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In attendance: Cllrs Beales, Brown, Butterworth, Fox, Hodgkins, Lee, Love, Roberts, Swan, Swetman and Tomson

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4TH MARCH 2024

1. To elect a Chair of the Planning and Environment Committee for March and April 2024

   Resolved: To elect Cllr Love as the Chair of Planning and Environment Committee for March and April 2024.

2. To receive and consider apologies for absence

   There were no apologies for absence.

3. To note declarations of Members' interests

   There were no declarations of Members' interests.

4. To approve and sign the minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 5th February 2024

   Resolved: To sign the Minutes as a true and accurate record.

5. Public Question Time

   A resident of Loggerheads addressed the Committee regarding the recent refusal of the 23/00002/OUT – a planning application for 150 homes on Mucklestone Wood Lane – and the likely appeal which is presumed to be forthcoming. It was reiterated the Parish Council objected to the application and would likely centre any further argument around housing allocations in respect of both the Loggerheads Neighbourhood Plan and the Emerging Local Plan.

6. To consider the following planning applications: -

   Application No: 24/00100/AGR
   Proposal: General purpose agricultural building
   Location: Blore Farm Flash Lane Blore Heath

   Resolved: To make no objection nor submit any comment.

7. To note the following planning applications having been decided by NuLBC: -

Application No: 23/00959/FUL
Proposal: Application for variation of condition 2 of planning permission 23/00529/FUL to amend the layout of the approved plans
Location: Napley Lodge Farm Napley Road Napley
Decision: **Permitted**

Noted

8. To consider matters relating to Play Equipment and Play Areas

The Clerk provided the meeting with a verbal update in relation to issues within the existing Play Areas whereby there were several elements of damaged equipment – which has been removed from both Pinfold Lane, Almington and Tadgedale Brook, Loggerheads; but is still to be removed from Knighton Railway Cutting.

An enquiry has been made to the Council's Insurer surrounding potential replacement of existing play equipment, which can be done through paying the excess on the policy, but it is then unknown how that would affect the premium in future years.

A potential supplier recently conducted site visits of all four Play Areas and indicated that full refurbishment would fall somewhere in the region of £50,000. It may be the case that key stakeholders and partner organisations can be approached.

A detailed report will be brought to a future meeting of the Committee as and when information becomes available.

9. To consider the following Member Items: -

NONE

10. To note the date of the next **Planning and Environment Committee** meeting as **7pm, Monday 8th April 2024** at Loggerheads Community Fire Station **(if required)**.

Noted

Chair: Cllr J. Love
Clerk: B. Minshall

Close of Meeting: 19:32pm

Signed…….

AGENDA ITEM 7

Report Statement

Report Purpose:	To consider matters relating to Play Equipment and Play Areas
Version Control:	V1
Author(s):	Parish Clerk

1. Report Summary

The report outlines issues with the current Play Equipment.

2. Position

At the January meeting, it was reported that there were signs of unsafe play equipment at the following sites: -

- Unsafe log walks at Tadgedale Brook, Loggerheads due to exposed fixings.
- Unsafe log walk at Pinfold Lane, Almington due to weather exposure.
- Unsafe rope walk at Knighton due to storm damage.

At present, there are no funds identified within the budget to maintain, repair or replace items of Play Equipment within any of the Council's Play Areas.

Since the February meeting, the damaged equipment at Tadgedale Brook, Loggerheads and Pinfold Lane, Almington has been successfully removed with the only cost being Officer time.

The options are still being explored for how to treat the damaged equipment at Knighton Railway Cutting.

To date, product brochures have been requested from the following Suppliers: -

- Elevate Play Ltd
- Fresh Air Fitness
- Handmade Places
- Image Playgrounds
- Play & Leisure
- Playdale Playgrounds
- Playforce
- Play Innovation
- PMR – Play. Maintain. Repair.
- Rebound Rubber
- Redlynch Leisure
- Sovereign Play Equipment
- Sports and Play Consulting
- Streetscape Products and Services
- Sunshine Gym
- Sutcliffe Play

3. Financial Impact

The financial cost to the Parish Council to date has been in the form of Officer time.

4. Conclusions

It is concluded that as much of the current Play Equipment is circa 10 – 15 years in age and having been exposed to relentlessly changing elements for that duration there is bound to be signs of wear and tear or degradation. It is not believed that any maintenance works have ever been carried out with respect to Play Areas – except for the annual Play Safety Inspections.

5. Considerations Sought

- To consider augmentation of the current Play Equipment.
- To consider complete refurbishment of all Play Areas.
- To consider using identified funds as match funding to source grant funding.
- To determine a priority order for the complete refurbishment of all Play Areas.