

WHALEY BRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

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CLERK'S REPORT

To: All Town Councillors Date: 4 July 2024
From: Andrew Fox Town Clerk Subject: Town Council Meeting to be held on 11 July 2024

Dear Councillor,

Please find attached background papers for the Town Council meeting.

7.15pm Cheque signing
7.30pm Town Council Meeting

Mechanics Institute Refurbishment Project

I have done some investigation on the possibility of zero rating the VAT supply for the refurbishment project. After hearing back from DALC's tax specialist we unfortunately will not be able to get the VAT zero rated which will make the project significantly more expensive. I have been successful in the stage 1 application for the Jubilee Village Hall fund which will support up to 20% of the project. I have applied for £36,000.00 of funding which is 20% of the project including VAT. The next step is stage 2 which I am completing with the help of an ACRE advisor. I have also contacted High Peak CVS who are looking at other funding opportunities for the Mechanics.

Holiday Request

As previously reported, I will be on holiday tomorrow for the day. I would also like to book the week starting the 12th of August off for a holiday.

Trees at the bottom of the Shallcross Incline

I have received confirmation from the resident that they are happy to supply a new tree once we have decided on species and location for the new tree.

Access to the 3G Pitch

As reported, we are experiencing access issues with the 3G Pitch. After the issue with the emergency release a quote was agreed for £327.49 plus VAT to replace the button with a keypad which will allow users to get off the pitch in an emergency but will not allow anyone to climb the fence and deactivate the lock. This was installed on Monday and was seemingly working as intended but now the main keypad to the gate is not working. I have received assurances from Black Box Security it is not from their work that the main keypad is no longer working, and they have provided some potential fixes which we are trying. In the meantime, the gate will remain chained shut with access being provided via an alternative method.

Minor Maintenance of Rights of Way

I would be most grateful if Cllrs could provide me with some suggested paths for the scheme.

Electricity Provision at the Sports Pavilion

Just as an update unfortunately there has been a slight issue with the transfer of the electricity contract. After agreeing the rates with Yu Energy they attempted to transfer the supply and Total Energies have blocked them as we are still in contract. I investigated the contract end date myself and gave permission to Bionic to check this information, but nothing came back saying we were still in contract. The current contract end date is the 30th of September so the new supply will start on the 1st of October.

Brookfield Pond Hedge

I have received numerous complaints regarding the Brookfield Pond Hedge blocking the footpath on Reservoir Road. After attending to see for myself I contacted our usual contractor as the hedge was blocking the pavement considerably. They quoted the same amount as last year and as the work was urgent, I authorised the cutting back of the hedge at a cost of £450.00. This work has now been done and as required the contractor was very careful when checking for bird nests.

Town Clerk, 4 July 2024