

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY 5 JUNE 2018** at 6.30 pm in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Wimborne Minster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Mrs S A Bell
Cllr J Burden
Cllr Mrs S A Cook
Cllr Mrs P A Hymers
Cllr Mrs D J March
Cllr R P Nunn
Cllr Mrs A E Roberts
Cllr T F Wheeler
Cllr Mrs K F Webb – Ex-Officio – Chairman of the Council

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Cllr S K Bartlett – Ex-Officio – Vice-Chairman of the Council

MEMBER ALSO PRESENT

Cllr Ms C L Butter

Chairman of the Council presiding.

21 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2018/2019**

RESOLVED that Cllr Mrs S A Bell be elected Chairman of Committee for the 2018/2019 municipal year.

Cllr Mrs S A Bell in the Chair.

22 **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 2018/2019**

RESOLVED that Cllr R P Nunn be elected Vice-Chairman of Committee for the 2018/2019 municipal year.

23 **REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND – ROUNDHOUSE**

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

In the report, the Town Clerk had set out the details of a request from Sgt Travers of the Wimborne Town, Leigh Park & Colehill Neighbourhood Policing Team that the roundhouse be demolished and removed because it was being used by young people to take illegal drugs. Also, he felt that it was a focus for criminality and anti-social behaviour.

Cllr Mrs Cook, in her capacity as Chairman of the local Partners and Communities Together (PACT) Panel, told the Committee that the matter had been considered by the PACT Panel last winter but at that time there were no problems probably due to the cold weather. On balance and somewhat reluctantly she supported the Police request although if the Committee was minded to defer the matter, she would be happy to discuss with Sgt Travers the various alternative suggestions made by Members in recent emails. She added that the Police did not have the manpower to continue the regular patrols of the Recreation Ground.

Members felt that the Roundhouse was part of the social history of the Town and was used by various members of the community to advantage including mothers waiting for children attending the First School, cyclists as a meeting place, skateboarders and keep fit groups. Some Members were in the Recreation Ground late at night exercising their dogs and had not witnessed any problems.

Councillors were of the view that if the Roundhouse was demolished any problems would move to other locations. . In any event there was evidence that most young people appeared to be using the Culverhayes end of the Recreation Ground for drug taking.

RESOLVED that the request to demolish the Roundhouse be refused and instead the Town Council lobby the Police and Crime Commissioner for more Police manpower for Wimborne Minster to enable proper and regular patrols of the Recreation Ground to be carried out.

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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 B** to these Minutes.

In respect of Leigh Park, Cllr Burden expressed his opinion that the adventure play area was in a disgusting state and that the whole area was run down because various authorities lacked financial resources. The Town Clerk agreed but added that he was in discussions with the Communities and Open Spaces Manager of East Dorset District Council about the possibility of obtaining Section 106 monies in order to refurbish the adventure play area. He would bring a scheme for the Committee's approval if those discussions were successful.

Regarding the Silent Soldier silhouette in Redcotts Recreation Ground, the Town Clerk would arrange for it to be relocated from the back of the wild flower bed to the front so that it could be clearly seen.

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DOG WARDEN PATROL REPORTS

The Town Clerk submitted for information the Dog Warden Patrol Report for April 2018, 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 Town Clerk would contact the Dog Warden to ask if he would advise the occupants of the Mobility Scooter Shop in East Street to pick up after their dog which was defecating on the pavement outside their premises on a regular basis. Although the faecal deposit was being picked up eventually it was sometime after rather than immediately.

The meeting closed at 6.56 pm

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

To: RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE

Date: 5 JUNE 2018

From: TOWN CLERK

REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND – ROUNDHOUSE

(Item 4)

Members will recall the spate of anti-social behaviour and vandalism which occurred in Redcotts Recreation ground this time last year. The police introduced a patrol plan which resulted in 3 offenders being dealt with and this was reported to the Committee on 10 October 2017.

