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Community Way
Croxley Green
Rickmansworth
Hertfordshire WD3 3SU

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
LEISURE, EVENTS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 6 JUNE 2023 at 8.00 PM

Present: Cllr Hughes – In the Chair
Ryan Bennett - Clerk to the Council
Amanda Gardiner – Administrative Officer
Nicola Dicks – Community Events & Engagement Officer
Anthony Bassenger – Senior Ranger

Cllrs Benner, Bichard, Reed and Sian
In Attendance: Cllrs Crabtree
Not Present: Cllr Kyriakou
Voting Members: 6
Members of the Public: 0

LEE1766/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Montague.

LEE1767/23 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman recommended that any declarations of interest be made, if necessary, throughout the meeting.

LEE1768/23 Representations from the Public

No representations were made.

LEE1769/23 Minutes

Members had no comments regarding the Minutes.

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2023 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

LEE1770/23 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

LEE1760/23 Ranger's Update

The Senior Ranger gave an update on the activities completed. In addition to regular activities, they gave the following updates:

- Stone's Orchard has been cut twice. The grass has been left longer around the trees to promote biodiversity.
- The Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) has been fully installed and Rangers assisted with clearing the hedge growing around the back, making it easier to keep on top of growth coming off the fence line.
- The Easter Egg Hunt & Trail were a success.
- Coronation plaques were installed.

- Ranger has done her first aid course.
- Wildfire training has been completed.
- The chickens are now permitted to leave their enclosure after Avian Flu restrictions were lifted
- Footpaths are getting a first cut of the season.
- Pre-School Allotment sessions will begin shortly.
- Have aided in clearing a section at Little Green School in preparation for their beehives they will soon be installing.

LEE1772/23 Barton Way Allotment – Grass Cutting

The Clerk advised Members that a trial was undertaken by the Rangers to cut the grass at the Barton Way allotments. 2 cuts were undertaken and after reviewing it is recommended to discontinue cutting the grass at the site. Members agreed with the recommendation.

Resolved:

- That the Council Rangers do not continue grass cutting at the Barton Way allotments following the trial period.

LEE1773/23 Commemorative Tree on The Green

The Administrative Officer provided a verbal update on the planting of the Commemorative Oak Tree on The Green to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. Participants in the tree planting included representatives from Croxley Danes, Rickmansworth, Malvern Way & York Mead Schools, County/District & Parish Councillors and Croxley Green residents. A bronze plaque will be installed later this year to mark the event.

LEE1774/23 Events 2023

The Clerk provide updates and additional details on each Event in 2023. New Members were advised that suggestions for new events can be submitted throughout the year. The Clerk advised Members that there was a good turnout for the Easter Egg Trail & Hunt and the Art Exhibition drew over 40 entries. Members suggested promoting a Christmas Light Trail by encouraging residents to decorate their front gardens with lights and registering for the Trail.

The Clerk advised Members that thanks had been received from Rickmansworth Waterways Trust for the £2,500 grant (Council Minutes 20 April 2023 CC2403/23) towards the Rickmansworth Festival – see below.

LEE1775/23 LEE Budget Tracker Report 2023/24

LEE Budget Tracker Report 2023/24 was reviewed.

LEE1776/23 Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:08 pm



Rickmansworth Waterways Trust

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Ryan Bennett,
Croxley Green Parish Council
Community Way,
Croxley Green,
Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire
WD3 3SU

23rd May 2023

Dear Croxley Green Parish Council,

I am writing to thank Croxley Green Parish Council for the financial support you provided for the 2023 Rickmansworth Festival. Your support was a key part of bridging the budget gap we had and essential for the financial viability of the Festival. We have also had tremendous feedback from our exhibitors and many positive comments from the general public and the overall success of the event was helped by very good weather last weekend!

We will meet and discuss any learning's from the event in the second half of June so if you have any feedback please pass back to me. This was my 20th Festival leading the team as Director (21 if you count the one we had to cancel in 2020) and our 30th anniversary since the first one in 1993. I don't want to talk about next year yet but we need to work out how and if the Festival can continue in its current form. Financing is going to be an increasing challenge and we also need new and younger volunteers to meet the expectations our attendees have as they do not want it to cease to be.

Thank you very much for your support for the Festival and for your support the work of the Rickmansworth Waterways Trust. Please pass this on to the councillors who supported our application for a grant so they can understand how important this funding was for us.

Yours sincerely,

Dr David Montague
Festival Director and Chairman
Rickmansworth Waterways Trust



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