

RAUNDS TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT LEISURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Minutes: 4 February 2021 Time 19:30

NB: The meeting was held via Zoom video link. Details of the meeting and a link enabling members of the public to join the meeting were published on the Town Council website. The meeting was held in compliance with Regulation 5 (2) of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

PRESENT: Cllr L Wilkes (Chair), Cllr D Hughes, Cllr S Hughes, Cllr R Tyman, Cllr K Harrison, Cllr B Tirebuck and Cllr O Curtis.

Also Present:

Ms Kate Houlihan: Town Clerk (Minutes)

546.20 To Receive apologies for absence.

NONE RECEIVED

547.20 Notification of requests from members of the public to address the meeting in compliance with adopted protocol.

Gabriella Foley addressed the meeting on behalf of Stanwick Rovers (Junior) Football Club, she explained that there are over 80 children registered with the club, many of whom live in Raunds. The club urgently needs additional training space to accommodate the number of young people who want to play football.

10 members of the public joined the meeting at 19.55 they were disruptive and abusive, after requests to maintain order they were removed from the meeting by the Clerk. The Clerk later reported the incident to Zoom via their online reporting tool and screenshots were kept of the incident.

548.20 Notification of members questions in compliance with the council's standing orders.

NONE RECEIVED

549.20 Declarations of Interest

COUNCILLORS ARE REMINDED THAT IF THEY HAVE EITHER A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST OR OTHER INTEREST IN ANY ITEM THEN THEY SHOULD DECLARE THE INTEREST AND IN THE CASE OF A PECUNIARY ITEM LEAVE THE MEETING FOR THAT ITEM.

Cllr Harrison declared a personal interest in item 553.20.

550.20 Minutes: confirm the minutes of the Environment, Leisure and Recreation Committee meeting held 17 November 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2020 be confirmed as a true record.

551.20 To receive a progress report on ELR projects

Members reviewed the progress report as shown in Appendix 1 and the Clerk elaborated there-on.

Following discussion, it was...

RESOLVED to note the report and that the Clerk and Chairman of the ELR Committee would meet prior to the Clerks leaving date to update all projects.

552.20 Solar Panels: To consider the use of Solar Panels on Raunds Town Council Property.

Cllr Wilkes explained that it may be possible for solar panels to be installed at the Town Hall (without them being visible due to the parapet around the roof)

Consideration could also be given to other council properties.

Further investigation was needed but this would be brought forward to a future meeting to fully consider the matter.

RESOLVED to note the report.

553.20 Use of Amos Lawrence or other Playing Field: To consider a request from Stanwick Rovers Football Club for the use of Amos Lawrence Playing Field.

Members reviewed the correspondence from Stanwick Rovers Football and thanked Gabriella Foley for attending. It was noted that many of the young people involved in the club lived in Raunds.

Members noted the importance of sport for young people for their physical and mental health.

Members also considered the timing of training and any impact on neighbours and parking locally. Ms Foley explained that training would take place (as a maximum) between 6pm and 8pm and that most young people would walk to training.

Following discussion, it was...

RESOLVED that Stanwick Rovers Football Club be offered use of Millfield and that the Clerk make appropriate arrangements with the football club.

554.20 Vehicle Activated Speed Signs: To consider correspondence from Northamptonshire Highways regarding the installation and maintenance of speed activated signs in Stanwick and Raunds.

Members reviewed the correspondence from NCC Highways. It was noted that the VAS signs were related to the development of Darcie Park and had originally been requested by Stanwick Parish Council.

NCC were now asking if either Raunds Town Council or Stanwick Parish Council could take on the future maintenance of these.

The Clerk noted that originally the scheme had included VAS signs on Stanwick Road as well as Raunds Road.

During discussion it was noted that the proposed signs were now only in Stanwick and following discussion...

It was...

RESOLVED that Raunds Town Council supported the use of VAS signs and would explore this further but could not take on the maintenance of the signs in Stanwick.

555.20 Saturday Market 2021: To consider holding Saturday Markets in 2021.

RESOLVED to

- a) Continue to hold the Saturday Markets on the 3rd Saturday of each month from April – September with entertainment being provided.**
- b) The 2021 markets would begin as soon as Covid restrictions allowed this.**

556.20 Litter Picks 2021: To consider possible dates for litter picks and bulb planting in 2021. (All dates would be subject to any Covid restrictions in place at the time)

RESOLVED to:

- a) hold the spring litter pick on 17th April 2021 (subject to Covid restrictions)**
- b) hold the Autumn Litter pick and bulb planting on 25th September 2021.**

557.20 Meadow Lane: To consider issues around HGV vehicles attempting to access Meadow Lane.

Members reviewed the report of the Clerk as shown in Appendix 2 and following discussion it was noted that from lobbying and discussions led by Raunds Town Council the following actions were being taken:

Howdens were going to liaise with the post office to request a unique postcode for their units so that SatNavs would direct people the right way.

