

**WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY 9 JULY 2019** at **6.30 pm** in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Wimborne Minster.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cllr C L Butter  
Cllr C A Chedgy  
Cllr D J March  
Cllr W J Richmond  
Cllr A E Roberts  
Cllr S K Bartlett – Ex-Officio – Chairman of the Council  
Cllr K F Webb – Ex-Officio – Vice-Chairman of the Council

**COMMITTEE MEMBER NOT PRESENT**

Cllr L C Hinks

**OFFICER PRESENT**

Administration Officer

Chairman of the Council presiding.

**48** **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2019/2020**

**RESOLVED** that Cllr W J Richmond be elected Chairman of the Committee for the 2019/2020 municipal year.

Cllr W J Richmond in the Chair.

**49** **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 2019/2020**

**RESOLVED** that Cllr A E Roberts be elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the 2019/2020 municipal year.

**50** **RECREATION GROUNDS INSPECTION REPORT**

The Administration Officer 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 respect of Redcotts Recreation Ground, concern was expressed that hedge cutting had been undertaken before the end of July when birds might still be nesting. The Administration Officer commented that light hedge trimming was always undertaken at this time of year but she would look at the legislation.

Cllr Bartlett requested that the concrete table tennis table acquired for Leigh Park Playing Field which had been repaired and moved to Redcotts Recreation Ground be moved back to Leigh Park and relocated

in the refurbished Adventure Play Area. This was agreed by the Committee. The Administration Officer would seek advice from the Community & Open Spaces Manager as to what was the most suitable surface to be laid under the table tennis table.

The Administration Officer was requested to investigate whether weed killer had been used in the Redcotts Recreation Ground play area.

Cllr Bartlett reported that the Town Clerk would be investigating whether the tiger mulch surface in the play area was still under guarantee as it was already showing signs of wear and some repairs had had to be carried out.

There was a discussion as to whether to have the Fields in Trust plaque which was installed at Leigh Park Playing Field, painted, similar to the one at Redcotts Recreation Ground. There was a fault in the manufacturing process and the plaque was oxidising. Cllr March commented that a third plaque had been acquired as a spare and this could be used as a replacement. The Administration Officer would investigate.

51 **REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND -CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH**

The Administration Officer submitted a copy email requesting permission to hold a charity football match on the Recreation Ground, 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.

**RESOLVED that permission be granted provided that the organisers have suitable public liability insurance.**

52 **POLICY ON MEMORIAL BENCHES**

Cllr Chedgy reported that she was aware that the Town Council did not currently have a policy or contract in place for memorial benches which were requested by members of the public from time to time.

She felt that such a policy would assist in monitoring and controlling the use of benches, particularly where they were constantly being covered with floral tributes thereby preventing others from sitting on the bench concerned. This would become more important as additional recreational areas were transferred to the Town Council.

**RESOLVED that Cllr Chedgy draft a policy and contract for consideration by the Committee on the installation of memorial benches and other items that may be funded/donated by members of the public.**

Cllr Bartlett left the meeting.

53 **REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND -SENSORY/DEMENTIA FRIENDLY GARDEN (Min 23.01.18)**

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.

Cllr Roberts had asked for this item to be included on the agenda so that the Committee could consider again the proposed construction of a sensory/dementia friendly garden at Redcotts Recreation Ground.

The report set out the history of this project and why no progress had been made.

Cllr Bartlett had expressed an opinion during the discussion on the previous item that people could be encouraged to donate a plant to a memorial garden rather than leaving floral tributes on park benches. A suitable plaque would be placed next to the plant.

He was keen for a memorial garden to be created as part of/instead of a sensory/dementia friendly garden. Cllr March was also in favour of a memorial garden, possibly including a bench similar to the one outside the Wimborne Branch of the Royal British Legion.

Cllr Chedgy felt that any such garden would be better sited in a different location and suggested that a decision should not be made on the location until the other recreation areas due to be transferred into the ownership of the Town Council had been completed. A more holistic approach could then be taken.

**RESOLVED that a decision as to the location and exact nature of the garden be deferred until the other parcels of land had been transferred into the ownership of the Town Council.**

54 **DOG WARDEN PATROL CONTRACT**

The Administration Officer reported that the dog warden patrol service had resumed from 1 July 2019. The new contract from Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council, was still awaited but should be received shortly.

The Administration Officer was asked to ascertain whether the grounds staff had noticed any increase in dog faecal deposits during the period when patrols had been suspended and also to find out if the patrols were carried out at different times of the day.

55 **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.**

56            **MAPLE TREES – REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND**  
**(Min 190 – 05.03.19)**

See confidential Min. 56/396

57            **REDCOTTS RECREATION GROUND - GRASS TENNIS**  
**COURTS (Min 44 – 18.06.19)**

See confidential Min. 57/397

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm

Signed .....Date.....  
Town Mayor and Chairman of the Council

**RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE**

**Date:** 9 July 2019  
**Reference:** Recreation Ground Inspection  
**Author:** Administration Officer

A Recreation Grounds inspection was carried out by Cllrs Richmond and Roberts on 20 May 2019 (report previously circulated to Members) and a further inspection was carried out by Cllr Roberts on 28 June 2019 and 1 July 2019. Items identified in the latest inspection are included in the report below.

