



## **Anston Parish Council Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

### **Agenda Item 7(a) – Clerks Update**

Please find below for noting an update on ongoing activities and projects at the Parish Council. It is not an exhaustive list but rather highlights the major items. As and when decisions are needed by the Council and/or the Recreation Ground Charity, I will place specific items on the agendas of future meetings.

### **Cemetery Extension Project**

The planning application submitted by Hague Farming Ltd is featured elsewhere on the agenda but further to the last meeting of the Council I have contacted a firm of land agents and am in the process of appointing one to act on our behalf. In addition, the cemetery development company we have engaged (TGMS Ltd) are preparing a Tier 1 assessment of the suitability of the neighbouring land to be a cemetery.

### **Crowgate Recreation Ground**

Further to the last meeting of the Council I am arranging for the lease document to be formally signed and sealed. I have contacted RMBC to discuss timescales for reinstating the football pitches at the site and I have met again with the football team who are interested in using the site as they have indicated a willingness to contribute volunteer time to refurbishing the changing rooms at the site. In due course I will bring a formal report to a future meeting of the Council.

### **Old Library**

Fisher German have visited the property with a view to setting the rental value for the property and negotiating with the tenant.

### **Parish Hall**

The repairs to the felt roof above the middle hall kitchen and changing rooms have been completed and I am liaising with the loss adjusters to get the builders back on site to bring the toilet block back into use. I have arranged for the asbestos in the old boiler room to be removed during the forthcoming Easter Holiday. Repairs to the floor in the middle hall should also take place shortly.

### **Rackford Meadow**

I have approached Cllrs Jonathan Ireland and Clive Jepson in their capacities as RMBC ward councillors to ask for their assistance in getting RMBC to empty the dog waste bin at Rackford Meadow and/or supply an additional bin. Previous efforts to get RMBC to do this having failed to date.

### **Recreation Ground**

Further to the last meeting of the Council I have been in contact with the company who have the refurbished roundabout and they have verbally supplied with the relevant information. I will be e-mailing them to confirm matters in writing. We will shortly be installing a new hot water boiler at the bowling pavilion.

### **St James' Church – Lighting**

I have engaged an electrician to prepare costings for the repair of the spotlights in the ground at the Church building itself and at Lychgate and am awaiting final figures from him. I have also started looking through the old minutes of the Parish Council and whilst financial contributions to the provision of the spotlights in 1998 are mentioned I have yet to find any commitment by the Parish Council to their ongoing maintenance or indeed that the lighting was anything other than something paid for by the Council rather than something owned by it. However there appears to have been a Parish Council meter on the site prior to 1998. My investigations continue and I will bring a report to a future meeting of the Council.

### **St James' Church Lychgate Memorial Gatehouse**

We are still awaiting legal advice from the National Association of Local Councils as to whom is the most likely owner of the Lychgate and whether we have any legal powers to contribute towards the repair and maintenance of the war memorial. I have though established that we would need a faculty from the Diocese and have obtained relevant information from the Diocese. If we do have a legal power to contribute towards the repair of the Lychgate then I will be arranging for a conservation architect to review the 2013 survey of it and prepare revised costs prior to the submission of any grant application.

### **New Website**

I am meeting with the website designers on 17<sup>th</sup> February to hopefully put the final touches to the new website before it goes live.

**Recommendation: That the report be noted.**

Chris Pilkington  
Clerk to Anston Parish Council  
14<sup>th</sup> February 2020