



**Minutes of the meeting held of the NORTHWOOD RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE
held in the
Town Council Office, 13 Denmark Road, Cowes on Monday 9th September 2013 at 7.00pm.**

Present:- Councillor Hall (Chairman)
Councillors Banks, Ellis, Fuller, Hall, Jones and Nicholson
Mr N Apsley (Resident)

25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received from Councillor Brown

26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
There were no declarations of interest.

**27 MINUTES
RESOLVED**
That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2013 be amended as Cllr Ellis was not in attendance, then, may be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

28 UPDATE ON EXISTING PROJECTS

Cllr Hall and the Assistant Town Clerk made an inspection of all the Town Council facilities at the Recreation Ground on Monday 9th September and met an officer from the IW Council Recreation, Leisure and Public Spaces Department to discuss problems and possible improvements.

Skate Park

The Fencing has been repaired at a cost of £300.00

The ramps have been painted at a cost of £352.44 for the specialist ramp paint and brushes. There was no cost for the labour as this is included in the cleaner's contract.

Pictures were taken by Cllr Hall of the remains of a fire which had been started under one of the ramps, and the cleaner advised that he has seen people sleeping under them.

Discussion was held about infilling the spaces – which would create a problem with the leaves and give the young people nowhere to shelter in bad weather.

ACTION:

- 1) The Assistant Town Clerk to ask the Police about checking under the ramps as part of their patrols, also to consider the mobile CCTV being installed to overlook the skate park.**

- 2) To ask Jon Goldsmith to regularly check when he leaves the cricket club and report any incidents to the Council office and 101 for the Police.

Playbuilder Park

Following a joint inspection with IW Council, there are several areas which need attention in the Playbuilder which IW Council are going to look at. The problem is that although CTC pays an annual fee of £1,500 most of this is used by the ROSPA inspections, insurance and weekly inspections. A lot of discussion took place about CTC funding the improvements, as there has been an on-going problem with mud at the end of the slide and under the zip wire. The structure does not appear to have had any treatment:

Action: the Assistant Town Clerk to contact the manufactures to establish if the wood is tannanised therefore does not require treatment.

RECOMMENDATION: That all areas that require upgrading for Health and Safety purposes are funded by Cowes Town Council upon receipt of suitable costs from IW Council

MUGA

A user of the MUGA has reported that one of the basketball hoops is broken. This was photographed on the inspection visit. This is the second hoop to get broken, but this has been the only damage since the project was opened in eighteen months.

RECOMMENDATION: That the manufacturers are contacted for a repair or replacement.

Outdoor Gym

Following inspection today, there is a lot of wear on the bars which has rubbed off the paint.

ACTION: The manufacturers are contacted as the equipment has only been installed for nine months requesting they are re-painted to a higher standard.

Toilets

There are has lots of problems with vandalism, including the toilet roll holder in the gents, lack of cleaning standards and the amenities being shut. An inspection today showed further lack of cleaning standards even though the block has received a deep clean last week. Also seen was the area just outside which is causing a trip hazard so a quotation is required for making it flat. There are no facilities for changing babies within the block even though there is plenty of space to provide one. The tap outside (which provides water for dogs) is still turned off.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the prototype vandal proof toilet roll holder designed by Cllr Banks is manufactured by DMR Engineering at a cost of £135 plus Vat and fixing.
- 2) That a Baby Change facility is considered for the Ladies Toilets subject to price.
- 3) That a sign is considered offering a reward for information leading to prosecution for anyone vandalising the facilities.
- 4) That the contract for cleaning with Top Mops is thoroughly checked.
- 5) That alternative quotations for cleaning are obtained.

ACTION: Cllr Hall will request another deep clean, taking pictures before and after to provide further evidence of the standard of cleaning provided.

28 POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL SEATING IN THE RECREATION GROUND

A letter had been received from a resident requesting additional seating be provided around the football pitches. The meeting with IW Council discussed this and they would not allow benches to be placed around the perimeter where there was housing as the seating areas attract groups. Alongside the car park area was deemed suitable for a maximum of three benches as there was already both a litter and dog bin located there. Councillors discussed the type of seating, and decided they needed wooden benches with backs to suit all ages and abilities. Additionally backless small benches could be considered between the football pitches to provide seating for spectators if allowed by IW Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) To install three wooden benches along the car park perimeter subject to cost**
- 2) To install two backless metal benches between the football pitches subject to cost and IW Council permission.**

29 AMOUNT OF RUBBISH IN THE RECREATION GROUND

A letter had been received from a resident who was concerned about the amount of rubbish, while complimenting the litter picker employed by Cowes Town Council for the areas they currently lease. The Assistant Town Clerk has contacted Island Roads to establish the bin emptying schedule which is two times per week in the winter (Tuesday and Friday) with three times per week in the summer (Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday). After some discussion it was:

ACTION: That a price is obtained for a larger bin to be provided by Cowes Town Council which would be labelled as “dual purpose” for installation outside the toilet block after gaining permission from the IW Council.

An item was raised by Nigel Apsley – for the IW Council/Island Roads to consider painting a bus stop area on the road and to extend the double yellow lines to include the dangerous bend just past the entrance.

ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk to contact both IW Council Highways Department and Island Roads requesting that they consider painting a bus stop box on the road and extending the double yellow lines to include the bend for safety purposes.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 21st October 2013 at 6.15pm.

Meeting ended at 8.33 pm.

CHAIRMAN