

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

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

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

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Scott and Mills.

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 20 February were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, proposed Cllr. Martin, seconded Cllr. Cottrell.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

a) Wessex Water works in Park and Allotment Site

Councillors noted the letter from Wessex assuring the Council that any accidents caused by the overflow pipe in the Park and particularly in the play area would be covered by their Public Liability insurance policy. The Committee noted information, which had been circulated, of the route of the main sewer works and the fact that Coniston Road would not be closed during the excavations, although temporary traffic lights would be in operation.

b) Skateboard Area Fencing

The Committee noted the report given at the Council meeting by the Youth Manager that young people using the skateboard area had requested fencing to stop balls from the main football pitch hitting them. It was noted that this would not involve installing fencing all round the area but just on one side. The Committee noted that the Council had already purchased the fencing and agreed to ask the contractor to install a line of fencing

between the skateboard area and the main pitch and that consideration would be given at a later date to other sites where the remainder of the fencing could be utilised.

c) Replacement door to garage

The Clerk was asked to request the contractor who installed the up and over door which had had to be replaced for his comments on the poor quality of the original door.

6. Blakeney Road Allotments

After a discussion on the poor take-up of allotments at this site, it was agreed to relax the restriction on tenants from outside Patchway to a maximum of one-third of out of parish tenants, who would pay the out of parish rent.

7. Information boards for all play areas

Cllr. Gordon had asked for this item to be raised but, in his absence, it was agreed not to proceed on the grounds that sign boards were likely to be damaged.

8. Street Care changes in service from 1 April

The Committee expressed its concern that SGC had gone back on its agreement made with the Council in 2003 that they would dispose of litter collected by our street sweeper, despite the fact that litter collection was their responsibility. Nevertheless, the Committee agreed it was important to maintain the level of cleanliness in Patchway and that the Town Council would have to pay to dispose of the litter collected by our staff. It was noted that, if the skip were emptied once a month by Viridor, the annual cost would be £2,220.

The Committee also noted that the Council had opted to empty the 23 dog bins weekly and dispose of the material. The Council would require a Euro Bin from Viridor which would be stored in Scott Park and emptied weekly. The annual cost of this bin would be £713.92.

It was proposed by Cllr. Martin, seconded by Cllr. Greensword and unanimously agreed that these two bins should be provided from 1 April.

9. Groundsmen's Reports

The Committee noted the reports from the groundsmen which are attached to the minutes. Councillors were pleased to note that poppies had been planted in

the grass by the entrance to Scott Park and that new planting had been carried out in the Memorial Garden.

The Committee noted that the cost to verti-drain, sand and re-seed the four football pitches at the end of the season would be £5,836 and agreed that this work should be carried out in May, proposed Cllr. Greensword, seconded Cllr. Cottrell.

10. Matters raised by Councillors and Clerk

It was agreed that the fencing work at the Newnham Place end of the allotment site included in the budget for 2014-15 should be carried out as soon as possible to tidy up this area.

The Committee was pleased to hear that a mobile phone company could be willing to contribute funds towards improving the football pitch at Patchway Common at the request of Patchway Northend Football Club. Confirmation was awaited.

11. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 24 April at 7.30 pm at Callicroft House.