**Minutes from Parks Subcommittee Meeting 30.01.23**

**Attendance:** Cllr L. Rowlands, Cllr H. Maurice-Jones, Cllr A. Parrington, Cllr N. Roberts, Cllr M Gledhill, Ms W Pace and the Clerk.

Apologies – Cllr A. Steven and Cllr M. Woods.

*Mountain View:*

Cllr L Rowlands reminded the subcommittee of the park inspection due in April and the few jobs that need looking at beforehand. She requested a volunteer group for removing the wood edging and for filling the gaps between grass and wet pour with topsoil. It was agreed that this would happen 4th March.

*Greenfields:*

Cllr L Rowlands informed that she had contacted Ceri about the voluntary up keep of the park but was yet to hear back from her. She was concerned that the park needed more ownership and someone taking lead, including maintenance of the wildflower section. She questioned perhaps having another volunteer group day as previously done there to tidy up pre-season/park inspection. No decision was made on this.

There was a debate about the on-going problem of local cats defecating in the bark and how to deter them from doing this but it was concluded that the problem was not an easy one to resolve.

Cllr L Rowlands enquired if the fence by the gully that was collapsing due to over grown vegetation had been brought to the county councillors’ attention. Cllr A Parrington believed it had been but requested the Clerk check. **Action – Clerk to contact Cllr R Shepherd on this.**

*Scarecrow Festival:*

Cllr L Rowlands mentioned that this could take place for Easter but Cllr H Maurice-Jones suggested incorporating it with the Kings Coronation in May and with a historical/royal theme. It was decided that it would run for the two weeks which included the coronation weekend in the middle (May Day weekend). This discussion also diverted onto the idea for a Picnic in the Park for the Coronation but it was concluded that this would be better in the Summer time as a fundraising event for the Hwb due to the Focus Wales Event happening at the same time. There was concern over the state of the toilet block though for an event in the park and the electrics/water would need looking at prior to this. It was decided that the burst pipe needed evaluating and a quote on repairing it obtained. There was also a point made that the park warden would need water soon for jobs and that brought up a suggestion of a free-standing tap. It was agreed that quotes should be looked at for porta loos also. Moving back to the Scarecrow Festival it was decided the community council would make at least one scarecrow to place in the village to contribute. Cllr A Parrington contributed that he would be able to set up a trail as per previous scarecrow festivals for the locals to follow. Cllr H Maurice-Jones requested that bunting could be put up around the village for the coronation/festival too and Cllr A Parrington agreed this a good idea.

*Memorial Bench:*

Following an email request from a local resident in the village regarding a memorial item for her deceased mother, a decision was made to allow a plaque to be placed on one of the benches in the park to commemorate her as a one of act. **Action – Cllr A Parrington/Clerk to liaise with family regarding this.**

*Jubilee Plaque & Time Capsule:*

Cllr L Rowlands reminded the Jubilee Plaque was yet to be placed in the Park and had been delayed due to the health of the specially planted tree. The sub-committee decided that it would be placed in on the 4th March following the works at Mountain View.

The Time Capsule also needed to be put somewhere still and it was suggested incorporating it into the new Hwb building. Whilst there were lots of items already in the capsule it was thought that some current pictures of the village would be good to add to it. **Action - Cllr M Gledhill to contact S Davies to see if he had any drone pictures of the village.**

*Rossett Park/Toilet Block:*

Cllr L Rowlands reported that the railing around the park were looking in a very bad condition and that they needed redoing. She suggested a volunteer group to take this on and complete small sections between them. Cllr H Maurice-Jones suggested asking a group from community service. Cllr L Rowlands also suggested the Cadets. RCC would provide paints and equipment. Cllr N Roberts put forward the idea of speaking to his team at work as they may be interested in volunteering for the job. **Action – Clerk to contact Community Service.**

Cllr L Rowlands reminded that storage options would need to be considered for equipment once the toilet block was demolished. She suggested a shed on site but Cllr M Gledhill warned this would be inviting to potential thefts. Cllr A Parrington offered temporary help with storage at the Golden Lion if it was needed. Ms W Pace commented that the new Hwb building realistically wouldn’t hold all the contents currently stored in the toilet block which prompted Cllr L Rowlands to suggest a clear out of unwanted/unused items was necessary. There was debate over applying for a council garage but this required a vehicle so wasn’t considered a suitable option. **Action – Cllr L Rowlands to organise a sort out of toilet block items.**

*King’s Coronation:*

This was previously discussed and a Scarecrow Festival with a royal history theme was agreed. The Picnic in the Park Event would be held around 17th June for International Picnic Day. Ms W Pace would speak to Rossett Hall once date was confirmed.

*Lavister Barrels:*

These were discussed but Cllr H Maurice-Jones reported that with the volunteer Carl still not able to help out there was no immediate rush to act on these, so it was decided to revisit these for summer bedding time.

*Christmas Debrief:*

Cllr L Rowlands gave a quick debrief on this reporting that there had been very good feedback and comments made. It had raised a good amount of money. She noted that next year it would be useful to have one or two more urns for the hot chocolate as this was most popular. She mentioned that as the Christmas tree had been taken down, she had thrown away any damaged or bad condition baubles. She suggested making new ones with some clear unused baubles and it was agreed that RCC would ask Darland Divas WI, Rossett Arts Group and St Peters to help decorate these before the summer ready for next Christmas.

*Ollie Edwards (Temp Park Warden):*

It was agreed that after Mr Edwards helping out to cover the absence of the Park Warden, that he would be kept on for extra work and additional help when required and available to do so. **Action – Clerk to organise Thank You card.**

*Trevalyn Allotment:*

Cllr A Parrington had been to view the area at Mountain View Play area with Cllr W Cleaver. He presented ideas on how to make the space work as a community allotment and gave rough costings on the project. Ms W Pace informed that they would need to set up a water supply for this project though which wasn’t readily available and so could increase the cost of the project dramatically. Other suggestions were made about utilising the space but none were agreed on. The decision was made to potentially place a storage container there if needed to help with storing equipment from the toilet block and that the project and space would be revisited after the Hwb project had gone ahead.

The meeting ended.