

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY 24 JANUARY 2017 at 7.10 pm** in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Wimborne Minster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Mrs S A Bell (Vice-Chairman in the Chair)
Cllr S K Bartlett
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 MEMBER NOT PRESENT

Cllr L G Harvey (Chairman)

MEMBERS ALSO PRESENT

Cllr C L Butter
Cllr R D Cook

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RECREATION GROUNDS INSPECTION REPORT

The Town Clerk 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 Burden commented that he was still concerned about the amount of litter being deposited in the Leigh Park Playing Field area as well as the amount of vandalism. Although the Police did regular patrols it was difficult to find a solution to these problems.

In response to a question from Members, the Town Clerk would consult the District Council's Ground Maintenance Supervisor and report back on the optimum time and method for planting wild flower seeds.

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REPLACEMENT CEDAR TREE (Min 142 – 29.11.16)

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

The Committee considered options for the replacement of the Cedar tree which had been removed last year because of damage.

Cllr Burden added that Cllr P H Bartlett had offered to pay for the cost of the replacement tree.

RESOLVED

(a) that a Red Oak tree be procured, as detailed in the report, to mark HM the Queen's 90th birthday and planted where the Cedar had been in front of the pavilion;

(b) that Cllr Bartlett be thanked for his kind offer which is accepted with thanks.

170 **REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND - SUN CLOCK (Min 142 – 29.11.16)**

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

Progress had been made in obtaining installation instructions for the sun clock and the scheme could now proceed.

The Town Clerk had suggested in the report that the stones could be set in resin bonded gravel instead of 'Tiger Mulch' but Members were concerned about the cost.

RESOLVED that approval in principle be given to the installation of the sun clock in the grassed area in front of the pavilion and the Town Clerk report back when quotations have been obtained for its installation.

171 **GRASS TENNIS COURTS – FENCING (Min 23 – 07.06.16)**

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

As requested by the Committee the Town Clerk had held discussions with the tennis coach and the Community and Open Spaces Manager of the District Council with regard to the future use of the grass tennis courts. This was in order to determine what action to take with regard to the existing chain link fencing around the courts which needed repair/replacement.

Members made a number of points which would be taken into account during future discussions.

RESOLVED that the proposals contained in the report be supported in principle to enable further discussions to be held and more detailed costings obtained.

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DOG WARDEN PATROL REPORTS

The Town Clerk submitted for information the Dog Warden Patrol Reports for November and December 2016, copies of which had been circulated to each Member and copies of which appear as **Appendix E** to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members felt that there had been an increase in dog faecal deposits (DFD) in both Redcotts Recreation Ground and Leigh Park Playing Field. In fact recently rugby matches had been suspended until the pitch had been cleared of DFDs. The Town Clerk added that the Chairman of the Rugby Club had contacted him to ask for further attention to be paid by the Dog Warden. This he had done but Members were reminded that the Town Council only paid the District Council for 100 hrs of the Dog Warden’s time per year.

The Town Clerk would nevertheless pass on the concern of the Committee to the Dog Warden.

The meeting closed at 8.06 pm

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

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

To: Recreation & Leisure Committee

Date: 24 January 2017

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

RECREATION GROUNDS INSPECTION REPORT

REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND

The soakaway in the path near the bowling green which the Committee asked to be done has been finished.

Although additional top dressing has been applied to the pétanque pitch more is needed.

A litter bin will be provided near the entrance opposite the hospital unless the Committee disagrees.

A new net will be provided for the kick-about goal when the posts are moved in the spring.

At its meeting in April the Committee will be invited to inspect the entrance area from Cemetery Road/Blind Lane to agree how it might be tidied up.

LEIGH PARK PLAYING FIELD

Pollarding of the lime trees has been completed.

The 'Dog Warden Patrols in this Area' signs have been vandalised and will be replaced.

The large sign at the entrance to the Adventure Playground has been damaged and will be replaced.

The damaged fencing around the toddlers' play area has been repaired.

The section of fencing between the Adventure Playground and the car park which could not be repaired in December 2016 because of stored woodchip will be finished off next month.

Date: 24 January 2017

Reference: LH/SF/Item 3 - REPLACEMENT CEDAR TREE

Author: Town Clerk

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1** On 29 November 2016, the Committee tasked Cllr Burden and me to suggest options for a suitable replacement tree with costs and possible locations as the original location was thought unsuitable because of the wind effect.
- 1.2** The intention was to use the area in front of the pavilion for the sun clock (see next item).
- 1.3** Cllr Burden has suggested a Quercus Rubra or Red Oak. It has dark green leaves which turn red bronze and yellow in the autumn. It has a height 10 metres and spread of 8 metres over 20 years. It is suitable for all soil types.
- 1.4** The largest specimen we could find comes in a 55 litre pot with a height of 4.5m – 6m and a girth of 14cm – 16 cm at a price of £179.99 excl. VAT.
- 1.5** Cllr Burden will suggest possible locations at the meeting.

2.0 Action required

- 2.1** The Committee is asked to consider the suggested specie and locations and decide whether it wishes to go ahead with the proposal.

Date: 24 January 2017

Reference: LH/SF/Item 4 – SUN CLOCK

Author: Town Clerk

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Since the meeting on 29 November 2016 enquiries have continued with some success.

