



Minutes of the Parks' Committee Meeting held in the Town Council Committee Room, Manor Offices, Holsworthy on Wednesday 20th March 2019 at 5.30pm

Present: Cllr. Allen, Cllr. Briggs, Cllr. Parker & Cllr. Stanton.
In Attendance: Town Clerk (TC).

938. Apologies for absence
Cllr. Hutchings.

939. Declaration of Interests
The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

940. Minutes of last meeting
Cllr. Parker proposed that the Minutes of the Parks Committee held on 20th February 2019, be signed as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr. Briggs and agreed.
(Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstention).

941. Matters Arising
None were raised.

942. To discuss and note the Parks' Expenditure and Budget for the year 18/19
The TC went through the Parks Expenditure and Income sheet and explained that the Parks Budget to date is overspent by £190.94. However, the expenditure did include some items that could not have been foreseen at the beginning of the financial year; such as the cost for new Sports Pitch inspection report.
A virement to the Parks Budget from the Earmarked Reserve for the Play Equipment would be required for the £96.00 for the repairs of the play equipment. This will be placed on the March Agenda for the Finance & General Purposes Committee approval.

943. Stanhope Park
The quote for an independent report on the faulty piece of Outdoor Gym equipment was circulated. After discussion it was agreed to go ahead with the claim through the County Court without the Report but if the claim is contested by the manufacturers then the independent report be commissioned.
The quote received for the fitting of a new hydraulic fitting to the faulty gate into the Playground area was accepted but with written confirmation required of the guarantee associated with the work.
Regarding the new sports pitch the District Council have agreed to measure the levels to ascertain if they are in accordance with those agreed as part of the revised planning application in 2015.
The TC is still trying to pursue the replacement of the streetlights that were knocked down by the contractors working on the Pavilion. The contractor's insurers have admitted liability, but it has proved very difficult to get the work done to replace both streetlights. It now appears that the street lights have been transferred to DCC from Redrow as part of a Section 38 agreement. Cllr. Parsons has been asked to progress the matter with the streetlight team at DCC as the TC has been unable to resolve the matter.
Regarding the lighting of the Outdoor Gym area information has now been received from Western Power showing the electricity cabling near the Park to see if a lighting column could be installed to better illuminate the area. A cost for this will be sought and will be reported back to this committee.

944. Badock and Rowland Gardens - To discuss matters relating to Badock Gardens and Rowland Gardens

Cllr. Allen expressed his concerns regarding the appearance of the outside yard by the main gates into Badock Gardens. The TC explained that this area is gradually being cleared. The large salt spreader will be removed to the back of the gardens once the existing storage container previously used by Plandscape was replaced and there was no danger of adverse weather that may require the spreader. After discussion all agreed that the TC should inform the Maintenance Operative that the yard should be kept clear and tidy. Also, to be cleared is the area to the side of the greenhouse where at present there are stored wooden pallets and a garage door, if storage is required for the wooden items these should be put into the storage area to the side of the Sun Lounge and sheds.

Regarding the greenhouse concerns were expressed that this also needed tidying up and that there were not enough plants currently being grown to fill all the troughs, planters and beds that the Council were responsible for. It was noted that plug plants were in the process of being purchased that would be grown on in the greenhouse ready for planting this spring. As the Maintenance Operative is increasingly taking on more work, including shortly the maintenance of Station Close recreational area, Cllr. Allen suggested that the Men's Shed would be willing to grow all the plants required by the Council, without charge, provided they could have sole use of the greenhouse. However, this may cause difficulties for the Maintenance Operative who would require some greenhouse space. It was suggested that perhaps a smaller greenhouse could be purchased to go on the space next to the existing greenhouse which the Maintenance Operative could use. The TC will consider the options and will come back to this Committee.

The Pre-school Playgroup have now received a key for the gate as requested and have also paid the rent owned up to date.

Cllr. Heaven has asked if the Parks Committee could consider two ideas she had for the use of Badock Gardens this summer. These being:

- a cream tea event to raise funds for local charities
- an outdoor film event.

All thought these were excellent ideas and to be pursued. It was suggested that the film event could be comprised of two films one for children and the other for adults perhaps with a theme. The TC to ask Cllr. Heaven if she would be willing to lead on the two ideas.

945 To give an update on the Station Close recreational area

The Recreational and Play area within Station Close should be transferred in the next two weeks to the Council with the additional sum of money as previously agreed to replace the existing play equipment. Three quotes have already been received to replace the play equipment and a further three quotes will be sourced to dig out and re plant the sloping area.

946. Town Clerk's Report

A Notice of the Temporary Closure of Footpath no 1, between the 7th May 2019 to the 12th November 2019, due to a new sewer link, has been received from DCC. Cllr. Allen has been in contact with the Community College regarding students assisting with the maintenance of the Wildlife area alongside Footpath 1 but access is hampered by the closure of the path. On the 28th March at 7pm in the Market Hall DCC will be holding a public meeting to discuss the Definitive Map of the Public Rights of Way for Holsworthy and Holsworthy Hamlets.

947. Close

Cllr. Allen closed the meeting at 6pm

Signature **Date**