



Whitchurch Town Council

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MINUTES OF THE PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30th APRIL 2015

PRESENT

Councillors: Cllrs T O'Neill (chairman), B Duffy, T Harris and M Rigley

IN ATTENDANCE

M Wilson (Town Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr R Hewson – Unwell
Cllr B Slater – Unwell
Cllr Sinnott – Another engagement

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

3. MINUTES

After a proposal by Councillor Rigley and seconded by Councillor Harris
PC/18/1415 RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on **11th Dec 2014** agreed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

After a proposal by Councillor Duffy and seconded by Councillor Harris **PC/19/1415 RESOLVED** standing orders was suspended for a member of the public to ask questions. Nicky Young explained the Party in the Park and the actives going to take place. After a proposal by Councillor O'Neil and seconded by Councillor Harris **PC/20/1415 RESOLVED** to implement standing orders.

6. Hanging Baskets

Cllr O'Neill is going to walk around the town with Nobridge and arrange for the replacements. There are 110 baskets to be hung up in the town. The 5 ways traffic lights are used to have the baskets on a pole but they have been removed and suggestions as to where they should be placed in the town were made. After a proposal by Councillor O'Neil and seconded by Councillor Rigley **PC/21/1314 RESOLVED** that explorations into put these flower arrangements at the back on the Civic in the car park by the footpath and the bollards.

7. Wheatsheaf Drive play area

The area does not have any play equipment; councillors discussed buying equipment or disposing the land. It was agreed that Cllr O'Neill would consult residents to ask the needs of the area.

8. Wet land and sink holes areas in the park.

Recently sink holes have appeared in the park, the contractor Nobridge nurseries have fill in the holes but it would seem there is an underlying problem and a problem with flooding. Cllr Harris explained that the where Stags Brook is piped through the park and it would seem that this is not the problem. Discussions around placing a camera into the piped water to make sure there is no problems with the joints and asking Nobridge (the parks contractor) to dig up the area and take a look to see if they can find a cause. Cllr Harris explained that he believed that the clay needed to be removed as the park is built on the old canal and it needed to drain off.

Cllr O'Neill also informed the members that a visit from Meres and Mosses Landscape partnership took place and it was suggested that the wet areas in the park were not mown so that an Ecologist could take a look at the wildlife in the area and afterwards plant some wildlife seeds to attract more into the park.

9. Party in the Park

Party in the park takes place each year and the committee have requested to hold it on 6th June 2015. Cllr O'Neill proposed that as it was an event for the town that the committee could have permission and they need not ask each year for permission. A discussion around inclement weather and moving the venue to the Civic was discussed and agreement that should it rain provisions could be made for them to use the Civic Centre. After a proposal by Councillor O'Neill and seconded by Councillor Rigley **PC/22/1415 RESOLVED** allow 'party in the park' and the committee could have permission each year and if it's raining some use of the Civic could be made available in areas not hired.

10. Benches

Three benches have been donated by Stoke Heath prison therefore none needed.

11. Nationwide Whitchurch event

After a discussion as to where to plant the Oak tree it was agreed that the clerk would make enquiries with Shropshire Council to plant it in the Country Park.

12. Update on free trees and bushes

Cllr O'Neill informed members where the tree and bushes had been planted in Jubilee park.

13. SKATE BOARD PARK

Cllr O'Neill informed members that the old shed had now been taken down, the water and electric had been moved to the existing contractors shed. A meeting concerning consultation would be taking place at St John Talbots school to discuss a plan of action.

14. Exercise Equipment

Councillors discussed the merits of exercise equipment not just for adults but for children too. It was agreed that consultation was needed before as three years ago this was highlighted and only three people responded to the requests made at the time. The clerk informed councillors that the equipment could be fully funded by a grant and therefore would be no cost to the Town Council. It was agreed if there was sufficient interest to apply for a grant for exercise equipment through a lottery grant at no cost to the Town Council. After a proposal by Councillor O'Neill and seconded by Councillor Rigley **PC/23/1415 RESOLVED** to apply for funding of the equipment if there is interest.

15. Confidential Business (if any)

None

16. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

No Confidential business.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Chairman



Dated 2/4/15