

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parks, Open Spaces, Planning and Transport committee held on the Tuesday 8th October 2024 at 20:00 at The Lewis Gray Boardroom, Callicroft House, Patchway.

Councillors: Cllr Natalie Field (chair), Cllr Jenny James, Cllr Dayley Lawrence, Cllr Angela Morey (20.04), Cllr Keith Walker.

In attendance: Sue Howard (Town Clerk); Jon Watkins (Deputy Town Clerk and RFO), Claire Nicoll and Chris Nicoll, (Pretoria Road Allotment Association), Will Todd and Sheila Dickinson (Blakeney Road Allotments), Alex Dommett (Patchway and Charlton Hayes Wildlife Group), Steve Payne (Stoke Lane FC).

Absent: Cllr P Cottrell

Members of the Public: None.

As the time was 20:00, the Chair, Cllr Natalie Field called the meeting to order and informed all participants that the meeting would be recorded in line with The Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014 (SI2014/2095) and Patchway Town Council' protocol on the filming and recording of Town Council, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings.

08/10/2024 – No 1. To receive questions from the members of the public present, with respect to business on the agenda in accordance with Standing Order 4E.
None received.

08/10/2024 – No 2. To receive any apologies for absence.
The committee noted apologies from Julia French (Bristol Jets BMX Club), Paul Thompson (Patchway Cricket Club) and Andy England (Patchway Town FC)

08/10/2024 - No 3. To receive any declarations of interest and to consider any requests for dispensations for this meeting.

The Chairman stated that any member having a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed should declare it during the meeting as specified in the Code of Conduct required by the Localism Act 2011 Section 27 and should leave the room while the matter was discussed.

None received.

08/10/2024 – No 4. To approve the minutes of the Parks, Open Spaces, Planning and Transport Committee held on Tuesday 9th July 2024 and to note the Deputy Clerk/RFO report for this meeting.
RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record and to note the Deputy Clerk/RFO report.

08/10/2024 - No 5. To review the Patchway Town Council hire rates for 2025/2026

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to defer this item to Full Council due to all Council hire rates including non-sporting facilities included on the document.

08/10/2024 - No 6. To review the budget for the 2025-2026 Financial Year.

- a) Centre 320 – Rodway Road
- b) Centre 500 – Scott Park
- c) Centre 510 – Sports and Social Club
- d) Centre 600 – Allotments

- e) Centre 700 – Tumps
- f) Centre 710 – Play Areas
- g) Centre 720 – Open Spaces
- h) Centre 800 – Street Furniture

The committee noted the budget for 2025 – 2026 and that Finance Committee on 8th October 2024 have made a recommendation to Full Council.

Matters Pertaining to Parks and Open Spaces

08/10/2024 - No 7. To receive an update with regards to the Patchway Greenway Walk

The Clerk provided an update that it is being established what signs are remaining and the state of repair of the signs. Research into updating an online map is being investigated.

08/10/2024 - No 8. To receive an update with regards to restoring the Living Landmark trail and signage in Patchway

The Clerk provided an update on which tile landmarks are remaining and is currently awaiting estimated costs of replacement of missing and broken tiles. Cllr D Lawrence asked about a missing milestone on Coniston Road.

Matters Pertaining to Planning and Transport

08/10/2024 - No 9. To consider the condition of the Rodway Road speed bumps.

Cllr E Gordon submitted in advance a request for the Council to raise the issue of the speed bumps and road condition of Rodway Road with South Gloucestershire Council. Cllr D Lawrence also raised an issue of a large pothole on Rodway Road before it reaches Coniston Road.

08/10/2024 - No 10. To note the Council's planning application P24/01189/F with regards to shipping containers at Blakeney Road Allotments has been approved by SGC with conditions.

The Committee noted that planning permission had been given with conditions for the shipping containers at Blakeney Road Allotments.