1.2 I have made contact with the firm which originally supplied installation instructions and amazingly have obtained a copy of those supplied in 1999.

1.3 The area required to accommodate the stones is roughly 6 metres in diameter although slightly elliptical.

1.4 Originally, I had suggested it be set in 'Tiger Mulch' but having spoken to Matt Reeks he suggests it would look better if set in resin bound gravel. These come in a variety of colours.

2.0 Action required

2.1 If the Committee wishes to proceed with installation of the sun clock on the grassed area in front of the pavilion and likes Matt's idea I would prefer to seek the services of a professional driveway installer to do the work. Matt has suggested a firm although I have not yet approached them.

2.2 If the Committee concurs and in order not to delay the matter further I would proceed with the installation up to a maximum of £5000 in consultation with the Vice-Chairman and Cllr Mrs March whose project it was.

2.3 The Council would need to authorise the cost being met from the General Fund.

RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE

Date: 24 January 2017

Reference: LH/SF/Item 5 – GRASS TENNIS COURTS - FENCING

Author: Town Clerk

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 In June 2016, the Committee, after considering quotations with options to repair/replace the grass tennis court fencing passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED that this matter be deferred to enable the Town Clerk to discuss the issue with the Tennis Coach and investigate further.

1.2 I have been in discussion with the Tennis Coach and Matt Reeks as follows:

1) The Tennis Coach has abandoned the idea of an additional hard court on the back pitch as well as the all-weather dome on the existing hard courts.

2) Ideally, he would welcome an opportunity to move to the proposed sports village south of Leigh Road on what is currently included in the Gleeson's development proposals.

3) If that proves impracticable (as is likely because of the cost) he will ask the Town Council if he can provide two artificial grass courts on the site of the middle two existing courts together with floodlights. However, initially he would continue to use the two grass courts.

1.3 This will leave two grass courts available for other uses. Members have long held the view that grass courts are an expensive facility used for a short time in the summer (weather permitting). They take up areas which could be used for other purposes more beneficial to users of the Recreation Ground.

1.4 Included in the discussion with Matt Reeks (who is familiar with these matters) was the suggestion by some members that a small putting green could be provided on the site of one of the courts. He feels this would be worth a try but in a small way first to gauge demand. If there is a demand the Town Council could invest in a crazy golf system.

1.5 Matt has suggested that the court nearest the toilets would be the best site for the putting green and if Members agree I will work with him to provide the costs which should not be high. The Tennis Coach is prepared to manage the putting green on a similar basis to the pay and play tennis. The end court near the petanque pitch could be left as grass.

RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE

1.6 Clearly, action is required to do something about the poor state of the existing chain link fencing around the grass courts. Matt is of the view that chain link fencing is now obsolete in terms of longevity, risk of vandalism and looks. He suggests 'V' type fencing is much better even though it might be more expensive. However, less fencing would be required.

2.0 Action required

2.1 If the Committee supports these proposals in principle I will report to the next meeting with more detailed costings.



Dog Warden Patrol Report

Month: **NOVEMBER 2016**

Parish: **WIMBORNE**

Total Hours: **8**

Date	Time Started	Time Finished	Comments
8/11/2016	10.00	11.30	Patrolled Redcotts , 3 MOP seen, of which 2 were seen to pick up.
9/11/2016	9.30	10.30	Patrolled Leigh Park, 2 MOP seen, of which 1 was seen to pick up.
14/11/2016	13.00	14.00	Patrolled the Rec, 7 MOP seen of which 4 were seen to pick up.
17/11/2016	12.15	13.15	Patrolled the Rec, 4 MOP seen, of which 3 were seen to pick up, 2 DFD observed.
22/11/2016	12.30	13.30	Patrolled Leigh Park, Observed that the gate to the children's play area next to the centre was open and hooked against the wire fence. I unhooked it and closed the gate, to prevent dogs wandering in. I also observed that the previous NO DOGS ALLOWED sign had been removed, so I replaced it.
25/11/2016	16.00	17.00	Patrolled Redcotts, 7 MOP seen, of which 4 were seen to pick up, no DFD observed.
29/11/2016	10.00	11.30	Patrolled Redcotts, 7 MOP seen, of which 4 were seen to pick up, 2 DFD observed on the field.

Dog Warden Patrol Report

Month: December 2016

Parish: WIMBORNE

Total Hours: 7

Date	Time Started	Time Finished	Comments
2/12/2016	11.00	12.00	Patrolled Leigh Park, 3 MOP seen and all picked up, 2 DFD observed.
8/12/2016	10.00	11.30	Patrolled Redcotts, 2 MOP seen and both picked up. No DFD seen on the fields or paths.
9/12/2106	12.00	13.00	Patrolled Leigh Park, 1 MOP seen, very misty weather.
13/12/2016	8.30	9.30	Patrolled Leigh Park, 4 MOP seen, of which 2 were seen to pick up, 2 DFD observed.
19/12/2016	11.30	13.00	Patrolled the Rec, 5 MOP seen, of which 3 were seen to pick up 1 DFD observed.
21/12/2016	16.30	17.30	Patrolled the Rec, 9 MOP seen, of which 5 were seen to pick up, 2 DFD observed.