Howdens would ensure their nameplate was included on signage at the entrance to Warth Park.

Howdens would work with Highways to consider other improvements to road markings and signage to assist with the issue.

Raunds Town Council had had conversations with Cllr Jason Smithers, NCC Cabinet member for Highways, Environment and Place, and an agreement had been reached that the signage at Meadow Lane would be improved as matter of urgency.

RESOLVED to note the report.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.35.

Approved: (Town Mayor)

Meeting date: 9 February...2021..... (Council)

Approved: (Chairman)

Meeting date:18 March 2021..... (Committee)

Appendix 1: ELR Report

Resolution	Action/Progress	Complete	Date Completed	Notes
Costed schemes for paths at cemetery		pending		Project for 2022?
Wildflower verges	To be completed 2020	ongoing		Project 2021?
Bus Shelters	RTC to consider installing additional bus shelters in the town.	ongoing		awaiting information from NCC.
Warth Park Crossing	Residents have complained that the crossing isn't safe. Investigate feasibility of moving crossing	ongoing		information being presented to this meeting. Passed to Full Council - NCC asked to consider funding
VAS Signs	Consider purchase of VAS Sign	ongoing		awaiting info from NCC
Saddlers Park	Consider refurbishment	ongoing		Installation February 2021
Turning Raunds Green	Water refill station	ongoing		Order cancelled. Consider installation re Covid
Turning Raunds Green	Car charging point	ongoing		Site visit week commencing 8th Feb /Installation 18th Feb
Bye-laws / (Include provision to deter travellers	KH to prepare amended bylaws to send to DCLG	ongoing		KH to circulate to members of ELR

Public Space Protection Orders	All fenced play areas have dogs on leads orders. No other orders were made for Raunds. ENC to revisit some.	ongoing		KH to chase ENC / Meeting being arranged with Charlotte Tomkins
London Road Opposite ASDA/Highways verge	Hedge has re-grown. But needs to be maintained	ongoing		No action required at this time
Provision of a piece of public art at Warth Park	Has been presented to Full Council	ongoing		revised brief given to Broadbent No action being taken at this time Clerk to give update to this meeting ROXHILL CHASED
Brook Street	ELR to consider how to improve Brook Street / Link to S	ongoing		Ongoing as part of Saxon Hall Project. Turneys asked to weed kill entire street - (DONE)
St Peters Churchyard	RTC must maintain the area as a closed churchyard under LGA 1972 S215	ongoing		Have been chasing Peterborough Diocese for information Papers sent to Peterborough - should be considered by faculty January 2020. Further information read from diocese September 2020 Final paperwork now submitted to diocese.
Woodland Walk	Creation of Woodland Walk	ongoing		Planning permission granted. Benches and fencing installed. Cannot hold community planting day due to coronavirus
Skate Park	Plan required for long term regeneration of skate park. Will be on agenda for September. Quotes being sought for refurbishment.	ongoing		Roxhill to be chased refunding (SEE WRITTEN UPDATE) / Approach Mick George consultation needed (Included in Vision) Skate Park currently closed following serious vandalism ENC to be chased re deed of variation.
Youth Work / Youth Centre	Investigate Funding Offer support to Manor School with mental health support program	ongoing		Manor School and Service are already working together and discussing what further support could be offered.
Grit Bins	Locations passed to NCC	ongoing		Additional grit bins being installed in line with criteria agreed at November meeting.
Promoting the High Street	Introduction of Town App Use of digital noticeboards Promote Eat Out to help out Shop front Grants	ongoing		App - 180+ business listed. Data passed to Town App to build dashboard and app APP LANCED JANUARY 2021 -V WELL RECEIVED