However, Sgt Travers did send me an email on 16 October 2017 which contained the following text:

I know we have discussed this issue briefly before but I wanted to raise my concerns about the shelter in Redcotts Park. I am aware of more and more crime being reported there and I wanted to raise the possibility of the shelter being dispensed with.

- *It has been damaged several times and is rarely in a fit state to be used legitimately by decent people.*
- *Grace Butler has spoken to many of the local residents and they tend to agree that removal of the shelter would be a step towards reducing level of criminality there, in addition to the ASB that we see around the shelter.*
- *It is difficult to monitor effectively on CCTV*

I wondered what the feeling of the Council might be to this proposal?

I discussed the issue with the then Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Cllr Mrs Cook, who was also Chairman of the PACT Panel, and we agreed that the view of the PACT Panel should be obtained before putting the request before councillors. She agreed and the matter was considered at the PACT meeting in December 2017 and again at the February 2018.

At the February meeting although Sgt Travers was not present it was reported that, probably due to the weather, there were no problems although the situation with the Roundhouse would be monitored.

On 24 May 2018, Sgt Travers sent me an email which contained the following text:

I think perhaps it's time to review our previous discussions about removal of the Redcotts shelter. We have recent footage of kids smoking cannabis from bongs inside the shelter and also, several reports of the public so I don't feel the problem is being resolved with our patrol plan. My recommendation is to remove it I'm afraid.

The Committee is asked to consider the request to remove the Roundhouse.

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

To: Recreation & Leisure Committee Members

Date: 5 June 2018

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

RECREATION GROUNDS INSPECTION REPORT

REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND

The plaque requested by the Committee to indicate that the sun clock is set to GMT has been installed. Unfortunately, it was not possible to set it within the clock surround without re-laying the wet pour therefore it is installed in the grass at the foot of the clock. However, I am satisfied that this should not cause any significant problem with mowing/strimming.

The new bed in the wall at the Blind Lane entrance has been weeded and will be planted out with bedding plants this week pending a decision on a more permanent display. Wimborne in Bloom has suggested options for the Committee to consider at a future meeting for planting in the autumn.

The resurfacing of the hard tennis courts has been completed.

The small goal posts on the back field have been removed for repainting.

The bottom rung of the rope ladder on the Kompan multi-use play equipment has been replaced.

All grass will be mown and strimmed this week.

Removal of suckers on the lime trees has begun.

The wild flower beds are beginning to show signs of budding but the one nearest the groundsman's lodge is slower and has small bare patches. Some further seeds will be sown this week in the hope that they will germinate.

The small replanted lime near the roundhouse appears to be dead and will be replaced.

LEIGH PARK PLAYING FIELD

All grass cutting and strimming is to be undertaken this week or next.

Weedkilling of the adventure play area will be carried out as soon as possible.

Some dog bins need raising on their supports.

The climbing rope in the adventure play area has been replaced.

Hedges will be trimmed at the end of the month.

Dog Warden Patrol Report

Month: **APRIL 2018**

Parish: **WIMBORNE**

Total Hours: **8**

Date	Time Started	Time Finished	Comments
3/4/2018	12.00	13.00	Patrolled Leigh Park. No dogs walkers seen.
5/3/2018	11.30	12.30	Patrolled Redcotts, 3 MOP seen with dogs, of which 2 were seen to pick up.
9/4/2018	15.00	16.00	Patrolled Leigh Park. One MOP seen with a dog and picked up.
11/4/2018	12.15	13.15	Patrolled Redcotts. 5 MOP seen with dogs, of which three were seen to pick up, no DFD seen on the paths but 2 on the playing field.
13/4/2018	12.00	13.00	Patrolled the Rec. 5 MOP seen with dogs, of which 3 were seen to pick up.
23/4/2018	15.30	16.30	Patrolled Leigh Park, 2 MOP seen, one seen to pick up.
25/4/2018	12.15	13.15	Patrolled the Rec, 3 MOP seen, of which 2 were seen to pick up .No DFD observed on the paths, one seen on the pitch.
26/4/2018	14.15	15.15	Patrolled Leigh Park, one MOP seen with a dog and picked up.