

Warham Parish Council - Clerk's Report 21 March 2024

I have written to Barry & Shaun's Garden Services asking them to send a monthly invoice with their bank details and telling them that we will arrange payment directly into their account within a few days. I have told them that the old children's playground is now closed, and the new one is unlikely to be built before this time next year. I have asked them to contact either Jon or I if they have any queries or problems.

I have not had a close look at the new site since the last meeting but will aim to do so before Thursday 21st. I would like to get the measurements of the new play area, so that we can start to plan what equipment we need to install. NNDC have now closed their community grants fund (Big Society or whatever) due to a shortage of funds. However, other funding streams are available, which we will need to investigate when we have a rough idea of the costs involved.

Once we have the measurements of the new play area, I think that it would be a good idea to form a small committee to discuss what equipment might be obtained, and which manufacturers to approach. This would save a lot of time at Council meetings. The membership of the committee could include Councillors and any others who might be able to assist- such as parents of young children in the village.

With regard to agenda item six, in the last year I have had appeals from Priscilla Bacon Lodge (new hospice being built adjacent to the N&N Hospital) and the Burnham Market Area Community Car Scheme. Last year we gave £100 to the latter and £100 to the Reading Room.

With regard to street lighting I am pleased to report that the combined effect of changing suppliers and the fitting of the timers has been very worthwhile financially. Last year the net cost of power in January and February was £54.90. This year it was £32.29.

KL 13.03.24