

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY 15 APRIL 2008 at 6.30 pm** in the Committee Room, Town Hall, West Borough, Wimborne Minster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr L G Harvey (Chairman)
Cllr R W Booth
Cllr J Burden
Cllr A J Hampton
Cllr Mrs D J March
Cllr R D Cook – Ex-Officio – Vice-Chairman of the Council

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT & APOLOGIES GIVEN

Cllr Ms A McCarthy (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Mrs B S J Feltham
Cllr A K Oliver, MBE – Ex-Officio - Chairman of the Council

214 **RECREATION GROUNDS INSPECTION REPORT**

The Chairman presented an oral report, following his inspection with the Vice-Chairman of the Recreation Grounds the previous day. A written version is attached as Appendix A to these Minutes.

215 **REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND - ROUNDHOUSE**

The Town Clerk reported that he had discussed with the Chairman the recent vandalism caused to the Roundhouse and the options available to help reduce this continuing problem. One suggestion was to open up the interior by removing the inner partition walls. Another was to demolish it and replace it with a modern version. The Committee favoured retention.

A quotation had been received for removing the inner walls and strengthening the structure in the sum of £850.

RESOLVED that the quotation from Rainford Builders dated 18 March 2008 for removing the inner walls and strengthening the Roundhouse be accepted.

(Note: [i] Cllr Mrs D J March asked it to be recorded that she had voted against the removal of the inner walls; [ii] Rainford Builders will be asked to replace the ceiling which is not provided for in the quotation.)

216 **REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND - PUBLIC TOILETS**

The Town Clerk reported that he and the Chairman had discussed the future of the unsatisfactory and aged public toilets in the Recreation Ground, bearing in mind the cost of replacement in the region of £30,000-£40,000.

The toilets had been the subject of consistent vandalism over many years and appeared to be a magnet for this type of crime.

The Committee needed to gauge the public demand before considering any replacement scheme and it was suggested that as a first step the toilets be closed over the summer and the public response to that move be awaited.

RESOLVED that with effect from 1 June 2008 the public toilets in Redcotts Recreation Ground be closed and a notice be displayed advising the public of the nearest town centre conveniences.

217

REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND - TREES

The Town Clerk submitted three quotations for essential work to trees in the Recreation Ground, copies of which had been circulated to each Member and copies of which appear as Appendix B to these Minutes in the confidential Minute Book.

The work proposed included the essential removal of dead wood from the large trees on the northern boundary and felling some of the diseased limes along the pathways. It also included grinding out stumps of two lime trees already felled.

The Committee was of the view that it might be prudent to replace the limes with an alternative species to avoid the regular pruning which those trees demanded.

RESOLVED

- (a) that, with the exception of felling any of the lime trees at this stage, the remainder of the tree work proceed subject to (b) below;
- (b) that the Town Clerk be authorised to apply to East Dorset District Council for any necessary consents required under tree preservation legislation including felling the lime trees;
- (c) that the Tree Warden be asked to suggest a suitable alternative species to replace the limes to be felled.

The meeting closed at 7.12 pm

SignedDate.....
Town Mayor and Chairman of the Council