

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2016 at 6.30 pm** in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Wimborne Minster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr L G Harvey (Chairman)
Cllr J Burden
Cllr Mrs P A Hymers
Cllr Mrs D J March
Cllr R P Nunn
Cllr Mrs A E Roberts
Cllr Mrs S A Cook - Ex-Officio - Chairman of the Council
Cllr T F Wheeler – Ex-Officio – Vice-Chairman of the Council

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Cllr Mrs S A Bell (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr S K Bartlett

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RECREATION GROUNDS INSPECTION REPORT

The Chairman submitted a report, a copy of which was circulated to each Member at the meeting and a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** to these Minutes.

Cllr Mrs March submitted additional comments on Redcotts Recreation Ground a copy of which appear as **Appendix B** to these Minutes. With regard to the hedge which she reported had not been cut back from the footpath leading from School Lane to Blind Lane, the Town Clerk responded that the occupier was an elderly gentleman who had recently been widowed and that it would be inappropriate to institute enforcement proceedings at present. However, he would take the necessary action at the appropriate time.

Cllr Mrs Roberts asked whether additional soakaways could be provided in the path from the roundhouse to Redcotts Road which became flooded during heavy rain. The Town Clerk would investigate the matter.

Cllr Burden commented that the lime trees on the Leigh Park estate were the responsibility of Aster Housing Group and not Dorset County Council. Also, he was disturbed about the amount of litter being deposited in the Leigh Park Playing Field car park at weekends which did not present the town in a good light when rugby teams visited

Recreation & Leisure Committee – 29 November 2016

Wimborne Rugby Club. The Rugby Club did litter pick but the type of litter was a concern, mainly alcohol based. As it was likely to be emanating from young people the Town Clerk would contact the police.

141 **BAT INTERPRETATION BOARDS (Min 76 - 01.09.15)**

The Town Clerk submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Committee was asked to consider a request from the River Allen Bat Roost (RABR) to install in Redcotts Recreation Ground and the Jubilee Garden bat interpretation boards which the organisation had produced. The boards would be displayed in other locations around the Town.

Although the boards were made from polished steel the Town Clerk would suggest that they might be faced with Perspex type material in order to minimise damage from vandalism.

The Committee was very grateful for the work done by the RABR and felt that suitable publicity should be given by way of press releases and photographs. The Town Clerk would make the necessary arrangements.

The Committee also considered making a donation to the RABR towards the cost of installing the boards.

RESOLVED

- (a) that the RABR be thanked for all the work it has done with regard to protecting and providing habitats for the local bat population;
- (b) that a donation of £200 be made to the RABR towards the cost of producing and installing the bat interpretation boards.

142 **REPLACEMENT CEDAR TREE AND SUN CLOCK (Min 199 – 01.03.16)**

The Town Clerk submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Committee was asked whether the cedar tree which was removed because of storm damage last spring should now be replaced as no progress had been made to enable the sun clock to be installed.

Cllr Mrs March reported that she had made enquiries and had been advised that the Town Council would have been supplied with plans in 2000 when the clock was completed. The Town Clerk could find no record of plans from Weymouth College for the Sun Clock Installation. The College had sculptured the stones for the clock and was going to install them as well. However, there had been a problem with deciding how it was to be set into the grass. Members at the time did not want the stones set directly into the grass because of problems with mowing around them and grass staining of the stones. In recent times Tiger Mulch and similar products would be ideal but they were not available then.

Cllr Mrs March would continue to make enquiries.

Turning to the replacement tree, the Committee was mindful that the previous tree's location was susceptible to high winds and another location should be considered at the appropriate time. Members also felt that a cedar tree was not ideal for a number of reasons and the Committee should consider an alternative species. It should also be of a size to deter vandalism and to have an immediate impact subject to cost.

RESOLVED that Cllr Burden and the Town Clerk report back to the Committee with options for a suitable replacement tree including species, sizes, locations and costs.

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DOG WARDEN PATROL REPORTS

The Town Clerk submitted for information the Dog Warden Patrol Report for October 2016, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as **Appendix E** to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cllr Mrs March asked whether dog walkers and other users of the Recreation Ground could be advised by way of notices of imminent grass cutting by the groundstaff as some people were reluctant to leave the area being cut and putting themselves at risk. The Town Clerk would investigate.

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EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

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LEIGH PARK PLAYING FIELD – LIME TREES

See Confidential Minute 145/372.

The meeting closed at 6.58 pm

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

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

To: Recreation & Leisure Committee

Date: 29 November 2016

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

RECREATION GROUNDS INSPECTION REPORT

REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND

Leaf litter clearance will commence next week.

All hedges have been cut.

Redcotts Lane footpath will be sprayed again.

The surface of the pétanque pitch will be improved soon.

The dead lime tree near the grass court gate has been removed and a replacement ordered.

The posts supporting the Gunstone Trust sign will be painted with preservative.

The slats on wooden picnic benches will be replaced with new over the winter.

The steel offset barriers at the Blind Lane pedestrian entrance will be restored.

LEIGH PARK PLAYING FIELD

All hedges have been cut.

Weed killing of the adventure playground will be done following the renovation early next month. Also, additional wood chippings were acquired free (thanks to Cllr Burden) when DCC were pollarding the limes around the estate. These will be mixed with the chippings already purchased in advance for the refurbishment.

Quotations for the bi-annual pollarding of the lime trees are to be considered later in this agenda.

**COMMENTS ON
REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND
29 November 2016
by Cllr Mrs Diann March**

New sign needed by Redcotts Lodge



Hedge has still not been cut back to boundary – see East Dorset News Autumn 2016. Would like to propose that all members look at their own boundaries and neighbouring ones for signs of overhanging or protruding vegetation that need cutting back and report to the Town Council so that action can be taken.



Boundary hedge and bush maintenance

Did you know that it is the responsibility of an owner or occupier of private land or property to ensure that frontage hedges or other vegetation does not overhang and protrude onto a highway or footpath? This includes if they are causing problems for both pedestrians and vehicles.

As a rule hedges should be cut back to the boundary, or vertically above the rear of a footpath to a height of 2.2m.

If you need to report an issue with an overhanging hedge then this can be done via www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/398495/ or 01305 228100