**Redcotts Recreation Ground**

- Repairs to the goalposts is ongoing.
- The tops of hedges have been cut. The Victoria Road hedge is to be cut w/c 8 July 2019.
- The table tennis table from Leigh Park has been moved to Redcotts. A suitable ground surface is to be laid.
- Suckers on lime trees to be removed.
- A repair kit has been ordered to repair the hole beneath the swings. The work will be undertaken by the ground staff.
- The gaps between the upper and lower bolted sections of the safety chute-wall have been eradicated.
- The ground staff have been reminded of the need to empty the bins each morning.
- Play tunnel – the weeds covering this are to be removed.
- Convolvulus to be removed from the hedges.
- Quotes to be obtained to repair brickwork and edging around the drain covers.
- A replacement hedging plant to be purchased for pavilion hedging.

**Leigh Park**

- The concrete edging around the equipment in the toddler play area has been removed by the contractor.
- A large clump of tarmac in the Adventure Playground needs to be removed.
- The new grass in the Adventure Playground contains a large amount of weeds. Weed and feed to be undertaken in the Autumn.
- Stones, some large, that are embedded in the new grass to be removed.
- Consideration to be given to painting The Fields in Trust plaque, (similar to the one at Redcotts).
- The garden at the Community Centre to be weeded and a self-seeded sycamore tree removed.
- Lime tree suckers to be removed.
- Weeds around the edges of the toddler area to be removed/strimmed.
- The ground staff to repair the dents appearing in the wet pour surface under the seesaw.

The Committee is requested to consider:

- a. what surface surround it would prefer for the second table tennis table at Redcotts;
- b. whether to have the Fields of Trust plaque at Leigh Park painted.

From: [REDACTED] >  
Sent: 02 April 2019 16:06  
To: Finance <[finance@wimborne.gov.uk](mailto:finance@wimborne.gov.uk)>  
Subject: Fwd: Redcotts Football Pitch Hire - 17th August 2019

**Subject: Redcotts Football Pitch Hire - 17th August**

Hi,

My friend [REDACTED] from Allendale FC gave me your details. I previously used to play for Allendale and I help organise the French twinning events with Valognes.

I am trying to organise a separate charity football match on 17th August and hoped we could use Redcotts.

We are raising money to help out a really sad story for a friend of mine who was tragically murdered in China a few years back. His son is still in China and we are trying to get him back to the UK to be reunited with the rest of his family. You can read more about it below in this BBC article and on the Just Giving page.

BBC News - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/amp/uk-england-suffolk-46504829>

Just Giving Page

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jack-and-alice>

He was a local chap and we all grew up in Merley, Wimborne together.

Fingers crossed you can help us out.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Hi Shelagh,

Yes please. I am seeing the Allendale FC cohort this weekend and can liaise with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who I have known for decades and are all actively involved with the club on a regular basis.

I do have a few other options in the cards, if any of those come to fruition before your meeting I will let you know so that no time is wasted on the subject at the meeting.

Fyi

- 1) roughly 30/50spectators
- 2) no trade stalls
- 3) no public liability insurance (although I am sure the Allendale FC link may help here)
- 4) afternoon kick off any time after 1pm would be ideal

Kind Regards

**RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE**

**Date:** 9 July 2019  
**Reference:** Redcotts Recreation Ground – Sensory/Dementia Friendly Garden  
**Author:** Town Clerk

Cllr Roberts has asked for this item to be raised again at this Committee. For the benefit of new Councillors and as a reminder for re-elected Councillors, I set out below a brief history of this proposal.

When the Council was considering the future of the grass tennis courts in 2017/18, the tennis coach had asked to lease two grass courts which he would fence and maintain.

At that time Members considered what to do with the grassed areas on either side of the two courts.

On the petanque pitch side it was suggested that a sensory/dementia friendly garden be constructed and Diana Guy had offered, through a former Councillor, to provide a suitable design. Although site visits were held and despite reminders no design was forthcoming.

Since that time some Members have expressed the view privately to me that they are unsure whether Redcotts Recreation Ground is the correct location for a sensory/dementia friendly garden and whether a town centre site might be better.

During the budgetary process for the 2018/19 financial year a number of Recreation & Leisure Committee projects including this one were considered, the cost of which totalled £35,000.

Given the tight budget under which the Town Council was working these schemes were deferred and a fund was started with a sum of £10,000 which was intended to be built up over the years to finance these and other projects in Redcotts Recreation Ground called 'the Redcotts Future Development Fund'

All these projects were added to the Action Plan which is currently being monitored and prioritised by the Personnel, Policy & Strategy Committee.

In view of the budgetary position for 2019/20 no money was added to the Redcotts Future Development Fund for this financial year.

If the Committee wishes to proceed with this scheme it needs to be referred to the Personnel, Policy & Strategy Committee and subsequently to Council.