



**Minutes of the Parks' Committee Meeting held in the Market Chambers,  
Holsworthy on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 6pm**

**Present:** Cllr. Parker, Cllr. De ste Croix, Cllr. Hewitt, Cllr. Piper, Cllr. Stone

**In Attendance:** Town Clerk (TC),  
ATTC

**1150. Apologises for Absence.**

Cllr. Allen, Cllr. Kenneally, Cllr. Musker

**1151. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr. Parker asked Councillors to declare any relevant interests as they arose.

**1152. Minutes of last meeting**

Cllr. Piper proposed that the Minutes of the Parks Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 be signed as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr. Stone and agreed.

**(Vote: 3 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstentions)**

**1153. Matters Arising.** – To consider matters arising from the minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Item 1144 - Cllr. Piper asked for an update on the fitting of the new goal posts. The TC explained that the works had been postponed because of the ground being very wet due to prolonged rainy weather but it is hoped the works will be completed before Christmas.

**1154. To review the Parks Committee Action Plan** (Appendix A attached).

The ATTC explained the research she had carried out so far regarding the drinking water fountain and the contact she'd had with Exmouth Town Council regarding their recently installed water bottle refill station. However, more information was needed, and she will report back on the options.

Cllr. Hewitt asked if the bin at the Skatepark would be replaced and are there still plans to have a Youth shelter at the Skatepark? It was explained that the bins had arrived and that as part of this project the bin at the Skatepark would be replaced. The owners of the land surrounding the Skatepark are not willing to transfer it to the Council and also, they do not want a shelter on it. The youth shelter has therefore been put back as a project until 2023. Cllr. Piper hasn't received a quote yet regarding drainage in Stanhope Park but said it might be worth speaking with Rodney Mitchell when he's in the park. The Mahonia's have arrived to go around the WW2 Memorial Tree Carving, and these will be planted when appropriate. Cllr. Stone queried whether we could reconsider purchasing George a new strimmer. This had already been discussed at a Finance & GP Committee but had been refused however it could be reconsidered perhaps in February or March next year if the Parks budget was underspent.

Cllr. Stone & Cllr. Piper expressed an interest in joining the Finance & GP Committee, this request will be added to the Council's Agenda in January.

The TC had not had the chance to speak to the Plandscape representative regarding the strimming of the area in the park but would do so shortly.

**1155. To discuss and note the Parks' Income and Expenditure and Budget for the year 2021/22.**

The Parks budget is still forecasting an underspend but some of the funds will be needed for trimming and possible felling of some trees in the park. It was noted that the grants have been received from the Bowling Club regarding the trimming of the tree and the Football Foundation toward the cost of the goal posts.

Cllr. Piper mentioned that he would like to see the Parks budget being increased with Cllr. Stone agreeing that the park is used all year round.

The TC suggested 2 options if councillors wanted to increase the expenditure on parks. The first option would be to agree an increase in Parks budget or the second to look at the amount the Council already has in its Earmarked Reserves allocated to general park projects.

Cllr. Piper queried if councillors will be aware of the options before the Extraordinary Council meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December. The TC confirmed councillors will receive the information and possible options via email on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

- 1156. Station Close** – to discuss matters relating to Station Close Park and recreational area. There was nothing to report.

- 1157. Stanhope Park** - To discuss matters relating to Stanhope Park.

Regarding the path works in Badock Gardens and Stanhope Park and the new MUGA; one possible groundworks Contractor has been contacted to arrange for a site visit before a quotation for the works required is obtained. The TC will also contact two other contractors for quotations. A tree condition survey has been carried out on a sycamore tree on the border of the park near the Bowling Club; the survey has found decay into the heartwood of the tree becoming advanced and it recommends that the sycamore is removed within 6 months especially as the tree is very near the Bowling Club and a residential property. However, it is unclear on whose boundary the tree lies, the park or a neighbouring house. The TC will search for more information and evidence of whose boundary the tree is situated to understand who owns it and has main responsibility over it. Cllr. Piper recommended obtaining expert advice on the boundary questions and also supplied some companies names who could fell the tree in question.

- 1158. Badock and Rowland Gardens** - To discuss matters relating to Badock Gardens and Rowland Gardens.

The TC explained that without a specification of the works required to improve the lighting and paths in Badock Gardens it was proving difficult to obtain accurate detailed quotations for the works required. Cllr. Piper kindly offered to meet the companies who would be providing a quotation on site with the TC and would use his expertise to assist the TC to put together works specification to send to the companies for a quotation. The specification for the works would be in three parts: the lighting and path improvements to Badock Gardens, the path works (including around the WW2 Memorial Tree Carving) and the MUGA.

- 1159. Town Clerk's Report**

The TC had nothing to report.

- 1160. Close**

Cllr. Parker closed the meeting at 6.33pm.

Signed ..... *D.M. Parker* .....

Dated ..... *21 19/11/22* .....



## Appendix A

DATE AND MINUTE NO	ACTION	UPDATE
June 21	Drinking Water Fountain in Park	Water Fountain could be a 2021 Project but need further information regarding a water supply etc. Cllr. Piper has a plan of where the water supply runs which he will send to TC. ATTC to research.
June 21  July 21 - 1112 F & GP Committee August 21 – 1254  Sept 21 1119 & 1121	Disabled Access to Badock Gardens and Sun Lounge. Disabled toilet facilities in Sun lounge. Repairs also needed to ceiling. Also floor tiles are lifting (consider heavy duty lino?) CCTV, Extra lighting and improvement of the electrics in the Storage areas	Report on works required needs commissioning. TC to contact Nick Marsland re visit to specify works required.  F & GP Committee decided to amend project to include widening of the path, an outside toilet, improved lighting and CCTV only.  Quotes received to go back to Full Council for decision
June 21	Replanting of slope Station Close Badock Gardens	Gabions too expensive . Maintenance Operative to do work. Contact local garden centres regarding options for planting.
	Mural at Station Close Renaming area	To be revisited once slope work completed
September 21 – 1119	Drainage in Park	Cricket Club to dig trial pit to try and ascertain the problems with the drainage before any drainage survey carried out.

DMP