the next event for planning. Cllr L Rowland suggested June 14th and this would be proposed to the full council at the next meeting.

VE Day would be on 8th May and it was questioned if it should be incorporated with Picnic in the Park or something separate. Cllr H Maurice-Jones mentioned that it would be a good idea to unveil the new ‘Unknown Soldier’ Statue for this.

Cllr M Woods wanted to report he’s received some mentions about the new toddler play area being particularly boggy at the moment. Due to recent weather there wasn’t much that could be done to stop this during the winter months, although the possibility of grass mats was suggested. It would be monitored going into the warmer weather and then reassessed if any work might need doing to it.

The meeting ended.