

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 17th JANUARY 2017 AT 7.30PM
AT THE TOWN HALL.**

PRESENT:

Cllr Mrs P Whiting
Cllr P Tomas (Chairman)
Cllr R Gell
Cllr H L Jackson
Cllr Mrs V M Newbery
Cllr A M T Reading
Cllr Mrs S Mantle
Cllr J Smithers
Mrs S J Mitcham (Town Clerk)
Miss A J Schofield (Assistant Town Clerk)

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED:

That Cllr P Tomas be elected as Chairman of the Environment and Recreation Committee until May 2017.

2. **APOLOGIES**

None.

3. **ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRMAN**

That Cllr Mrs V M Newbery be elected as Vice Chairman of the Environment and Recreation Committee until May 2017.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

5. **PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

6. **AGREEMENT WITH HIGHAM FERRERS RIVERSIDE PARK ANGLERS ASSOCIATION**

RESOLVED:

That a decision be deferred to the next meeting pending clarification to questions raised regarding:-

- Accountability of the signatories for the Licensee
- Licensee's obligations, 3(c) and 3(e)
- Public liability insurance held by the Anglers Association

7. **PROPOSED WORKS AT RIVERSIDE PARK**

RESOLVED:

That Cllr R Gell and the Clerk request a meeting with the Anglers Association to seek clarification to questions raised regarding the proposed works to clean and re-align the ditch that connects the Lake to the Backwater.

8. **REPLACEMENT OF PLAY EQUIPMENT IN SAFFRON ROAD PLAY AREA**

RESOLVED:

That the Woodlands Unit be replaced with another multi play unit. That, pending the lead in times for the installation of the equipment and the timeframe for the replacement of the equipment as specified in the Play Inspectors report, consultation be undertaken with the local schools.

9. **SAFFRON ROAD RECREATION GROUND – THE FUTURE**

The Committee considered a report from the Town Clerk on the strategic review of Saffron Road Recreation Ground with the Town Clerk seeking identification of issues not already detailed.

RESOLVED:

That outline research be undertaken for a water play feature.

10. **THE SPORTS PAVILLION**

RESOLVED:

That the item be carried to the next meeting pending production of the survey plan of the Saffron Road Recreation Ground. That the rebuilding of the Pavillion is considered a longer term project for Saffron Road Recreation Ground. That a projects timeline will be formulated for the next meeting.

11. **STORAGE/TOILETS FACILITY**

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk undertake further research into possible portacabin type buildings and their associated costs.

12. **ADDITIONAL PLAY EQUIPMENT ON SAFFRON ROAD RECREATION GROUND**

RESOLVED:

That the possible location and type of additional play equipment be considered at the next meeting pending production of the survey plan of Saffron Road Recreation Ground and the Assistant Clerk ascertaining dimensions and footprints of equipment. That consultation be undertaken following agreement on proposed location and type of additional play equipment.

13. **STRATEGIC REVIEW OF OTHER OPEN SPACES IN HIGHAM FERRERS**

The Town Clerk presented a report regarding the Open Spaces and sought ideas for research, with the land at the end of Mallard Close suggested as a first priority.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk undertake the following actions with regard to the land at the end of Mallard Close:-

- Meet with the Station Road developers to clarify the position regarding access from the development to the land.
- Research the practicality and costs associated with underground cabling of the overhead line.
- Research the idea of a goal and basketball facility.
- Research options for play equipment for younger children.
- Research the idea of a BMX track.

14. **PARISH PATHS WARDEN REPORT**

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Parish Paths Warden be received and noted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That a letter be sent to the Highway Authority asking for the obstruction to be removed from the field side of the footbridge on Public Footpath VC23 adjacent to Fitzwilliam House, Station Road, and that, if necessary, the Town Council use the powers granted to them under the Highways Act 1980 section 130 (6) for its removal.

Cllr R Gell suggested that it would be helpful if future reports presented to the Committee were accompanied by a copy of the definitive Rights of Way map.

15. **LITTER BINS**

RESOLVED:

That a second bin to match the existing one be purchased for location near the skateboard area. That a bin be purchased to replace the worn bin on Castle Fields. Total cost £666.95 plus fixing.

16. **ITEMS TO REPORT**

Cllr Mrs V M Newbery asked if there was still a need for the Councillors to undertake the play area inspections. The Clerk replied that the matter was being looked into.

17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

14th March 2017

Chairman

Date