CCTV	create link along Brook Street	ongoing		Balfour Beatty asked if power can be taken from additional lampposts awaiting response January 2021
Isolation Care Packs	Prepare a Christmas care pack	ongoing		Applied for a grant from Western Power Distribution -Grant awarded Discounts and donations given by many local retailers CARE PACKS VERY WELL RECEIVED
S106	Meadow Lane Works and deed of variation	ongoing		The work to Meadow Lane and in particular, the underpass has been more problematic. The requirements of Highways England and local farmers have meant that the original planned platform and other works through the underpass cannot be delivered. There is therefore an underspend on this budget. Roxhill have suggested that they would be willing to see this underspend used for other community projects such as improvements to the skate park.
Promote use of parks	Through social media/digital noticeboards and events 19/07/2018 Love your park week, we have had a social media campaign.	ongoing		
Cemetery Water	Consider re-installing mains water	DONE	29/10/2020	tap installed. Anglian to carry out final connection. Anglian chased awaiting their impact assessment. BEING CONNECTED BY 31/10/2020 Tap connected - ALL WORKING
Heritage Way	Install post and rail fence for security	DONE	01/12/2020	Order placed - work to be carried out late November 2020
New Lighting memorial gardens	Install new floodlight on war memorial	DONE	07/11/2020	
Dog bag dispensers	Tikspac to provide free dog bags and dispensers in 5 of our parks	DONE	01/08/2020	Received from Tikspac - to be installed by RTC -
Playground Inspections	Contractor appointed and inspection completed	DONE	01/08/2020	All works carried out

Greenway / Meadow Lane Signage		DONE	01/08/2020	installed - Note location on Delves
Drainage Bassfords	Ditch to ease drainage issues for LOCAL RESIDENTS	DONE	Jul-20	
Lighting public footpaths	Order placed with Zeta lighting	DONE	12-May-20	Installation on RPC footpath May 2020 Installation at Woodpecker carried out in Jan 20
Vision for Raunds	Questionnaire to be produced	DONE	15/03/2020	Questionnaire reviewed by ENC and working party. questionnaire completed awaiting printing / Report to this meeting.
Land at Sheffield Court	Transfer agreed with landowner. Awaiting final transfer deed	DONE	10/03/2020	Land transferred to RTC confirmed
Saxon Hall Accessible parking spaces	Works ordered from specialist contractor	DONE	15/02/2020	Bays and signage installed
Lighting public footpaths	Order placed with Zeta lighting	DONE	05/02/2020	Installation on Woodpecker footpath Jan 2020
cemetery fee	Reviewed and re-issued to funeral directors	DONE	01/02/2020	
Lighting Market Square- Repairs to lighting Raunds Market Square	New uplighters installed and working	DONE	25/11/2019	Additional electrical works to be completed to separate lines to silver birches
Sports Wall- Provision of a sportswall at Amos Lawrence Playing Field	Equipment Installed	DONE	15/11/2019	A grant of £6314 awarded by ENC to cover 50% of cost. Equipment installed (snagging work to be completed)
First Aid Training	Raunds First Responders to provide training	DONE	31/10/2019	40 people booked for 1st session 60 booked for November session.
Film Equipment - The provision of audio visual equipment for Saxon Hall	Equipment Installed	DONE	31/10/2019	A grant of £6996 awarded by ENC to cover 50% of cost. Equipment installed and used in November 2019
Additional A frame boards	Purchase additional A frame boards/user agreement	DONE	31/10/2019	Boards in use by various businesses in the Town.
Amos Lawrence - track leading to Anglian Water etc	new gate installed by Anglian	DONE	31/10/2019	Not RTC responsibility. Land not owned by RTC
Tree Survey 2018	Tree survey completed	DONE	30/10/2019	Works being progressed
Raunds Market	Trial of Saturday market	DONE	30/09/2019	Trial successful. Reported to ELR in September 2019. RESOLUTION: To continue market in 2020

