

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cllr J Lucas – Chairman  
Cllr S Brown  
Cllr L Gillard  
Cllr M McLoughlin(7.40pm)  
Cllr K Pacey  
Cllr D Pepper

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Cllr S Visavadia  
Ms C Voyce - Town Manager  
Ms U Southan – Deputy Town Manager  
Mrs Kay Liquorish – Senior Administrator  
Miss Sophie Brown – Assistant to the Town Manager  
Four members of the Public

**680/19 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr M Carnall

**681/19 TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations

**682/19 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications

***Item 13 was moved up the agenda at the discretion of the Chairman due to accommodate the public interested in said item.***

**683/19 REQUEST FOR A GATE AT ARCHDALE STREET PARK**

Neighbourhood Link had requested gates to be fitted on both sides of Archdale Street Park, or as a minimum on the Lindum Close side. They hoped that this would restrict access and hiding places used by petty criminals and recreational drug users.

There were no spare reserves this year but this expenditure could be budgeted for in 2021/22.

It was proposed by Cllr K Pacey and

**Resolved** to put this item back on the agenda in October when the budgets will be set for 2021-2022.

**ACTION: Town Manager would liaise with the Neighbourhood Link to determine the best type of gate required as well as costings.**

All were in favour.

Chairman .....

### **684/19 REVIEW OF BUDGET FOR COMMITTEE 2020/2021**

The Community Centre had been temporarily closed due to COVID-19. There was an expected loss of income across Committees totalling circa £34,500. All Committees would review their budgets to agree savings where possible.

#### Potential savings were:

- £2,000 from Code 207 for Plaswood edging in Central Park although replacement was needed eventually.
- £6,000 from Code 230 for repainting Central Park railings (would need painting eventually).
- £600 from Code 232 Friends of the ST Peter & St Paul Churchyard Group which didn't materialise.
- £2,625 from Code 302 as the Barkby Road Cemetery maintenance had been reduced by four weeks.

It was agreed to review planned and postponed expenditure in September prior to setting the 2021/22 budgets in October.

It was proposed by Cllr M McLoughlin and

**Resolved** to hold back on the above planned expenditure and review in September.

All were in favour.

### **685/19 MEMORIAL BENCH SITING REQUEST AT CENTRAL PARK**

A request has been received for the placement of a good quality bench in Central Park in memory of a loved family member of a long-standing Syston family.

They had asked for the bench to be sited opposite his last residence, by the flats facing Central Park, either alongside the existing bench, further along the pathway or on the opposite side of the park but directly opposite his garden.

It was proposed by Cllr L Gillard and

**Resolved** to position the bench either further along the path or on the opposite side of the park.

All were in favour.

### **686/19 SYSTON & DISTRICT CEMETERY UPDATE**

An updated report on Syston & District Cemetery was given:

- BT had connected the Broadband line to the router with a fixed IP address.
- ADT were attending to connect up the CCTV, intruder alarm and fire alarm. Cllr Pepper would be in attendance and confirmed that anytime was convenient.
- The contractors had flail cut the grass for the first time with good results. They had also cut the grass surrounding the balancing ponds and the four areas of public open space on the Millstone Lane estate.

Chairman .....

The Columbarium was likely to be fitted next week, in two stages due to it's weight. It should be completed within two weeks.

**ACTION: US to send approved cemetery rules, regulations and prices to all local Funeral Directors**

It was proposed by Cllr J Lucas and

**Resolved** to accept the report.

All were in favour.

### **687/19 GUIDELINES/RESTRICTIONS AT BURIALS AND ASH INTERMENTS**

Following an occasion in May when approximately 70 mourners had attended a burial at Syston & District Cemetery grossly breaching Government guidelines, Council had communicated the Government imposed restricted to all local Funeral Directors as a reminder that the Council were abiding by such restrictions; ten family members in attendance for any burial interments at the cemetery, in addition to the funeral director/minister or celebrants. The number was restricted to two for cremated remains interments at the Cemetery.

**Council asked that Officers write/email Funeral Directors each time a burial or ash interment was booked and request that the Funeral Director would respond with confirmation that they would communicate the terms and conditions to the bereaved families before the funeral took place.**

**As the Burial Authority STC had the legal power to enforce this ruling.**

It was proposed by Cllr M McLoughlin and

**Resolved** to accept the report.

All were in favour.

### **688/19 SYSTON BOWLING CLUB OPERATIONS**

From 2 June the Government had announced that outdoor bowls were now allowed to open. All activity would be operated safely and within Government guidance regarding health, social distancing and hygiene. The participants must maintain a two-metre distance between each other, have good hygiene practices in place and to disinfect the equipment regularly.

An Action Plan was presented by the Syston Bowls Club.

It was proposed by Cllr J Lucas and

**Resolved** to accept the action plan from Syston Bowls.

All were in favour.

***Cllr S Visavadia arrived at (8.08pm)***

Chairman .....

**689/19 REQUESTS FOR EVENTS ON CENTRAL PARK**

**(a) FUN DAY**

A request has been made for a Fun Day on Central Park with no specific date for this year.

