

Notes of an Informal Meeting of the
CAPITAL PROJECTS SUB-COMMITTEE
held at the Town Hall at **2.15 p.m.**
on **WEDNESDAY 9th MARCH 2022**

Present: -

Councillor C. Moreton - Chair
Councillor J. Bishop
Councillor M. Bonfield
Councillor A. Harris
Councillor C. Tomes - via Zoom

Also present:

Councillor T. Foster
Councillor M. Whitwam
Martin Ayres – Town Clerk
Culvin Milmer – Visitor Services Manager
Gail Percival – Operations Manager
Cara Johnston – Operation Department Administration Officer

1. Apologies

There were no apologies to record on this occasion.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare their interests and consider any requests for Grants of Dispensations in accordance with Section 9 and Appendix B of the Council's Code of Conduct.

There were no declarations to record on this occasion.

3. Matters arising from Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th January 2022

No matters were raised.

4. Day's Park Path

It was reported that budget figures for installation of the path have been received. Provision of trenching for the electrical supply for lights would require additional groundworks. Lighting costs are being developed and on-site inspections have taken place to determine estimates.

A question was raised as to whether lighting is necessary, and it was noted that with the tree coverage it is very dark for school children using the pathway during winter afternoons and evenings. It was reported that there were adequate funds in the Council's CIL reserve if Members wished to fund the lighting from developer contributions.

It was agreed that provision should continue to be made for lighting the pathway, and the Operations Manager agreed to seek additional information and report further to the next meeting.

5. St Mark's Playing Field

It was reported that the quote for groundworks had been received and a quote to erect fencing across the rear of the hard court also received, both of which were within the agreed budget. The fencing quote is being re-checked as this was initially sought some months ago. Advice is awaited from the Development Trust to ascertain on what basis they will be using the playground. It was noted that the

local community are keen to have access to the field and Councillors agreed that the gates should be unlocked as soon as possible once works are completed.

6. Beach Gardens – Tennis court 3

The Operations Manager reported that the lowest quote received for the installation of artificial surfacing on court 3 is acceptable and that there had been four positive responses to requests for references. The contractor has indicated that works could be commenced in May. The Council commitment is £6,000 in funding and £5,000 towards professional fees, although anticipated expenditure with regard to the latter is likely to be less than this. The balance will be paid by the tennis club from reserves and grant funding.

7. Boat Park Jetty

It was reported that the eastern/central jetty has deteriorated in the last few weeks and a decision needs to be made as to what action is required. To date, one contractor has visited to provide a quotation. There are a limited number of specialist companies that can carry out the works required. It was agreed that this matter be referred to the monthly council meeting. In light of his working knowledge of the Boat Park, Councillor Bonfield offered to meet the Operations Manager and any contractors on site.

8. Northbrook Cemetery Wall

The process of permission for the repair of the wall is still going through the EA permit system. It was reported that the fencing used to prevent access is being ignored by people walking through the area. It was advised that Swanage Railway volunteers need to be requested not to cut through the cemetery and contact details of the Railway Operations Manager were provided by Councillor Whitwam.

9. Cow Lane/Panorama Road adoption

It was reported that a price for works to bring the roads to an adoptable standard is awaited from the Highways Team at Dorset Council.

10. Peveril Point Road

It was reported that core samples show that the road is poorly made and not in a good condition. The next step is to work with relevant professionals to understand the extent of works required.

11. The Spa – Ground Stabilisation

Further to Minute No. 13) of the Capital Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 19th January 2022, it was reported that the Invitation to Tender document had been sent to five companies with a closing date of 18th March 2022. It was noted that March will be the last month of monitoring by SW Geotech and following this a further report will be received. A question was raised regarding the coverage of the project, and it was confirmed the area includes Sandpit Field, the Weather Station Field and the Spa. A suggestion was therefore made for the renaming of the project to “Seafrost Stabilisation and Enhancement Phase 2”.

12. Station Approach

It was reported that a meeting had been held with the Operations Manager and Dorset Council at which it had been agreed that Swanage Town Council can access the county’s contract with WSP to produce an options appraisal in respect

of prospective highway/pedestrian improvements to Station Approach. Dorset Council will also provide some professional support.

13. Godlingston Cemetery Extension

It was reported that there are works to the extension that are outstanding and that the February site visit established that some areas require spraying and re-cultivation, levelling and reseeded. The outstanding works will be completed in April. A request was made for the barriers to the car park to be repositioned.

14. Dry stone wall to rear of Higher Day's Road

It was reported that there was significant collapse to the 120-metre dry-stone wall and around a third requires repairs for safety reasons. It was noted that parts of the wall are up to 1.5 metres high. A quote for making safe repairs has been received and a further quote is awaited. Works completed so far include cutting back the covering vegetation. It was agreed that the Council owe a duty to the town to maintain dry stone walls, and concerns were raised that it runs alongside a public footpath. This matter would be placed on the agenda of the forthcoming Council meeting.

15. Football Club

It was reported that badgers have been very active around the football club and have undermined the access road to the club car park. The timings for work to be able to be completed are between July and November as per the regulations of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992. It was suggested that road plates could be installed as a short-term solution with the football club responsible for installation. Currently, the access road is closed for safety reasons.

It was reported that the football club fence between Day's Park and the football pitch requires repair and that steps are being taken to repair/replace as necessary.

16. King George's play area update

It was reported that the last two weeks have been challenging due to poor ground conditions. A site meeting took place yesterday to establish a solution to this problem and a plan is to not have the path running all the way through the play area. Wet pour, rather than grass matting is recommended under the new pieces of equipment to increase stability and provide an all-weather play area. The timescale for completion has been amended to Easter. It was agreed that this matter would be referred to the forthcoming Council meeting.

17. Electric vehicle charging points

It was reported that two extra vehicle charging points will be installed in North Beach Car Park and the Residents Car Park.

18. Items of Information and Matters for Forthcoming Agendas

a) Beach Gardens Kiosk – improvements to the kiosk are required to create a serving hatch window. A quote has been obtained for an aluminium sliding window and service table. The Sub-Committee supported this proposal and agreed that it should be referred to the March monthly council meeting for a decision.

The date of the next meeting would be arranged in due course.

The meeting concluded at 3.30 p.m.
