

EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MINUTES

Date and Time: Thursday 26th January 2023 19.00
Venue: The Old Courthouse

Cllrs Stott (Chair), Blaney, Brock (Vice Chair), Jeffrey, Martin, Perry, Rainbow, Scorer, Roberts, Thompstone, Handley Clerk, Project Manager

Minutes

- 22/01/162 Apologies for absence**
Cllrs P Harris, L Harris, Jeffrey, Reynolds, Lightwood
- 22/01/163 To receive any declarations of interest** under the provisions of sections 27-34 and Schedule 4 of the Localism Act 2011 - None
- 22/01/164 Opportunity to hear questions or statements from members of the public** - None
- 22/01/165 Discussion and Decision on Tree Works**

The Clerk opened the meeting reading out a statement from 4D Tree Services:

"I understood that the sites were to be risk zoned by the council and then prioritised by the council for works by zone and urgency.

Obviously, my liability insurance can only ever cover the timeframes I have suggested.

It is up to the council to prioritise works against resources and the zoning of sites will obviously assist with this greatly".

Following this the Clerk strongly advised that there could be some serious implications if we do not go ahead in the time frame indicated.

The Clerk advised therefore the need to accept one of the quotes and to ensure the works are completed before May and how this will be funded. The Clerk also advised that the survey should be completed every 18 months going forward.

Cllr PH raised the point that this was a whole new budget issue that should have been agreed at Full Council and agreed in budget.

Proposal

1. To accept and proceed with remedial work on the Red categories trees identified by the 4D Tree Survey, work to be carried out before May 2023.

It was agreed to accept the proposal - however the "Red Category" needs to be deleted and amended to read "on all the trees identified by 4D for all work to be completed by May 2023". We also need to ensure all the information sent was correct.

10 in Favour 1 Abstention

2. To agree the ecological survey at Ash Tree Spinney (£1,490) to be paid from the 2023 tree budget.

Amend to 2022 Tree budget.

The Clerk stated that we had been strongly advised to do the survey by 4D and NSDC.

Agreed Unanimously

3. To agree and appoint Tree Surgeon Contactor C as our preferred supplier.

It was agreed to appoint Contractor C subject to confirming a fixed term and up to date quote and that due diligence is completed.

Agreed Unanimously

4. To accept quote for removing wood from Ash Tree Spinney and the risk involved (£1,7012 – only brash and limbs to be removed, trucks to be laid flat in-situ (requote?))

There was a unanimous decision to re-quote on Ash Tree Spinney to ensure the quote removes everything except the trunks.

Agreed Unanimously

5. To agree the allocation of cost centre for Red category tree maintenance costs – General Reserves or CIL?

It was agreed to allocate the costs from CIL.

Agreed Unanimously.

6. To agree the cost of 15 new trees at Ash Tree Spinney to come out of the 2023 budget.
Deferred to TE.

Agreed Unanimously.

7. To request the Risk Assessment Panel investigate the implications of 4Ds suggestion to map Southwell's estate and zone into Red, Amber and Green zones, dependent on footfall (i.e. Red = high footfall, green = low footfall. WMRG = Red, Beryl's Meadow = Green). Red zones would have 18-month tree surveys, Amber zones would have 3 yearly tree surveys and Green would have 4 yearly surveys. Noting to alternate between in and out of leaf. And bring a paper to Full Council ascertaining if this approach will mitigate risk and cost to Southwell Town Council.
Defer to TE.

Agreed Unanimously.

8. To develop a financial strategy for 2023-2028.

Proposed not to action.

Proposed by Cllr Stott Seconded by Cllr Roberts – **Unanimously**

22/01/166 Date of Next Meeting – 15th February 2023

Abi Brackenbury Project Manager 26 January 2023

(This meeting has been recorded for clarity).