Face Painting would not be allowed under the current Government guidelines.

It was proposed by Cllr J Lucas and

**Resolved** not allow the event to take place this year but would look at the request again in 2021.

All were in favour.

**(b) Pinders Circus March 2021**

It was proposed by Cllr M McLoughlin and

**Resolved** that this event would be allowed to go ahead from 22 to 24 March 2021 dependant on Government Guidelines in place at that time.

All were in favour.

**(c) Funtopia Spring/Summer 2021**

Funtopia were booked to do a two-day event this year but had to cancel due to COVID 19. They had asked for a one-day event next year giving two possible dates.

It was proposed by Cllr K Pacey and

**Resolved** to allow Funtopia to go ahead on Saturday 1 May 2021 dependant on Government Guidelines in place at that time.

All were in favour.

**690/19 RoSPA INSPECTION OF PLAYGROUNDS REPORT**

The RoSPA report had been received for the inspection of the playground; there were no urgent safety actions required, although there were some recommendations to be acted on to conform to good practice. A priority was the replacement of zipwire seat. There had been ongoing problems of vandalism caused by owners training their bull terrier dogs to hold to the seat with their jaws, causing irreparable damage to the seat. The Town Manager had researched the availability of a steel seat but these did not exist. There were seats that had been infused with Citronella that was distasteful to dogs and this may be the best option.

Sophie Brown had drawn up a RoSPA action plan which would be followed up and actioned by the Deputy Manager, and possibly the Facilities Manager (in July).

It was proposed by Cllr J Lucas and

**Resolved** to accept the report allowing spending within budget.

All were in favour.

**691/19 BLOOM FOR SYSTON ACTION MEETING PLAN 6 MARCH 2020**

East Midlands in Bloom 2020 had been cancelled, Town Manager was still working on the agreed Heritage Trail Route in time for 2021. Monthly meetings had been put on hold but

photographs of planting around the town during 2020 were still being taken and uploaded to STC Facebook and other social media.

It was proposed by Cllr J Lucas and  
**Resolved** to accept the report.  
All were in favour.

#### **692/20 REQUESTS FOR USE OF MEMORIAL PARK**

##### **(a) Fitness Classes**

A request from a qualified fitness instructor to hold fitness classes on Memorial Park had been received. He was advised that he would need his own Public Liability Insurance as well as Risk Assessments. Although he hadn't responded, Officers required guidance on whether holding fitness classes on memorial park was feasible during COVID- 19 pandemic.

It was proposed by Cllr K Pacey and  
**Resolved to** accept fitness classes on Memorial Park in principal but not until 2021.  
If they were a registered charity there would be no charge, but any commercial business would be charged at £15 per hour.  
All were in favour

##### **(b) A Temporary Labyrinth**

Request for a temporary Labyrinth on Memorial Park using spray paint had been received. A Public Liability Insurance and Risk Assessments would be required and unless they were a registered charity there would be a charge. The paint used would need to be non-toxic to both humans and animals.

It was proposed by Cllr J Lucas and  
**Resolved** that whilst social distancing existed, the Council could not accept the request and any permanent Labyrinth would have to be a separate application.  
All were in favour.

#### **693/19 PAINTING OF RAILINGS AROUND THE WAR MEMORIAL – CENTRAL PARK**

The Friends of Barkby Road Cemetery had offered to paint the railings around the War Memorial for free if the Council supply the paint, although the detail had yet to be finalised.

It was proposed by Cllr J Lucas and  
**Resolved** to ascertain the cost of the paint and bring back to the next Amenities meeting for discussion.  
There was one against.

**694/19 GREEN SPACES AND URBAN AREAS**

Management of Green Spaces was of interest to this committee and the document identified how two metre markers could be put on walkways together with temporary signs. As Government guidance was changing it was agreed that there could be a lot of wasted time and money.

It was proposed by Cllr J Lucas and

**Resolved** to make cheap laminated A5 signs stating “remember to keep the two-metre distance”.

All were in favour.

**Action: SB to produce signs and to distribute on the park.**

**695/19 TO AGREE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

It was proposed by Cllr J Lucas and

**Resolved** to accept the report.

All were in favour.

**696/19 SUMMER BEDDING 2020 & SPRING BEDDING 2021**

Summer bedding had been delivered and planted by the two Groundstaff and contractor, Steve Eckett. The VE display in Central Park was already planted and being watered.

Syston and District Cemetery had several plants and shrubs for the summer (grown by Cllr David Pepper).

Garden Master did not have horticulture plant planning experience, TM had arranged to meet with Ideverde Contractors to discuss Spring 2021 bedding requirements, and provide a quotation. Spring plants needed to be ordered by August 2020.

Recommendations and prices would be brought to this Committee in July.

***Cllr K Pacey left the meeting at 8.50pm***

**697/19 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Councillors noted the report.

**698/19 NEXT MEETING DATE**

**Date of next meeting: 14 July 2020 at 7.30pm**

*The meeting ended at 8.50pm*

Chairman .....