



**Minutes of the Parks Committee held In the Town Council Offices on
Wednesday 22nd January 2025 at 6.30pm**

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

In Attendance: Town Clerk (TC), Assistant to the Town Clerk (ATTC)

Absentees: No absentees

1527. Apologies for absence

Councillor L. Piper.

1528. 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.

1529. Public Open Question Time – *To receive questions from the Public.*

No members of public were in attendance.

1530. Minutes of the last meeting – *To agree and sign the Minutes' of the Parks' Meeting held on 11th December 2024.*

Councillor D. De ste Croix proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2024 was a true record and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor S. Preston and approved. (4 For, 1 Abs)

1531. Matters Arising

1521 –Badock and Rowland Gardens – Cllr. N. Kenneally updated the committee regarding the contractors aiming to progress with the sun lounge project after an asbestos survey has been completed.

1532. Action Plan

Cllr. J. Tadman suggested prioritising signage that needs to be replacing, however did not majority of the signage does need replacing. There is no current progress with Rydon 5, cllrs discussed asking the developers for assistance in funding signage for Rydon 5 parish path.

1533. Park income and Expenditure

The TC informed the committee that the Stanhope and Badock Garden Annual Charity Returns for income and expenditure. Tc also noted the repairs for the play equipment, bin liners and electricity at Badock Gardens have been paid. With the upcoming virement in regard to the Tarmacking of Stanhope Park will reduce the current loss for Parks.

1534. Station Close – to discuss matters relating to Station Close.

A photo opportunity has been arranged for Wednesday 29th January 2025 at 2pm. Cllrs N. Kenneally & H. Parker to meet at Station Close with Scott Cholwill.

1535. Stanhope Park - To discuss matters relating to Stanhope Park

The TC provided a photograph of the Jubilee Path and Cllr. J. Tadman mentioned that in previous discussions it was discussed for the Town Ranger to level it with tarmac but was uncertain about the next steps. Cllr. H. Parker asked about the available options for the repair. Cllr. J. Tadman clarified that this is part of their P3 path and the Town Ranger would be requested to take action. TC asked if the Town Ranger could hire the necessary machinery and purchase materials; if not, the tender process should be initiated by the Parks Committee. Discussion regarding other options was held.

Once completed or if it cannot be completed, it will be brought back to the Full Council. TC asked how the repair would be funded and it was confirmed that the costs would likely come from the Parks budget. Cllr. J. Tadman also inquired if Cllr. D. Cole would have the resources to assist with the Town Ranger with these works.

1536. To discuss and agree options relating to the improvements and new play equipment for Stanhope Park (following the 06/01/2025 site visit).

TC informed the committee that the tender for play equipment has been carried out and provided a document with quotes and examples of equipment, including SEN (Special Educational Needs) Play Park equipment. TC highlighted that the age ranges for the equipment would be important to consider. The committee discussed the existing equipment in Stanhope Park and identified their priorities for new items.

Cllr. N. Kenneally proposed to recommend to Full Council the purchase of the Galleon Ship, in composite with a 30-year lifespan and a roundabout and be agreed. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Tadman approved. (Unanimous)

Councillor. N. Kenneally exited the meeting at 18:58

Cllrs discussed the costs of more equipment. TC informed the committee that it has been difficult to find like for like quotes for play equipment due to the large variety of equipment that different play equipment companies specialise in.

Councillor N. Kenneally entered the meeting at 19:00

Cllr. D. Cole suggested asking the current contractors for assistance. Cllr. N. Kenneally advised against splitting the contractors' time between installing a safety barrier and working on the Sun Lounge. Cllr. D. de Ste Croix recommended considering Scott Cholwill for the job. The committee then continued their discussion.

Cllr. J. Tadman proposed the TC to request a requote from GM Contractors, considering the new gate-raising quote and be agreed. This was seconded by Cllr. H. Parker and approved. (Unanimous)

Councillor N. Kenneally exited the meeting at 19:20

1537. To discuss options and agree actions to improve the tarmac and drainage at the main gates, Stanhope Park.

Cllr. D. Cole informed the committee that he had spoken with a contractor regarding tarmacking at the gates to Stanhope Park. Cllr. D. Cole provided the committee with the quote from the contractor to review. ATTC will scan the document and forward to the committee after the meeting.

Councillor. N. Kenneally entered the meeting at 19:22

Discussion ensued. The committee discussed the tarmacking and drainage quote. TC mentioned the possibility of obtaining a new quote from other suppliers or asking the Town Ranger to implement a temporary fix. Cllr. D. Cole clarified that an amended quote would be necessary from GM Contractors, as raising the gates with the help of Richard Prout would reduce the work GM needs to do.

Cllr. J. Tadman proposed moving forward with Cllr. D. Cole's quote for lifting the gates from Richard Prout, which was seconded by Cllr. S. Preston and agreed upon. Cllr. J. Tadman emphasized that any solution must include a method to ensure water drains properly to avoid flooding or puddles.

Cllr. N. Kenneally then suggested going back to GM Contractors to see if raising the gates would result in a reduction in the original quote.

1538. Skateboard Park – To discuss matters relating to the Skateboard Park.
There were not updates regarding the Skateboard Park.

1539. Badock and Rowland Gardens - To discuss matters relating to Badock Gardens and
The builders are hoping to start work in February 2025. However, additional funds may be required due to the necessity of an asbestos survey. A meeting is scheduled for Friday with TC and Cllr. D. de Ste Croix at Badock Gardens with a asbestos surveyor.

1540. To discuss and agree theatre options at Badock Gardens for the 2025 season from the options sent by the Plough Arts group.

The ATTC provided the committee with a brief update on the performances booked with The Plough Arts Theatre. The dates have been confirmed, but the timings and advertising still need to be arranged. The performances are:

- 27th June 2025 – Full production of *Romeo & Juliet* by 440 Theatre
- 19th August 2025 – *The Secret Garden* by Plandits Theatre

Cllrs discussed the possibility of promoting the 'Grand Opening' of the Sun Lounge alongside the first performance on 27th June 2025. They requested that the dates be sent via email and for TC to contact The Plough Arts Theatre regarding changing facilities. The committee also offered to provide one or two gazebos for the performers, as refreshments will be provided by Holsworthy Town Council through the Sun Lounge.

1541. To discuss matters relating to the Parish Paths including the P3 report

No further discussions ensued regarding Parish Paths that were not already discussed in the Action List.

1542. Town Clerk's Report

The TC informed the committee that the Town Ranger (TR) has been building shelving in the shed at Badock Gardens in preparation for the renovations for the sun lounge in addition to filling a skip which has been filled. The TR and ATTC completed manual handling and risk assessment training. The TC also added that as the contractors for Badock Gardens are not VAT registered and therefore VAT cannot be claimed.

Cllr. H. Parker deferred a non-itemized item regarding correspondence to be discussed in Part 2. This was seconded by Cllr. N. Kenneally and agreed. (Unanimous)

Councillor D. De ste Croix 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 N. Kenneally and agreed (Unanimous)

1543. Close

Councillor H. Parker Closed the meeting at 20:04

Signed

Dated