

BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Broomfield Parish Council Village Amenities Committee
Held in the Council Office at Broomfield Village Hall
7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 13th February 2019**

VA19/1.	Members attending Chairman Councillor Hubble Councillors Howell, Faulds, Steed and Thomson Also Present The Clerk Three members of the public Resolved: No apologies were received. The Committee welcomed Cllr Faulds to the Committee.
VA19/2.	Declarations of interests Cllr Hubble declared an interest in 19/4 as an allotment holder and Cllr Steed as member of the Cottage Garden Society (CGS).
VA19/3.	Public Question Time The chairman agreed to move this item to follow VA19/4. A concerned resident reminded the committee of the background to item VA19/4 and presented a detailed analysis of the CGS use of the barn. The Committee were reminded that they should remember that they are serving the whole community. A resident reminded the council that some of the work envisaged for the service level agreement has previously been done by volunteers.
VA19/4.	To receive a report from the Broomfield Cottage Gardeners Society Following a meeting where the Council invited the CGS to participate in the design and delivery of a Broomfield in Bloom project, the Chairman of CGS, Mr Hooper attended to advise the committee that they were not able to support the project without a more detailed specification. With limited resources and time, there was concern that they would not have the capacity to deliver an ambitious project. The Committee thanked Mr Hooper for his attendance, and noted his report.
	To approve the minutes of the Village Amenities Committee Meeting held 12th December 2018. Resolved: The minutes of the Village Amenities Committee Meeting held on 12 th December 2018 are accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Hubble seconded Cllr and carried unanimously.
VA19/5.	To receive an update on van purchase. The Clerk advised the Committee that there were sufficient funds available to purchase a used petrol van and running costs can be accommodated within the 2019-20 budget.

	<p>Ownership of such a van will cost approximately £1500 a year including depreciation, and it was agreed that the flexibility would justify the expenditure. However, the Committee would recommend to full council that an electric van is purchased but this would be more expensive and further work will be needed to identify sufficient funds for an appropriate model.</p>
VA19/6.	<p>Allotment Site.</p> <p>Review of allotment waiting list – currently four half and one quarter plots vacant at the present time.</p> <p>The Committee may consider adapting some of the plots for disabled access – the matter will be considered at a later meeting.</p> <p>To consider returning allotment deposit on plot 32a. The committee agreed that there was no reason to withhold the deposit as the plot had been left in reasonable order. The deposit will be returned subject to inspection.</p>
VA19/7.	<p>Financial Matters.</p>
a.	<p>To consider setting up an earmarked fund for resurfacing the play area. The council currently holds an £8000 EMR for playground maintenance, and this would be a reasonable use for CLM money, if required. No additional earmarked fund will be necessary.</p> <p>The matter will be considered following a site meeting with the resurfacing company to get indicative prices.</p>
b.	<p>To consider Hard Surface spraying on Church Green (curb edges). A quotation for £45 per spray with three applications per year has been received from the council's contractor. There was no perceived need for the land to be treated, so the Committee will require further information about the need for weedkilling.</p>
c.	<p>To consider collecting the grass cuttings on Angel Green and Church Green after the initial cut in the spring. A quotation for £100 per collection has been received from the council's contractor.</p> <p>The Committee did not consider the collection of grass necessary as it had been advised that this would remove nutrients from the ground.</p>
d.	<p>To consider Preliminary Ecological Appraisal The Committee noted the cost of the work, and agreed to consider it as a future project as part of the wider project to develop Broomfield Park. The clerk will enquire of Essex County Council whether they would give permission for such a survey to be undertaken.</p>

VA19/8.	To consider entering Essex Village of the year competition. It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk would submit an application.
VA19/9.	Love where you live – Parish Cleansing Days 2019 To consider areas within Broomfield that require attention. Litter pick, 6 th June Hollow Lane and Main Road.
VA19/10.	To consider topics for the telephone box. Information about participating in the forthcoming election, but not information about candidates. coffee morning, Stay n Play Posters for the litter pick provided by the school.
VA19/11.	The Committee noted that the Village litter pick is scheduled for 23rd March, from 10.00, returning to the hall at 12 noon.
VA19/12.	To consider a working party for Centenary Wood during the Spring The committee noted that basic grass maintenance will be undertaken by the contractor but additional work will be required. Specifically, trimming trees and shrub, ditch clearance, and other minor tasks that will ensure the safety of users.
VA19/13.	Trees To consider trees to be identified for TPOs within Broomfield. It was noted that there is a comprehensive list of protected trees on the City Council website, which should be cross-referenced against the tree survey.
VA19/14.	To receive Health & Safety Inspections. The Committee noted the Health & Safety Inspections. No action needed.
VA19/15.	Parish Paths Partnership (P3) To consider appointing a P3 co-ordinator – no update this month.
	Items for next agenda Hard surface treatment Church Lane. Resurfacing play area Meeting Closed 8.50 pm