

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee held on
26 February 2015 at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway.**

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

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Martin.

2. Declarations of Interest

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

3. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held 29 January were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, proposed Cllr. Mills, seconded Cllr. Grotzke.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Footpath in Scott Park

The Committee noted that work had commenced on the tarmac paths and would continue for several weeks.

b) 321 Running Route

The Committee was pleased to see the artwork for an interpretation board to be installed by SGC at the entrance to Scott Park describing the running route round the Park, which would be marked out when the path work was completed.

5. Litter bins for bus shelters

After discussion, the Committee agreed to support the Planning Committee's wish to purchase 10 small metal litter bins to be fixed to bus shelters, or adjacent to them, to reduce the amount of litter dropped at bus stops. The purchase would be covered by the budget for repairs to bus shelters and the cost of each bin would be £131.

6. War Memorial site in Scott Park

The Committee circulated photographs taken at a recent site visit and discussed the site proposed by the British Legion Branch for the new War Memorial facing the car park. The proposal of the RBL was that the car park would be used as a parade ground for the Remembrance Day ceremony each year and that a section of the hedge alongside the car park would be taken out as well as three small trees. The Committee agreed to this site.

The Committee also circulated photographs of various memorials installed recently by the Co-op Masonry Service. After discussion, the Committee agreed that it would like a similar style of memorial to the existing one in Rodway Road – a cross with steps, which would give space to engrave the names from the two World Wars. Councillors preferred granite to marble as this was more long-lasting. It was agreed that the area would be defined by small posts and chains and the plinth would be surrounded by paving to give a hard surface on which to lay the wreaths.

The Clerk would obtain a quotation from the Co-op based on the above decisions.

7. Groundsmen's Reports

The Committee noted the reports from the groundsmen which are attached to the minutes.

Further to last month's report, it was noted that the new dog bin for Spruce Way had been installed. It was noted that a small second-hand vertidrain with hollow tines had been sourced for the sum of £4,800 and the Committee agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Mills, seconded Cllr. Grotzke, to purchase this from the machinery budget as it would improve the drainage of the football pitches.

8. Matters raised by Members or Clerk

a) Benches installed as part of Sustainable Transport funding

The Committee noted that 6 red metal benches had been installed by SGC as part of easier walking routes in Patchway. It was suggested that, if SGC did not object, litter bins should be installed alongside the benches.

b) Street lights: part-night lighting

It was noted that the Clerk had taken up issues raised by residents with SGC and Merlin. If queries were still outstanding at the end of March, it was agreed that members of the Committee would attend the meeting of the Planning & Transport Committee on Tuesday 24 March for a joint discussion.

- c) Parking issues
Cllr. Grotzke raised the concerns of residents and it was noted that this matter had been discussed at the Planning & Transport meeting and actions agreed.
- d) Common Land
The Clerk had circulated a paper with attached plans concerning the area of Registered Common Land in The Common (East) with a small portion in The Common. It was noted that Patchway TC had asked Bradley Stoke in 1992 if they could maintain this land, although most of it was in Bradley Stoke, due to the community ties with the residents and the fact that Patchway Conservation Group had held monthly workdays there for many years. With the change in boundaries from April 2015, it seemed an appropriate time to end this informal arrangement and the Committee supported this. The Clerk was asked to check the legal position with the SGC Legal Department, particularly as it related to Stoke Lodge & The Common Parish Council and to report back to the Council.
- e) Fly tipping
There was a discussion on the difficult position the Council found itself in relating to fly tipping in the back lanes of the Callicroft Ward. SGC had stated that they regarded the margins of the lanes as private property so unless the material was on the tarmac surface of the lane, they would not remove dumped material. Following complaints from residents, the Town Council had removed some large items from two lanes and taken a truck-load of material to the waste transfer station at Avonmouth at a cost of £65. It was suggested that the Clerk should take advice on the options for the Council and that this subject would be discussed again.
The Committee noted that there was a similar problem in the Coniston Ward but as this land was controlled by Merlin Housing, the Clerk would take up this matter with the Patchway housing office. Councillors considered that there might be new residents in the Merlin properties who were not aware of the regulations concerning disposal of waste material. This point would be made to the housing office.
- f) Other issues
The Clerk was asked to arrange for several red and white sand-filled barriers to be moved from the end of Sycamore Drive and to ask the street cleaner to check the footpath along the hedge from Cedar Close to Coniston Rod for litter and dog waste. The Clerk reported that the anti-dog fouling posters were in preparation.

9. **Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 26 March at Patchway Common Pavilion, commencing at 8 p.m.