



**Minutes of the meeting held of the NORTHWOOD RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE held
in the
Town Council Office, 13 Denmark Road, Cowes on Monday 17th September at 7.00pm.**

Present:- Councillors Brown, Fuller, Jones, Mazillius, Robinson and Sanderson

1 APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIRMAN

Cllr Jones was elected chairman.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Banks, McGregor and Walters.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received

4 LOOK AT EXISTING PROJECTS

Cllr Jones welcomed all to the first Northwood Recreation Ground Committee meeting for some time. Minutes of any previous meetings were not available.

a) Skate Park

Although the Skate is generally well used, when floodlit in the evenings it has been noticed by members that it is often empty. The council does not wish to waste public funds on electricity if it is not being used. At present it is lit until 9pm.

ACTION: to request that PCSO Oatley talks to users of the Skate Park and makes regular checks to consider reducing the time the lights are used to 8pm from the 1st January 2013.

b) Playbuilder Park

IW Council (on behalf of Cowes Town Council) carry out weekly inspections and monthly maintenance. This costs £1524 per annum.

This spring, Cowes Town Council paid £240 for additional wood chipping which is their responsibility.

ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk to contact the Parks Officer to request a report of the past year's maintenance issues so that members are aware of the on-going costs of the project.

It was mentioned that there may be a problem with the joint to the seat on the Zip Wire.

ACTION: the Assistant Town Clerk to contact the Parks Officer to ensure that this item of equipment has been checked and any required maintenance is carried out as per the agreement.

c) M.U.G.A.

This was considered to be a brilliant facility and well used by all ages. It was discussed about the floodlights being on the same circuit as the Skate Park.

ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk to contact SSE to check if the lights are on the same circuit.

d) The Toilets

There have been many costly repairs following several spates of vandalism. These have now stopped when the decision was taken to close the facility at 6pm. There have been no complaints from members of public about his decision.

The refurbishment contract has been awarded to GJ Banks who will start the work after the toilets are closed for the summer season on 30/09/12. Again a grant from EIF will pay for half of this.

e) Picnic Benches

Cost £648 of which a grant has been awarded from EIF for half. This is considered an excellent addition to the area.

f) Litter and Dog Bins

There has been a new one installed at the MUGA. There is an annual contract with IW Council for most of them although Cowes Town Council pays for the one at the MUGA to be emptied.

It was discussed that there is a lot of litter around the changing rooms and football pitches following a football match. Councillor Mazillius has contacted both the Parks Officer and Sports Officer about this and the users of the football changing rooms have been made aware. The problem has decreased but can all members please be aware of the situation and make regular checks.

5 CHECK DATE OF INSPECTIONS

Annual inspections of both the MUGA and Skate Park are the responsibility of Cowes Town Council. The next inspections are due in May 2013.

6 CLEANING ARRANGEMENTS

Mr R Williams cleans the Skate Park, MUGA and Play Park for £250 each four weeks. This was increased in June from £220. Mr Williams is self-employed.

At the end of the meeting it was decided to invite a member from Northwood Cricket Club, some local residents and the newly appointed Youth Advisor to the next meeting which will be held on Monday 19th November 2012 at 7pm.

Meeting ended at 7.35 pm.

CHAIRMAN