

Minutes of the Environment Committee

A meeting of the **Environment Committee** was held on **Tuesday the 21st January 2025** at **19:00hrs** at **The Chamber Room, Bicester Town Council, The Garth, Launton Road, Bicester Oxon, OX26 6PS.**

Present:

Cllr Rachel Mallows (Chair)
Cllr Donna Ford
Cllr Dan Hallett
Cllr Alisa Russell
Cllr Damien Maguire
Cllr Christopher Pruden

Public in attendance:

Brian Welters

In Attendance:

Mick Lee, Service Manager

34/ Apologies for Absence

2425 RESOLVED that apologies were received from Cllr Harry Knight, Cllr Nick Mawer and Cllr Les Sibley

35/ Declarations of Interest

2425 RESOLVED that no declarations of interest were received.

36/ Minutes of the Environment Committee

24/25

37/ Public Session

2425 RESOLVED that members of the public were present.

Brian Welters – Expressed appreciation of the electric vehicles that we intend to acquire.

He also mentioned solar panels and trying to find renewable energy sources and that the pool vehicle to investigate being an electric vehicle also.

38/ Motion – Bowls Club Boiler repairs

2425 RESOLVED that committee **Retrospectively approved** after discussions. S.M to investigate whether the lease has a 50/50 repair cost option
S.M to investigate service dates of other buildings to prevent unexpected costs in future and if these inspections are BTC responsibility or tenants

39/ Motion – Electric vehicles to replace existing Diesel vans.

2425 RESOLVED that committee **Approved** subject to investigation into acquiring vehicles by best value means.

S.M to investigate lease hire against outright purchase. This will include what we get as part of service/maintenance package for electric against Diesel option

S.M to investigate charging points installation at Garth Park

S.M to investigate whether we can get grants from OCC for the charging points.

S.M to investigate whether costs would be brought down to to getting 3 vehicles at the same time

S.M to put information together to take to next full council meeting.

- 40/ 2425 Motion – Replacement play equipment at Lucerne Avenue**
RESOLVED that committee **Approved** costs of up to £7,556.77 with the proviso that the S.M enquires with the contractor whether they can match the lower quote or at least cut the price.
 S.M to check for warranty periods of equipment.

- 41/ 2425 Motion – Pool Vehicle**
RESOLVED that committee **Approved** the acquisition of this vehicle with the proviso that S.M investigates lease hire, electric or Hybrid versions of similar vehicles and compares prices of such to take to the next full council meeting
 Also as with the replacement electric vehicles.
 S.M to investigate lease hire against outright purchase. This will include what we get as part of service/maintenance package for electric against Diesel option
 S.M to investigate charging points installation at Garth Park
 S.M to investigate whether we can get grants from OCC for the charging points.
 S.M to investigate whether costs would be brought down to to getting 3 vehicles at the same time
 Taxable benefits and procedures for use of a pool vehicle were discussed

- 42/ 2425 Motion – High priority tree works**
RESOLVED that committee **Approved** the high priority works with proviso that the S.M investigates whether this work should have been done previously as part of the old contract.
 S.M to check dates of previous tree surveys if any carried out.

- 43 /24/25 Motion – Funfair locations and dates**
RESOLVED that committee **Approved** with the proviso that the S.M will investigate access issues due to road closures, other access issues due to ongoing building work.
 Comments were made that the fairground at Keble made a lot of mess due to ground conditions being wet and muddy.
 Fairground operators to give advanced notice to residents with locations of noise creating generators
 S.M to investigate further locations if Keble is inaccessible. Consider Sunderland sports fields or Pnigle fields
 S.M to investigate whether other positions have been considered before.

44/ Forward Plan

2425 Committee REVIEWED and COMMENTED on the Forward Plan.

Mess room planning application has been applied for as of 20/1/25
CCTv at Holm Square as been further investigated with potential of using the community centre in progress.

Lights at Whitelands are in discussion between BTC and CDC week commencing 27/1/25

Bandstand renovation is to be taken on by S.M

Insurance claims for the repair works at Sunderland Pavillion and Southwold play area have been re opened.

Garth park destination park consultations should be complete by Friday 31st January

A suggestion that an introductory email should be sent to councillors when new staff start work for BTC.

45/ Date of Next Meeting: TBC

2425 Monday March 2025 - 7pm, The Chamber Room, Garth House

CLOSE OF MEETING: 20: 30hrs