

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee held on
23 January 2014 at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway.**

Present: Cllrs. M. Grotzke (in the Chair)
Mrs E. Martin
P. Cottrell
S. Scott
M. Greensword
C. Mills

In attendance: Mr. L. Brooks, Pretoria Road Allotments

1. Pretoria Road Allotments

Mr. Brooks reported that the committee had decided that, in place of the additional raised beds for which the Council had given a grant in this financial year of £1,500, they would like to construct three 6ft composting bays which could be used by the allotment holders. This facility was needed due to the closure of the community compost site by SGC at the end of December.

There was a discussion on the best means of construction of these bays. The site chosen was adjacent to the raised beds, in the centre of the site, where they would be easily accessible to all tenants. It was hoped that there would be enough money remaining to purchase materials for a noticeboard by the gate which would be constructed by Men in Sheds.

The Committee agreed to the use of the £1,500 grant for these purposes.

Mr. Brooks also informed the Committee that Wessex Water had approached him and the Clerk about running a pipe across Scott Park and the allotment site to take excess water from the drilling works in the grounds of the Youth Centre to the inspection chamber at the Newnham Place end of the allotment site. These works were scheduled to take one year. It was agreed that Mr. Brooks and the Clerk would meet the Wessex staff and agree a route which would cause least disturbance to users of the Park and allotment site.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Brooks for his attendance and he then left the meeting.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman asked members to declare any interests on matters to be discussed.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held 28 November were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

a) Skateboard fencing

The Committee discussed a letter from a resident querying the need for this fence and it was agreed to ask the new Youth Leader to speak to young people to check whether they considered the fence was essential, before proceeding with the order, proposed Cllr. Mills, seconded Cllr. Martin. It was noted that the order had been placed with Fencing Services Ltd. after the last meeting of the Committee.

b) Meeting with RBL

It was noted that this meeting had been arranged for 12 February at 7.30 p.m. at the Legion to discuss a suitable commemoration of those who died in the two World Wars and later conflicts.

6. Patchway Community Sports Association

A report was given on the meeting of the Association held the previous evening. Roger Loveridge, its Chairman, had read a report at the Scott Park Advisory Committee, on the group's vision for sport in Patchway, which is summarised below.

The Association feels that there is a real danger of Patchway being left behind as new communities grow nearby with major investment in sport and leisure activities.

Although there are many clubs offering a wide variety of sports locally, the quality of sports facilities is poor and deteriorating. The vision is based around three themes of improving facilities, making young people a focus and ensuring people have access to our high quality clubs. There are two clubs in Patchway with world class elite performers, Bristol BMX and Harriers Gymnastics and the Association feels this provides us with a unique

opportunity in the light of monies being made available through the Charlton Hayes s.106 contribution for sport.

The Committee agreed unanimously that it would work with the Association to develop the sports vision for Patchway.

One other point raised by Mr. Loveridge was that due to financial cutbacks by SGC, Rob Stirzaker, the Sports Development Officer who has been supporting the Association for several years, will no longer be able to do this. The Association would like to ask the Town Council for a grant to employ a co-ordinator for 2 hours a week in order that the development of the sports vision can continue. The Committee asked the Sports Association to make a formal grant application which could be considered at the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

7. Report from Advisory Committees

There were no problems raised at the Patchway Common meeting. The Committee was pleased to hear that the Portuguese community members, who use the Pavilion, want to organise events for this year's Pathway Festival. The Conservation Group and Groundstaff have worked with other volunteers to lay the hedge along the Bradley Stoke side of the Avenue playing field.

At the Scott Park meeting Clubs reported on the good condition of the pitches. The Cricket Club reported on the success of their centenary celebrations and said that they had established a good relationship with three local primary schools where they would be coaching children again this year between 9-11 years.

8. Matters raised by Councillors and Clerk

Burial Committee

Cllr. Scott raised problems with the joint management of the cemetery with Almondsbury Parish Council and the Committee agreed that the Clerk should seek independent legal advice.

9. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 27 February at 7.30 pm at Callicroft House.