





(Proposed: Councillor Young; seconded: Councillor Jackson)

## **6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 MARCH 2024**

The Minutes having previously been circulated, it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2024 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

(Proposed: Councillor Reynolds; seconded: Councillor Durrant)

Vote: Five in favour. One abstention.

## **7. REPORTS FOR DECISION**

### **(a) Alexandra Play Park Tennis Courts**

The Alexandra Play Park project was completed in September 2021. At the time of the initial specification for the project, a number of options were discussed around ongoing maintenance which would largely be dependent on how well the site was being utilised by both residents and visitors. Encouragingly, since completion the site had seen much greater use than anticipated due, in part, to the quality and condition of the site.

The tennis courts had seen significantly higher use than in the years prior to handover and it was thought that, at the current rate of use, the court surface would require redecoration in 2025 and, as such, it was recommended that quotes were sought to prepare for the project.

Following consideration, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that quotes be obtained for the repainting of Alexandra Play Park tennis courts.

(Proposed: Councillor How; seconded: Councillor Durrant)

### **(b) Penlee Play Park – Pride in Parks 2024 / Green Flag**

Penzance Council had achieved a 5-star award for Penlee Park in the Pride in Parks section of Britain in Bloom for the preceding four years and this was an indication of the improvements made to what was once an underutilised space. The improvements had benefited the community who visited the park as demonstrated by the increasing numbers of users.

It was now suggested that Penzance Council's resources were applied to achieving a Green Flag award for Penlee Park and to explore whether a Green Heritage Site Accreditation would be a realistic aspiration.

Green Flag accreditation was the benchmark international accreditation for publicly accessible parks and the application process would involve all of the team. Due to this, it was recommended that Penlee Park was not entered into the Pride in Parks award for



2024 and that that time was instead utilised for the preparation of a Green Flag application.

Following consideration, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that no entry be submitted for the Pride in Parks award for 2024 and, instead, the time that would be spent on this project be utilised to carry out the necessary work to prepare for an application for Green Flag status for Penlee Park.

(Proposed: Councillor Durrant; seconded: Councillor Young)

(c) Cranken Allotment Rent Refunds

Over the preceding three seasons, a small number of plots at the Cranken allotment site had experienced difficult growing conditions due to the emergence of natural springs on the site. The affected plots were all in the same general area of the site and adjacent to the stream which ran next to the allotment.

Tenants had made every effort to work their plots alongside the deteriorating conditions. However, after an exceptionally wet Winter 2023 into Spring 2024 a number of plots had been far more adversely affected than in the previous year.

In the region of ten different plots had been identified which had been adversely affected by the conditions and had faced a difficult start to the growing season.

Due to these exceptional conditions it was recommended that, for this year only, these plot holders were refunded their annual rent payments, of between £20 and £30 per plot depending on size, and that the tenants were not held accountable for the usual stipulations within the approved allotment policy in terms of the proportion of plots used for growing crops.

Following consideration, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that the 2024 rent for up to twelve plots on the Cranken allotment site be refunded due to the emergence of several natural springs across the site over the last three seasons.

(Proposed: Councillor Young; seconded Councillor Broadhurst)

(d) Allotment Policy Review

This Committee had previously resolved to undertake a review of the Council's allotment policy. It was acknowledged at that time that this could have a significant impact on allotment charges, given the amount of time since the pricing was reviewed and the fact that previous rental amounts had not been index linked in any way.

During the exercise, a number of conversations were held with other councils which identified a number of different areas, in addition to the pricing structure, which would require revision, and these were set out in the report.



Following consideration, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that

1. Revisions to the current allotment policy be progressed on the basis of the issues and elements identified in the report.
2. The revised policy document be presented to a future meeting of this Committee for consideration.

(Proposed: Councillor Jackson; seconded Councillor Young)

Vote;

## **8. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

The Committee received the following reports for information:-

- (a) Operational Performance Report 2023/24
- (b) Budget Comparison Report
- (c) Project Update Report

## **9. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR DECISION**

(a) Penlee Lodge

The report set out the background and the issues associated with this item.

Following consideration, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that, the recommendation, as set out in the report, be approved.

(Proposed: Councillor Durrant; seconded: Councillor How)

## **10. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

The Committee received the following confidential report for information:-

- (a) Penzance Football Club Update

## **11. MATTERS ARISING FOR REPORT AT THE NEXT MEETING**

It was advised that there may have been the need to hold an extraordinary meeting of this Committee in the near future in order to consider matters relating to the proposed Penzance Food Festival in Penlee Park.

The meeting closed at 7:48 pm



Chair  
5 August 2024