



**Minutes of the meeting held of the NORTHWOOD RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE
held in the
Town Council Office, 13 Denmark Road, Cowes on Thursday 30th May 2013 at 6.00pm.**

Present:- Councillors Banks, Brown, Ellis, Fuller, Hall, Jones and Nicholson

18 ELECTION OF A NEW CHAIRMAN

Councillor Banks (as Town Mayor) requested nominations for the position of chairman. Councillor Hall and Councillor Brown were nominated, but Councillor Brown declined the invitation so, Councillor Hall was seconded and duly elected.

19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Cowan, Jon Goldsmith

20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**21 MINUTES
RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2013 may be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

22 UPDATE ON EXISTING PROJECTS

The budget for the facilities excluding the toilets in Northwood Recreation Ground is £3,800 plus £1,000 for the electricity supply. The current cost of the cleaner who litter picks all areas, repaints the Skate Park ramps when necessary and rakes the wood chip in the Playbuilder Park is £3,250. The Assistant Town Clerk was tasked with obtaining a quotation from Top Mops (who clean the toilet block) for the same work. Their quotation has now been received at £4,380 plus VAT for litter picking with an additional £750 for painting the ramps.

RECOMMENDATION: That the current contract with Mr Williams continues at a cost of £3,250 per annum.

Skate Park

The ROSPA Annual inspection took place on 18/05/13 and cost £65. There are three recommendations:-

- 1 Repaint the ramps
- 2 Consider locking the gates
- 3 Monitor stray cricket balls

Discussions were held on these recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That Mr R Williams repaints the ramps this summer.**
- 2. That the gates remain unlocked**
- 3. That the monitoring any stray cricket balls into the area is continued.**

Playbuilder Park

The Isle of Wight Council provides a maintenance contract at a cost of £1,500 per annum. So far this year there have been 6 problems which they have sorted.

The seat fixing which Cllr Brown taped up to improve the comfort for people using it has been removed by the IW council as their comment was “ the seat is safe, the split in the stainless steel collect should be like this”. This was also the response from the manufacturer, so it appears nothing further can be done.

MUGA

The ROSPA Annual inspection took place on 18/05/13 and cost £65. There is only one recommendation:-

Monitor stray cricket balls

The Assistant Town Clerk contacted Mr Jon Goldsmith from Northwood cricket Club asking for an update. An email was received stating that as the season was very wet last year, there were no incidents of balls being hit towards the MUGA or Skate Park. This season the weather has improved and a few balls have been hit towards the area but this has not resulted in anyone being injured.

RECOMMENDATION: To continue to liaise with the Cricket Club and monitor the situation.

Outdoor Gym

There have been no incidents with the Outdoor Gym and it appears to be used by both young and old alike.

Toilets

There have been five incidents of fires in the wallgate units of both the gents and ladies toilets, which has resulted in nearly £200 of callout charges for the electrician to ensure they are safe. Top Mops were not shutting the toilets until late in the evening but from the 1st June they have been able to provide someone to lock them between 5.30pm and 6pm.

It was discussed that maybe the users of the Skate Park would take responsibility for the locking of the toilet block each night and that in return Cowes Town Council

would purchase an additional piece of equipment for the Skate Park. It was agreed that Councillor Hall (Chair of the committee) would talk to the users and gain a response.

23 UPDATE ON POSSIBLE BYLAWS

It was also discussed that the council considers a list of byelaws at the entrance to the Recreation Ground. The Assistant Town Clerk emailed all the other Town Clerks on the IW asking if they had byelaws. Brading Town Council answered that they did not as it is very difficult to get byelaws passed and very costly, whereas Bembridge do have byelaws which have previously been circulated. One difference is that Bembridge own the Recreation Ground whereas Cowes only leases part of it. Discussions took place about the necessity for expensive Bylelaws and it was agreed that it would be more suitable to have some signs by the pieces of equipment instead, even though it has not been raised by ROSPA.

ACTION: To obtain costs for the construction and installation of signs for users of the various pieces of equipment.

24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 9th September 2013 at 6.15pm.

Meeting ended at 6.38 pm.

CHAIRMAN