# MINUTES OF THE GROBY PARISH COUNCIL ESTATES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD $18^{\text{TH}}$ JANUARY 2024 HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES COMMENCING AT 2 PM

Members Present: Cllr L Emmerson (Chair) Cllr G Baker Cllr S Beck

Cllr K Griffiths Cllr C Lincoln Cllr L Trivett Cllr C York

Also, Present: Deputy Clerk

Estates Manager

#### EC/081/23-24 To receive apologies for absence and to record absences

Apologies were received from Cllr N Clarke and the Parish Clerk. Cllr York had advised that she would be arriving late.

## EC/082/23-24 To receive any disclosure of interests from members to any matter pertaining to the agenda

There were none.

#### EC/083/23-24 To approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Estates Committee held on 14th December 2023

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Estates Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023 be signed as a true and accurate record.

## EC/084/23-24 Public Participation

There was none.

## EC/085/23-24 Estate Manager's Report

The Estate Manager read out his report which detailed:

- i. The hedge to the rear of the Churchyard has been laid and Hawthorne whips planted.
- ii. Top barrier at Quarry Park had been removed due to an incident with a vehicle.
- iii. Works to hedges are continuing and further reductions on Laundon Way and Marina Park are scheduled.
- iv. Emergency tree works have been carried out at Quarry Park following the recent storms. Most of the Tree Surveys have been received and tree works prioritised.

Following a discussion, it was **AGREED** to obtain quotes for works required and take to Full Council for a decision.

The Chair re-ordered the agenda

Cllr York joined the meeting

#### EC/089/23-24 Environment Projects

## i. To provide an update on the Queen Elizabeth II Rose Garden

A total of 9 rose shrubs have currently been leased. Cllr Baker questioned as to when access to the maintenance budget would be available and for members to consider further enhancements to the rose garden.

Members were advised that an update had been received regarding release of Section S106 maintenance money for the QEII Rose Garden which would be approx. £3,174.86.

## iii. To discuss and consider the Sensory Garden project

Cllr Baker issued to members draft plans for a proposed Sensory Garden to be located on Marina Park adjacent to the Wildflower area.

It was **Agreed to Recommend** taking the proposed plan to Full Council to consider the formation of a Sensory Garden on Marina Park.

## EC/089/23-24 Environment Projects

ii. To discuss installing solar power at the Parish Council Office and to consider Grant Funding Cllr York declared an interest as a member of the village hall committee.

Further to discussion, it was **AGREED** to contact HBBC Planning to ascertain as to whether there would be any objection to the placement of solar panels on the village hall as it falls within a conservation area.

#### EC/087/23-24 Clerk's Report

- i. Field Head proposed improvements were included in members packs for consideration. Proposed improvements included the planting of a tree/flower bed, grit bin and relocation of the parish council notice board. Members were further advised that monies had been placed in next year's budget to allow for improvements at Field Head and the proposed improvements would require permission from Leicestershire County Council.
- **ii.** An update had been given earlier in the meeting regarding release of Section S106 maintenance money for the QEII Rose Garden.
- iii. An update on ditch advice from the Health and Safety consultant regarding existing laws/requirement as to the height of a rail adjacent on a park was provided. Further to the update whereby the reduction in the height of the rails does not contravene any law, the resolution (minute ref.EC/077/23-24) to carry out remedial works to reduce the rails located on Stamford Drive/Stamford Park to reduce in height from waist high rails to knee high at a cost of £100 will be scheduled.

Due to confidential nature of the business to be discussed the next item would be conducted in closed session.

RESOLVED to move into Closed Session to exclude members of the press and public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed in relation to an on-going insurance claim.

Members were updated on correspondence received from the insurers regarding an on-going insurance claim.

End of closed session

The meeting continued in open session.

# EC/086/23-24 Matters Arising – To provide an update on:

Cllr York declared an interest in Ratby Road.

## i. Expenditure of LCC's Highway Improvement Grant Funding

Structures licences have been granted for a bench to be located on Ratby Road and public notices are to be displayed at Field Head for a period of 28 days in relation to the planters.

# EC/088/23-24 To receive, note and consider Correspondence received:

Local Resident	Flooding issues and water drainage on	It was <b>AGREED</b> to thank the resident for
	Queen Elizabeth II Park	highlighting the issue and to contact Severn
		Trent Flood Alleviation team to seek further
		advice.

# EC/090/23-24 Parks and Open Spaces

i. To receive an update on the Annual Tree Survey reports

This was discussed earlier in the meeting under the Estates Manager's Report.

ii. To discuss and consider a date for a Community Litter Picking initiative

Further to discussion, it was **AGREED** to hold a community litter picking initiative on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024.

iii. To discuss and consider future projects and utilisation of Section 106 monies

Further to discussion, it was **AGREED** to obtain quotes to resurface the BMX track and to bring back to a future meeting.

# EC/091/23-24 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 at 2pm

The meeting closed at 3.49pm

Signed:	Date:
Chairman	