08/10/2024 - No 11. To consider any planning applications received:

- a) **P24/02190/CLP| Internal alterations to use the managers areas as letting rooms (Class C1).| 217 Gloucester Road Patchway South Gloucestershire BS34 6ND**

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to raise no objections to this planning application.

- a) **Any applications received after the agenda had been issued.**

None received.

Updates and Reports

08/10/2024 - No 12. To receive a Quarterly Update from users of Patchway Town Council sports facilities, allotment societies and Patchway and Charlton Hayes Wildlife Group (verbal updates limited to 5 minutes).

The committee received an update from Pretoria Road Allotment Society where plot take-up is strong with only 4 plots currently available. The allotments are seeing a demographic change with increasing numbers of young families taking up plots. The Society are continuing plot-holder and community events including a pumpkin event planned for November. The Society participated in the Patchway Festival in July with a stall and offering tours of the site. The Society have recently let one plot to the brain injury charity Headways.

The committee received an update from Patchway & Charlton Hayes Wildlife Group which has nearly 500 active members on a Facebook group and provides advice for residents. The Group is pleased with the new Clerk in post that the Greenway project is restarted and also looks forward to progressing a volunteers groups to oversee The Tumps following the Ecology Report produced in 2023.

The committee received a written and verbal update from Stoke Lane Athletic Football Club.

The Club are now ' five teams' using Scott Park for affiliated league games. That is U7 (3G) and U14 ; 16Lions & Panthers plus Senior women on the well maintained grass pitches - thanks to the ground staff.

The club are only six weeks into the season but all users of grass pitches are showing great promise as they are currently in league tables in top six and U14s progressed into 1/4 Cup.

The club is not allowed to report results for U7s but very much a winning start.

SLAFC are pleased to advise over 200+ players and parent/guardians are attending the England Men's U21 game at Ashton Gate on Tuesday 15th October.

The committee received a verbal update from Blakeney Road Allotment Society who have recently formed a new committee on 1st October 2024 with Will Todd as the chair and Sheila Dickinson as Treasurer. The Society have set three initial objectives as a) to install CCTV on the site in partnership with Men in Sheds who use part of the allotment site, b) seek to achieve full occupancy with only 5 plots now free, and c) improve the overall look of the site . The Society reported that Council communications through the Town News report and Facebook posts had seen an increase in interest for the allotment site and plots.

The Committee noted a written update from Patchway Town Football Club.

Unfortunately, just prior to the start of 2024/2025 football season we made the difficult decision to fold up PTFC U-18's team for a combination of reasons which meant it wasn't sustainable to continue with PTFC U-18's. Both Patchway Town 1st team and Patchway Town Reserves have had slow starts to the 2024/2025 Saturday football season. We continue to try and attract new players to improve the squads to enable both teams to move in the right direction.

The committee noted a written report from Patchway Town Football Club.

Patchway Town FC is disappointed with the closure of Patchway Sports & Social Club which was the club's home base. The team are no longer able to offer hospitality to our opposition and officials, which is a shame, and have lost the heart of the social side of the football club. PTFC are committed to Scott Park playing facilities and we are in the process of trying to source somewhere for a social drink/catch up post matches on a Saturday.

The playing surface on Scott Park main pitch continues to live up to excellent standards which we regularly receive positive feedback from our opposition teams and referees. Great job from the ground staff.

The Committee noted a written update from Bristol Jets BMX Club.

The club continues to expand and is doing fantastically well and now have almost 100 members. The regular Wednesday night gate practice sessions have been busy, and the club are running Saturday morning sessions through October due to not using the floodlights this month. We are teaming up again this year with Burnham BMX club to share a winter race series that we be held at each club in a rotation. We do this under the floodlights as a twilight race and it is well loved by everyone. We are currently raising £1000 to purchase transponders (we use these for timing where the racers finish) so that we can support new riders with borrowing one as they won't have their own until they are more established. This is something that we don't have as a club yet so is the next big focus. Once we can have our floodlights on again in November our regular Monday and Tuesday coaching sessions will also recommence.

