

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 7.30PM
AT THE TOWN HALL.**

PRESENT:

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

1. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr D C Lawson MBE.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held 10th July 2018 be signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record.

4. **PUBLIC FORUM**

No public present.

5. **GATES TO CASTLE FIELDS**

A resident had requested for gates to be installed at the Kimbolton Road entrances to Castle Fields so that dogs could be prevented from running out of the park on to the road. Committee members considered the issue in relation to responsible dog ownership, the Equality Act 2010, and also the fact that any new gates would be on the routes of public footpaths VC16 and VC17 and their need should be clear and justifiable. Any new gate structure on a public right of way would need to be authorised by the County Council as the Highway Authority.

RESOLVED:

That the entrance points to Castle Fields from Kimbolton Road should not be restricted by the installation of gates.

6. **NOTICE BOARD AT THE CEMETERY**

RESOLVED:

That the principle of the purchase and installation of a notice board at the Cemetery is agreed. That consideration as to the location and style for the notice board within the Cemetery is deferred to the next meeting to allow members to review possible locations and whether a pole mounted, wall or rail mounted board is preferred.

7. **INSTALLATION OF REMOVEABLE BOLLARDS, SAFFRON ROAD RECREATION GROUND**

The Committee considered whether to purchase and install removeable bollards for Saffron

Road Recreation Ground. The infrequent need to remove the bollards for events was noted; 4 times in the last 7 years. Points of consideration included changing the wooden posts to an alternative style that would not be in keeping with the dragon's teeth. The work involved in removing and replacing the wooden posts for an event.

RESOLVED:

That new removeable bollards are not installed at the present time and that the existing wooden dragon's teeth bollards remain.

8. **STRIP OF OPEN SPACE LAND AND HEDGEROW BY PUBLIC FOOTPATH VC15, GARDEN FIELD**

The Assistant Clerk advised that a response was still awaited from Linden Homes. East Northamptonshire District Council Planning Enforcement are also looking into the matter of the hedgerow maintenance.

RESOLVED:

That the verbal report regarding the strip of Open Space land and the hedgerow by public footpath VC15 be received and noted.

9. **CLERK'S REPORT**

Rocking Horse, Saffron Road

This piece of equipment is fenced off pending repair to a footboard that was damaged/vandalised. The part is on order.

Equipment for Older Children and Skate Park End Ramps, Saffron Road

Installation of the equipment (cableway, rope swing and overhead carousel) is scheduled to commence week beginning 10th September. The work to the end ramps of the skate park is also scheduled to be undertaken the same week.

Operational Level Playground Inspector

The Assistant Clerk has completed the training course and is now qualified to carry out operational level inspections of playgrounds under the Register of Play Inspectors International scheme.

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Clerk be received and noted.

10.. **PARISH PATHS WARDEN REPORT**

RESOLVED:

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

11. **ITEMS TO REPORT**

None.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

13th November 2018.

Chairman

Date