**Minutes from Parks and Festival committee meeting Wednesday 26th May 2021**

**Present:** Cllr L Rowland, Cllr H Maurice-Jones, Cllr A Steven, Cllr M Woods, Cllr M Gledhill, Clerk (WP).

LR reported that she had visited the play area at Mountain View following an email from WCBC advising that some repair work was required on the wooden tower equipment. It was agreed that this equipment should be repaired as other than the rotten wood identified it was in good condition. WP confirmed she had made contact with Ace Play to secure a second quotation and once received this could be proposed at the next Full Council meeting. Otherwise it was noted that this play area was in good order but LR suggested promoting it more once the repair work had been completed. **Action: WP to progress second quotation**.

LR and HMJ reported that they had visited Greenfields play area. Again there were a large number of weeds in the barked area which required attention. WP confirmed that the Street Warden had indicated he was undertaking weed spraying during the next couple of days so it would be ensured that this area was on his list. There was a need to lay a substantial amount of bark and it was also noted that there were very large divots under the swings so it was agreed that WP should contact WCBC to see if it would be appropriate to remove some links in the swing chains to slightly lift them. Once this had been addressed 5 bags of play bark should be ordered for spreading. An approach had been made by a local resident who wanted to coordinate the preparation/planting of an area of wild flowers at the play area. It was hoped this could be encouraged and a budget of £100 to assist with seed purchase etc was agreed. LR and WP would arrange to meet with the resident to confirm details. HMJ reported that a resident had again bought up the issue of cats defecating in the play bark. WP confirmed that some of the animal repellent equipment had been thrown into an adjacent field. It was agreed that signage would be created advising users of the risk. **Action: WP to produce signage, arrange meeting regarding wild flower planting, confirm weed removal, liaise with WCBC and order play bark.**

At the play area in Rossett WP confirmed that the 2 replacement gates were still on order as there had been significant delays for the provider receiving them from the manufacturer. WP confirmed that the equipment where paint had been removed from the frames would be repainted, avoiding the school holidays. Some new holly plants hand been planted to bulk out the hedge gaps and WP confirmed she would ask that the Park Warden keep these watered over the forthcoming weeks. HMJ requested that he also be asked to remove the weed growth at the bottom of a tree guard and new tree growth at the base of some trees. The issue of watering of the summer bedding plants was considered and an option for a water bowser circulated by AS reviewed. WP suggested offering the Park Warden 2 additional hours per week between June – September to water the floral displays along Chester Road and near the notice board. For watering twice weekly this would cost approximately £325. This was agreed along with pricing up a H2O2go carts which were a preferred watering option**. Action: WP to arrange for new holly plants to be watered, water carrier to be priced and Park Warden to undertake work identified.**

WP confirmed that WCBC had undertaken some remedial repair work of the railings at the junction of Station Road/Chester Road and she had now instructed the Park and Street Warden to prepare this area for painting. They had been asked to tidy up the area, scrapping off moss, sweeping, cleaning signage etc. She had also approached Richard Wallace who had agreed to complete repairs to the bench outside the church which was now rotten. He was happy to take on this work and RCC would reimburse him for all material costs.

There was a discussion about a donation of 10 Cherry trees by a local resident. WP had contacted Jon Brewin (WCBC) to see if it was feasible to plant some on Chester Road but thus far had not received a response. Other areas considered were at the junctions of Alyn Drive and Trevalyn Way on Harwoods Lane. Once confirmation was received from WCBC a meeting would be arranged with the resident and HMJ/WP. **Action: WP to chase WCBC for a response and arrange meeting.**  It was agreed that these could act as a memorial in some way for a number of key community members who had recently passed away. Plaques for some benches was also considered. HMJ suggested that consideration should be given to marking the substantial community involvement by Phil Bentley and how this could be remembered within the community. This would be put on the agenda for the next Full Council meeting. **Action: WP to put on agenda.**

HMJ reported that strimming was required around the barrels at Threeways. **Action: WP to request Street Warden to attend.** Some of the barrels on the roundabout also required repositioning and MG agreed to assist.

HMJ advised that the Community Agent was currently submitting some grant applications as events with the elderly residents would soon recommence with small groups. As it was hoped these could predominately be outdoors it had been suggested that the purchase of a gazebo would be useful. This could also be used for events like picnic in the park, Christmas Tree etc. WP had priced up a suitable product around £220. It had been considered that purchasing two would give more flexibility as they could be joined together at a total cost of not more than £450. It was hoped that approximately £120 would be achievable from the grant and another fund raiser could raise approximately £50. It was agreed that the difference should be funded by RCC.

HMJ advised that a resident had made enquiries regarding a gardening competition this year but following a discussion it was agreed not to progress this this year.