**MINUTES**

1 **Apologies**

There were no apologies received by the Chair from Cllr Lock and Cllr Westcott.

2 **Public Question Time**

1. Westleigh Play Park

The council meeting saw a heartening level of positive engagement from those attended from the public, with all attendees unanimously supporting the plans to save the play park.

The Chairman extended his heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated and contributed their views. For those who could not make it, it was encouraged that they share their thoughts with the clerk, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity for their voice to be heard in this crucial matter.

3 **Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct**

There were no Declarations of Interest made under the Code of Conduct.

4 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2024 were deferred to be signed at the next meeting.

5 **Chairman’s Announcements**

To receive any announcements which the Chairman of the Council may wish to make.

1. Mid Devon District Council Correspondence Regarding Westleigh Play Area

The Council has taken receipt of correspondence from Mid Devon District Council outlining the complexities of quantifying annual maintenance for playground equipment, emphasising the necessity of safety inspections and suggesting additional inspections based on risk assessment, potentially three times a year. The estimated cost for these inspections and potential maintenance expenses could be several thousand pounds. Despite the difficulty in determining precise maintenance needs, it's noted that the equipment likely has at least five years of remaining life, with the potential for more with upkeep.

Regarding replacement considerations, it was suggested that it may not be justifiable to invest significant funds into the equipment given its remaining lifespan, and that replacement would provide better value. However, estimates to replace the equipment have ranged from £50,000 to £100,000, subject to variations in specific requirements.

Mid Devon District Council has also confirmed that planned maintenance is scheduled before the site’s return to the Council, including work on rubber matting, replacing an old see-saw, and patching up fencing, with consideration given to the necessity of longer fencing dividing the play area and the football area in the future.

Furthermore, the broader societal benefits of maintaining playground equipment were highlighted, suggesting that it could serve as an attraction for younger families, potentially influencing decisions to move into the area. By providing a convenient recreational spot within walking distance, the equipment contributes to the overall health and vibrancy of the community, making it an asset worth preserving and maintaining for the foreseeable future.

1. Handover of Westleigh Play Area

The Council will complete the handover process for the Westleigh Play Area with Mid Devon District Council on April 1st, 2024.

6 **Petitions**

There were no petitions received by the Chair.

7 **Notices of Motions**

1. Motion for the Implementation and Maintenance of Compliance Management System for ISOs 14001, 45001 and 27001

The implementation of a Compliance Management System would help to meet the standards required of environmental stewardship, occupational health and safety, and information security management.

The proposed system would serve as a dynamic repository, continuously updated to mirror the latest legislative changes and best practices, thereby ensuring operations remain within the bounds of legal and regulatory frameworks. The management of this system will include the tracking of relevant legislation, routine updates to the system, comprehensive compliance assessments, and seamless integration with existing systems to bolster operational efficiency. Furthermore, the commitment to regular audits and targeted training programs will underscore dedication to legal compliance and governance excellence.

It is imperative to note that the budget allocation calculation for this system has been proposed as being £3.37 per parishioner for the fiscal year 2024/2025. This would translate to a nominal cost of less than 1 penny per day for each resident.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Lewis Worrow, **SECONDED** by Councillor Luke Trevelyan, and **RESOLVED** that the ‘Motion for the Implementation and Maintenance of Compliance Management System for ISOs 14001, 45001 and 27001’ be approved.

8 **Reports**

There were no reports, minutes or recommendations to consider.

9 **Member’s Business**

There were no items raised by the Member’s.

10 **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was **AGREED** as Tuesday, 2 April 2024 at 19:00.