



**Minutes of the Parks Committee held In the Town Council Offices on  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 6.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors: D. De ste Croix, D. Cole, H. Parker, S. Preston, J. Tadman

**In Attendance:** Town Clerk (TC), Assistant to the Town Clerk (ATTC),  
Maintenance Operative (MO), Cllr I. Edwards.

**1511. Apologies for absence**

Councillor N. Kenneally

**1512. Declaration of Interests** – To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interests in respect of items on the agenda.

Councillor H. Parker asked that councillors declare any interests as they arise.

**Councillor L. Piper declared an interest on Item Number 1521**

**1513. Minutes of the last meeting –**

**Councillor D. De ste Croix proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024 was a true record and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor S. Preston (5 For, 1 Abs)**

**1514. Matters Arising**

Cllr L. Piper gave a well done to the office for getting CCTV up and running in the Skateboard Park and requested it be put on social media.

**1515. Action Plan**

Cllr. I Edwards – have H44 been informed about the placement of the Soldier.

**1516. Park income and Expenditure.**

Councillors discussed the income and expenditure.

**1517. Station Close** – to discuss matters relating to Station Close.

Cllr. L. Piper gave thanks for the contractors work on the bank at Station Close and suggested making a social media post.

**1518. Stanhope Park** - To discuss matters relating to Stanhope Park

The Maintenance Operative had 2 ideas for the gates:

- a. Right hand side where the end of the drain blocks and overflows into the gate. Cut the channel into the ground to drain it so it doesn't fill with water.
- b. Purchase tarmac and fill the hole in the summer/spring when the weather is warmer. Do a maintenance repair and level it so it doesn't fill with water.

Discussion ensued. It was decided to discuss further after a site visit. Cllr. Piper suggested contacting local businesses that would be able to raise the gates to enable contractors to level the ground as a patch repair. Discussion ensued regarding the larger

drainage issue which would be a larger project working with football club, Devon county council and primary school.

**1519. To agree a date for the Stanhope Park site visit for new playground equipment and look at the Park Gates tarmac area.**

Site visit was agreed for Monday 6th January 2025 at 11am. Whereby play park and gates will be discussed.

**1520. Skateboard Park – To discuss matters relating to the Skateboard Park.**

Cameras at skateboard park are running. Quality is very good. Billing issues with Electricity. SSE did not swap over and billed us after we swapped from them to a new company. It has been rectified. Negotiated a new rate.

**1521. Badock and Rowland Gardens - To discuss matters relating to Badock Gardens and Rowland Gardens**

Councillor H. Parker gave a brief update on the progress with the sunlounge: Piper, me, the TC and preferred builders an MO will be meeting at Sunlounge Re: project. A breakdown of costs will be provided. Cllr L. Piper queried if the costs for the sunlounge could be reengineered to budgeted £35k. Cllrs discussed aiming to have the project started by Summer 2025– though noted that it may affect plough arts theatre shows. To ask about potential timeline for the project. Parks would like to recommend to Full Council for Badock Gardens Sun Lounge project to move forward.

**1522. To discuss and agree theatre options at Badock Gardens for the 2025 season from the options sent by the Plough Arts group.**

Councillors agreed that H. Parker will work with ATTC to contact Plough Arts with options. Parks committee would like family orientated performances that are accessible to all.

**1523. To discuss matters relating to the Parish Paths** including the P3 report

To investigate the agreed plan for the proposed plan for the Rydon 5 parish path.

**1524. Town Clerk's Report**

Glebelands bench has been removed. Bench in manor car park has been removed. And in process of being replaced. Cllr. L. Piper suggested advertising this online when the bench is fully removed. TC is getting quotes for a roundabout & jungle gym. Cllr Piper added that TDC are now applying green infrastructure levies around the area and they are building a pot. Might be worth speaking with Adrian Avery about play equipment issues and they may be able to use to invest in the play equipment. External request to hire Stanhope Park for bouncy castle fair next year. LP as long as they are aware what is ongoing in the park like sports etc.

*Maintenance operative exited the meeting at 19:51*

**Councillor S. Preston proposed that in view of the special or confidential nature of the following business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press temporarily be excluded and they will be instructed to withdraw. This was seconded by Councillor D. De ste Croix and agreed (Unanimous)**

**1525. To discuss and update Stanhope Park Insurance matters**

Discussion ensued.

**1526. Close**

Councillor H. Parker Closed the meeting at 20:01

Signed .....

Dated .....