

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee held on
20 April 2017 at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway.**

Present: Cllrs. P. Cottrell (in the Chair)
Mrs E. Martin
R. Loveridge
K. Walker
Mrs E. Orpen
Ms R. Messenger

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Gordon.

2. Declarations of Interest

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

3. Minutes of Parks & Open Spaces Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 March were agreed and signed by the Chairman, proposed Cllr. Loveridge, seconded Cllr. Martin.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Dog fouling

Councillors were pleased to see the new “glow in the dark” dog fouling signs which would be erected at sites where the problem was particularly bad.

b) Scott Park sports development

After discussion, it was agreed that no action could be taken on the sports development application until SGC had published its Sports Strategy, which was expected in May. It was noted that Sport England was currently carrying out an Active Lives Survey in Patchway to ascertain residents’ interest in sport and other active pursuits, but it was not known if this was related to the Sports Strategy. It was agreed that when the Strategy was received, the Council would comment on the necessity of sports development in Scott Park, making the point that Patchway was a priority neighbourhood. It was noted that the Council had agreed that this development would, in future, only be discussed at the Parks & Open Spaces Committee.

- c) Fencing Quotations
The Committee noted that three quotations had been obtained for the agreed work to replace the 2m high galvanised palisade fencing along the back lane of Pretoria Road with the allotment site, including new double gates to improve access to the site.
It was agreed to accept the lowest quotation of £9,553 plus VAT from Fencing Services Ltd. and to put the work in hand as soon as possible.

5. Groundsman's Report

The report was circulated and noted and is attached to the minutes.
There was a discussion on the report that the Cricket Club had not had its equipment repaired following the Council's decision that the groundstaff would not use unsafe equipment. This was hampering preparation of the square for the forthcoming cricket season and the Clerk was in touch with the Club on this issue.

Councillors asked if the pond at Gorse Covert could be cleared of rubbish and the litter bin in Coniston Road/Sycamore Drive junction could be emptied.

6. Other matters raised by Members and the Clerk

- a) Memorial Benches
In response to questions, the Clerk said that the benches would shortly be installed in the enlarged memorial garden in the Park.
- b) Arlingham Way Pocket Park
The residents who were maintaining this area had asked if the Council could install 2 spring animals in the grassed area and it was agreed that the Clerk should obtain costings for supply and fixing for the next meeting.
- c) Fencing in Coniston Road
Councillors asked whether SGC would consider fencing along Coniston Road to stop residents parking on the verges. The Clerk would make enquiries.
- d) Basketball Court
A request had been received from youth workers that the basketball court should be resurfaced and remarked as this game was now very popular with the youth centre members who used the court on Thursday evenings. It was agreed to inform the youth workers that the relocation of this facility was being considered due to plans for a MUGA to replace the hard court.

7. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 16 May at 7.30 p.m. at Scott Park Pavilion, following the Scott Park Advisory Committee at 7 p.m. It was agreed that this meeting would commence with a walk round the Park to look at a possible site for a basketball court when the present hard court was moved.