

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parks & Open Spaces held on 17 July 2018
at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway.**

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

In attendance: Mr. J. Franklin (Patchway Community
Mr. J. Thomas (Sports Association

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Butler and Coleman and Mr. P. Thompson (Community Sports Assn).

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 19 June were agreed and signed by the Chairman, proposed Cllr. Messenger, seconded Cllr. Cottrell.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

a) Sports Development in Scott Park

Cllr. Loveridge reported that, thanks to the work of the adviser, the planning application had now been submitted to SGC and registered on 16 July. A decision was awaited, which was likely to take 6-8 weeks.

Although the Committee was in support of a new basketball court, it was agreed to check with Sport England that they would not be concerned about the loss of green space. The Clerk was asked to obtain a price from Slatter for a basketball court.

Mr. Franklin said that he would complete the business plan for the site over the summer.

b) War Memorial

An estimate and drawings had been received from a designer and 3-D printer and these were passed round the meeting. The anticipated cost of the design and production was £5,000-7,500 and the designer, Mark Bryant, offered to come present his ideas to Councillors. The Committee was very pleased with the design and it was agreed to invite Mr. Bryant to attend the following week, at the beginning of the Planning meeting. It was also agreed to keep the British Legion Branch informed of discussions.

c) Solar Lights

Cllr. Dando stated that he would like a solar light in the Park to evaluate efficiency. It was, however, suggested that enquiries were made to find another site where solar lights had been installed in a similar sight.

5. Gorse Covert

Cllr. Gordon spoke of the importance of the pond on the Linnet Close side of the wood, which had been restored some years ago. He asked whether there were grants available as the site was in a bad state of repair at present.

The Clerk would discuss the possibility with SGC, but it was agreed that volunteer involvement in such a conservation project was very important.

6. Annual Safety Inspection of Play Equipment

The Committee agreed, proposed Cllr. Martin, seconded Cllr. Dando that the prices obtained for repairing the disabled swings and disabled slide, replacing one spring animal in Scott Park at £425 should be accepted. The Committee agreed new resin surfacing under the disabled roundabout at a cost of £1,520.

7. Groundsman's Report

The report was circulated, discussed and is attached to these Minutes.

The groundstaff had been concentrating on maintaining the Park to a high standard for the Festival.

It was noted that the cricket square and planted areas were requiring regular watering during the hot, dry weather.

The Chairman thanked the groundstaff and all volunteers who had worked hard to ensure the Community Fair in the Park which opened Patchway Festival had been a great success.

8. Other urgent matters

a) Litter bin

Cllr. Gordon asked whether a litter/dog bin could be installed in Willow Close, near houses 1-2.

b) Groundstaff

Cllr. Dando suggested that the Chair of the Parks Committee should meet regularly with the groundstaff. It was agreed that this matter should be considered by the Council.

c) Newnham Place

The Clerk reported on a site visit with SGC, Knightstone Housing and Pretoria Road Allotments Association, to look at plans to build housing on the former garage area at Newnham Place, adjacent to the allotment fence. SGC Property Services stated that the fence was not on the correct line but that the developer would move this and reinstate the land at no cost to the Council. The Clerk had pointed out that access was required by Wessex Water to their inspection chamber in the allotment site, so the double gate into the site would need to be retained. The Committee noted that the Legal Department of SGC would send a letter of confirmation to the Council in due course.

9. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 18 September at 7.30 pm. at Callicroft House.