Memorial to Cllr Hind		DONE	30/09/2019	
Official Town Map	history society asked to provide a walking route to be ad	DONE	30/09/2019	Being produced for Autumn 2019
Spring and Autumn Litter Picks and Bulb planting	Dates to be set for 2019	DONE	28/09/2019	Saturday 23rd March - Spring Litter Pick (Part of Keep Britain Tidy-Big Spring Clean) Saturday 28th September - Autumn Litter Pick and Bulb Planting
McDonalds Love Where you Live	2019 project to be considered	DONE	28/09/2019	Part of Autumn litter pick
Cemetery	Remedial works undertaken to shrubs	DONE	01/09/2019	
Tourism Signage including Welcome to Raunds sig	On agenda for this meeting	DONE	31/07/2019	Final design TBC
Grounds Maintenance	to ask ENC to re-instate mowing in all three areas whilst ownership and responsibility for each area is established. The Clerk will write to the district councillors asking for their support.	DONE	30/07/2019	ENC re-instated mowing in areas until smooth transition of responsibilities is established.
Staging- Provision of new staging for Saxon Hall	Equipment Installed	DONE	01/05/2019	A grant of £7000 awarded by ENC to cover 50% of cost. Equipment installed and used in May 2019 onwards
Winter Maintenance	RTC to take over 3no grit bins and install 2 additional bins at RPC site	DONE	30/11/2018	3 bins now filled and bin at Ashfield replaced. 1 grit bin delivered 21/1/19, supplier being chased as to location of other bin
Trees (100 trees to be planted in town)	Done	DONE	31/10/2018	Planted at bottom of Amos Lawrence
Ada Salter Tribute	Very successful opening. Tree guards still awaited	DONE	31/08/2018	Tree guards in
Children's Film Afternoon		DONE	30/08/2018	Attendance low
Light at Red Row - to liaise with resident to change	Replacement lamp now ordered to be fitted by JH May	DONE	11/08/2018	

Hanging Baskets	Much larger number of baskets required for 2019. Infrastructure needs to be in place well in advance of Spring 2019.	DONE	30/06/2018	Removed for 2018 - More to be ordered for 2019 /Additional baskets delivered. Gardener working on planting scheme
Bassfords	Repairs to Bassfords recreation Ground / Completion of Dropped kerb	DONE	31/05/2018	Work to grounds completed
Improvements to Town Square	Additional Planters done! Digital noticeboard installed! Some play equipment installed last piece awaited.	DONE	31/05/2018	Benches - Installed! Play Equipment - Received awaiting installation last week October, credit of £650 because of delays (against price of £1854) Additional piece to be installed
Fencing and additional gates at Bassfords Play area		DONE	30/04/2018	
Interment Rates	Rates reviewed from Jan 16	DONE	31/01/2018	
Amos Lawrence Entrance re-surfaced	Entrance re-surfaced	DONE	31/10/2017	
Adult Gym Equipment	Provision of information leaflet ongoing. Some issues have arisen getting replacement parts. This has been flagged with supplier.	DONE	30/10/2017	Part of Raunds Gets Active
Additional seating to be provided in local parks	Benches at Saxon Hall/Dog Park/Webb Road completed 3 Benches ordered can be fitted in various locations	DONE	30/08/2017	
Tackling Social Isolation	ongoing successful launch of coffee afternoons	DONE	11/08/2017	March Film 160 attendees!
Community Facilities Fund (covered seating area)	Completed	DONE	31/05/2017	
Appointment of gardener for Saxon Hall/Variou site	Done	DONE	30/05/2017	
Noticeboard on Coop railing	Done	DONE	01/01/2017	
Welcome Pack	Done	DONE	30/11/2016	
Webb Road Play Area	Done	DONE	31/08/2016	

Land at Rear of Cemetery	Creation of Dog Park	DONE	31/05/2016	
Costed schemes for each play area	Funding application made for Amos Lawrence	DONE		Funding approved see above Additional equipment installed on The Square, Raunds

Appendix 2: Meadow Lane

Summary:

To consider the issues with HGV's attempting to access Meadow Lane

1.0

Background Information:

Members will be aware of ongoing issues with HGV's trying to access Warth Park via Meadow Lane.

This obviously causes a number of issues with HGV's then trying to reverse out of Meadow Lane onto London Road or turn in the road.



Or worse still vehicles have continued past the gate on Meadow Lane onto the track and become stuck down the lane and subsequently require a rescue vehicle to assist them.

Whilst Raunds Town Council does not own Meadow Lane and is not responsible for these issues, the council has, in the past, lobbied other partners including Highways and the developers of Warth Park to try and resolve these issues.

The issue does seem to have worsened recently with the opening of the second Howdens building. It seems that Satnav's have not been updated to give correct information on how to access this second building.

In addition, the gate at the top of Meadow Lane has been damaged and cannot be closed.

Highways, Roxhill (developers of Warth Park) and Howdens have all been contacted to try and resolve the matter.

In July 2020 Roxhill offered to replace the gate, although this has not been actioned.

Howden's have advised that they will attempt to undertake a number of actions to alleviate the issues, an update will be given at the meeting.

Further information will also be sought from Northamptonshire Highways.

2.0

Recommendation:

- To consider what can be done to alleviate the issues.