In September we held our annual awards ceremony, celebrating many successes for riders at the club. We held a club session and a celebratory BBQ for our riders and supporters. All of our riders have done really well this year, and each one has achieved something on a personal level, whether it is winning or placing well in a race or managing to crack a tricky problem they have been working on during training sessions. We have also seen many new faces coming to experience riding the track and many of them are going on to become members.

Special mention must also go to Dan Pople (over 18) and Henry Sullivan (8) (Big Henz) who became British Champions and British number 1 in their age groups at the Championships held in Derby on the August bank holiday weekend. Henry also became Southwest Champion last month in the 10-year-old category (riding up 2 years above his age band).

You may have seen Henry supported by some of our young riders, on the local BBC news or on Newsround recently as this young 8-year-old has become British Champion and British number 1 for two years in a row. Henry is tipped to become a World Champion next year. ITV have also just been in touch and would like to interview Henry so watch this space for more from the track! Sophie Ellwood (15) was selected to be part of the team representing the Southwest in the School Games held in Loughborough at the end of the summer. It is a real honour to be chosen as only a select few can attend each year. They competed in several bike related challenges including a full race day.

The Club are all heading now into the winter training and racing season where you will still see the riders on the track honing their craft ready for the start of the National Race Series in March next year.

08/10/2024 - No 13. To receive an update on the Pollinator Fund grant application.

The committee received an update from Pretoria Road Allotment Society on the positive progress of the fully West of England Combined Authority (WECA) funded pollinator project on the site. Polytunnels have been installed, seating area prepared, pond created, bog garden created, plants being sourced. Preparation for 4-6 no-dig beds is being progressed.

The project has utilised two thirds of the grant funding and the team are planning community days and a number of opening days as the project gets closer to completion.

The Society thanked the Council for its support and the support of the groundstaff and officers in progressing this exciting project, and invited the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors to visit.

08/10/2024 - No 14. To receive the Patchway Town Council's Ground Staff Report for the period from July to September 2024.

The Committee noted the report from the Ground Staff detailing what work they have carried out in the last quarter across all of Patchway Town Council's land and facilities. The report is below:

Groundstaff update parks and open spaces 2024 – 2025 Q2

Play Areas

Annual inspection was done on Friday 4th October, report to follow.

Issued raised with trees in Norman Scott Park play area are to be dealt with in October 2024.

Some areas of play areas have issue with rubber safety flooring and will require work over the next 2 years.

Timber steps are currently being replaced on play areas across all parks.

Norman Scott Park

New equipment has improved playing surface of the 3g and football pitches, hopefully this will continue during the winter months.

Running track

Patchway had its first 10k run in April, this was very successful, we have seen an increase in usage, we are currently planning on improving running signs and ground markers in time for December fun run and half marathon in April 2025.

Football and cricket

Cricket season has now finished, repairs are planned for wickets in October.

24-25 football season is now underway, currently the ground is holding up with the wet weather, new equipment and summer repairs have improved ground conditions.

3g has had its first fa approved youth games during September and will continue during the season.

Allotments

On going project (WECA) seating area and footpaths have now been completed by us, with more light work planned for October to assist with WECA team.

Greenway Path

Awaiting Council update on Greenway Path plans, current plan not in use as signs damaged or broken due to wear and tear.

Open spaces around Patchway

All of Patchway's open spaces have been kept clean and tidy with wildlife, all ponds and footpaths have been well kept and are used daily by residents.

The Chair and Councillors thanked the groundstaff for their dedication and expertise in ensuring the high quality of the sporting facilities and parks and open spaces across the town.

08/10/2024 - No 15. To note that the meeting dates of the Parks, Open Spaces, Planning and Transport Committee 2024 – 2025 will be held on:

Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 8.00pm

Tuesday 8th April 2025 at 8.00pm

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 20.52