

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee held on 20 September 2016 at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway.

Present: Cllrs. P. Cottrell (in the Chair)
E. Orpen
R. Loveridge
E. Martin
R. Messenger
E. Gordon (substitute for Cllr. Mills)

In attendance: Mr. J. Franklin for item 1.
Mr. G. Osborne, Groundsman

1. Presentation alternative surfaces for MUGAs

The Chairman welcomed Julian Mortimer from Caloo Ltd. Mr. Mortimer explained that there were three possible surfaces for a Multi-Use Games Area, tarmac, polymeric or sand based. Each was suitable for different uses and the committee agreed that it was essential that the surface chosen would benefit most people in Patchway. It was also important to take into consideration the information provided by Jason Franklin of the Patchway Community Sports Association in a recent survey of the expected usage from various local sports clubs.

Tarmac surfaces were suitable for tennis, basketball and netball.

Polymeric surfaces were suitable for 5 a-side football and basketball

3G sport surfacing (which is an artificial turf with sand and rubber infill) was suitable for football and rugby.

Mr. Franklin explained that this surface could be enhanced by adding a shock pad to make it more suitable for contact sports such as rugby.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Mortimer for his presentation and he and Mr. Franklin then left the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Mills.

3. Declarations of Interest

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

4. Minutes of Parks & Open Spaces Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 July were agreed and signed by the Chairman with the exception of Minute 4c) Survey of Park which had been referred back to the Committee by the Council on the recommendation of Cllr. Cottrell.

Cllr. Loveridge objected to the way in which the Chairman of Council had set aside the proposed working group and referred the progress of the project back to the Committee. The Clerk explained that she had asked the Chairman to look again at the decision to set up a working group to take action during August when the Council was in recess due to the fact that the Council had not taken decisions on the following important matters: how to fit football pitches around the MUGA; the size of the MUGA; the surface of the MUGA (rubber or sand); the proposal to move the MUGA to the site of the present hardcourt; the fact that there were no funds for rebuilding the pavilion (although we have a drawing/quote from Kitto). The Chairman had then called a site visit on 7 September, notes of which were circulated and are attached to the minutes, and referred action back to this Committee.

Cllr. Loveridge accepted that he now appreciated that the Clerk was correct to have taken this action and that there was no reason why the Parks & Open Spaces Committee itself could not discuss and take action on the matter.

Cllr. Orpen apologised to Councillors for supporting the setting up of a working party at the July meeting and also to Cllr. Cottrell for not involving him in the setting aside of the working group proposal. Cllr. Cottrell accepted the apology and it was agreed to proceed to next business.

As the time was 9.30 p.m., it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders for completion of business.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Memorial Bench

The Committee noted that the bench in memory of Ken Beard had been installed as agreed and suggested that this should be mentioned in Patchway People.

6. Development of Scott Park in the light of the survey of the park

The Committee examined the survey of the Park recently carried out and noted that at the site meeting two possible sites for the MUGA, measuring 35m x 46m, had been discussed. The Groundsman stated that in his opinion the site adjacent to the pavilion would be preferable from a maintenance point of view and it would enable the bottom pitch to be moved up to the end of top pitch. Access for users of the MUGA would be short and direct from this site. At the site visit it had been seen that the length of the MUGA could be extended by several meters. The Committee

thanked Gary for his advice and, after discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Loveridge, seconded by Cllr. Gordon and unanimously agreed.

The Committee then discussed the surface of the MUGA, taking into consideration the information given under Minute 1. In view of the usage requested by North Bristol Rugby Club and Aretians Rugby Club as well as various football clubs, it was unanimously agreed, proposed Cllr. Loveridge, seconded Cllr. Gordon, that the surface should be sand based with a shock pad.

It was agreed that the Clerk should now obtain at least three quotations for the MUGA which could be considered by the Committee, once these decisions had been endorsed by the Council.

7. Groundsman's Report

The report was circulated and introduced by Gary Osborne and is attached to the minutes.

The Committee asked Gary to write a report on the mower which had been hired for the highway verges, which he stated was a very useful piece of equipment, saving significant time on mowing. This matter could then be discussed at a future meeting.

The Committee thanked all the groundstaff for their hard work during the year.

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday 18 October at 7.30 p.m. at Callicroft House.