



Minutes of the meeting held of the **NORTHWOOD RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE** held in the Town Council Office, Northwood House, Cowes on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at 6.15 pm

**Present:** Cllrs: Nicholson (Chairman) Banks, Brown, Ellis and Fuller  
Councillor McNeil was also in attendance but non- voting.

**63 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There was an apology for absence received from Mr N Apsley.

**64 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**65 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2014 may be taken as read, approved as a correct record and were signed by the chairman.

**66 UPDATE ON EXISTING PROJECTS**

**Skatepark**

Following an inspection on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014, a lot of broken glass was found both on and around the Skate Park. The litter picker was contacted and advised Cllr Nicholson that he would be clearing it up in the evening when he usually completes his litter pick. Due to Health and Safety reasons, he was asked to return immediately and clear up the broken glass. Cllr Nicholson re-visited the site later in the day and found another 94 pieces of broken glass, which he picked up. The Police were contacted and asked to increase their patrols in the area.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the litter pick is carried out in the morning when the toilets are unlocked.**

It has also been highlighted that the litter picker has been working for Cowes Town Council on a self- employed basis for 13 years, and councillors are unsure of legal implication of this. Although IWALC had been consulted, their advice was unclear.

**ACTION: That the Assistant Town Clerk contacts NALC for guidance to protect the council's liability and responsibility on the litter pickers employment status, which is reported back at the next meeting.**

**Playbuilder Park**

Cllr Nicholson and the Assistant Town clerk carried out an inspection on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September. The wood chipping under both swinging devices needs topping up and a wooden peg is now visible. The woodchip is the only responsibility of Cowes Town Council. There is also a hole on either side of the bench overlooking the Playbuilder.

**ACTION:**

- 1) That the IW Council are informed of the problem with the peg
- 2) That IW Council are asked to infill the holes using soil excavated and turf over them during the flood allevement controls that they are carrying out.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the wood chips are topped up**

## **MUGA**

There has been graffiti on the MUGA which has been cleaned off by the litter picker

### **Outdoor Gym**

The paint finish is still peeling but the galvanised coating to the steel beneath is in good condition. One area of matting is raised and could cause a trip hazard.

**RECOMMENDATION: That Brighstone Landscaping are asked to inspect the situation and rectify it.**

### **Toilets**

There has been a problem with graffiti, the toilet cleaner was able to remove it with petrol. Although new toilet roll holders for the ladies had been requested by the toilet cleaner, upon inspection they appear to be usable. There is still a problem with the flush action in the ladies.

**ACTION: That the Assistant Town Clerk is authorised to order 12 self-adhesive signs from Stocksigns which say "PUSH HARD TO FLUSH".**

## **67 REQUIREMENTS FOR A NEW TOILET CLEANER AND GENERAL LITTER PICKER**

Mr Williams is retiring on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, so a replacement is required. Much discussion took place on the employment status of a new contractor and the possibility of linking the position to a general handyman for the council.

**ACTION:** Cllr Nicholson and the Assistant Town Clerk to work together to draft an advertisement for a "Register of Interest" for a part-time Litter picker, toilet cleaner and general maintenance person.

**RECOMMENDATION: That an advertisement is placed in the Isle of Wight County Press for a replacement Toilet Cleaner, maintenance and Litter Picker.**

## **68 PROBLEMS WITH FLOODING**

Cllr Nicholson advised that the IW Council has agreed with the recommendation of this committee and has started to carry out work to alleviate the flood problem this Autumn. The north east corner has had a low level "bund" installed which will be covered with turves when the weather is suitable. The north west corner will have holes drilled soon. The aeration of the soil seems to have helped but until there is some continuous heavy rain, the outcome will be unknown.

## **69 UPDATE ON THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL DOUBLE YELLOW LINES AT THE ENTRANCE**

The extension to the existing double yellow lines at the entrance to the Recreation Ground has been considered by Island Roads and will be on the agenda at the next review. Together with this, a request has been made to mark out the Bus stop on the road just outside the entrance. We have been advised that this will be implemented by April 2015.

## **70 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting will be on Monday December 8<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 6.15pm.

**Meeting ended at 7.05pm.**

**CHAIRMAN**