

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL  
**RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE**  
 Minutes of a meeting held on 12 April 2011

Present	Cllr N I Kay (Chairman) Cllr S Robinson Cllr Mrs G E Smith Cllr Mrs S E Thorpe
also present for part of the meeting	Cllr I D Crawley
apologies	Cllr Mrs DLM Binns Cllr J A Byrne Cllr J R Nicholson

**PROPOSAL TO CLOSE NAILSWORTH RECREATION CENTRE**

Nailsworth Community Partnership Ltd had taken over operation of the Recreation Centre outside extended school hours; the new website was about to go live. Letting contracts had been redone as of 1 April and there were currently six regular lettings per week (excepting holidays), with a further activity starting next week. Half the grant of £10k from SDC had been banked and an additional £2000 from SDC paid to the school towards the security works, which will be completed shortly at a total cost of £8.5k. There would be a £3k gap in set-up funding which would be taken from SDC's £10k (intended to cover the revenue gap in the first two years), if no other funding can be obtained.

It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange for the transfer to the school of the GMTF grant of £1500 and the £1000 donation from NTC.

Cllr Mrs Smith had heard that a NYCE tenant had been approached to move from the Boys Club to the new Recreation Centre, but Cllr Crawley assured her that Tim Hughes who started the Badminton Club at the Sub Rooms and remained a member was going to start a new club at the NRC on a different night. There used to be three badminton clubs in Nailsworth (NRC, Boys Club and Christchurch) and the survey undertaken for the NRC confirmed sufficient interest for a new club. There was therefore no intention of 'pinching' the Club or members from the Boys Club.

Cllr Kay added that GMTF usually made grants of £2500 and he undertook to ask whether a further £1000 could be obtained from this source.

Members were pleased to see things were progressing, and two council representatives for the Recreation Centre Management Committee would be appointed formally at the May council meeting.

**MUGA AT FOREST GREEN**

A letter had been received from FGR FC confirming its board decision of 28 March to transfer ownership of the original MUGA site land to the school in exchange for part of the tarmac playground at the school being used for the Muga. Written confirmation was awaited from the Diocese about granting freehold to NTC of the new site, with vehicular and pedestrian access rights, as preferred by the Town Council. A leasehold arrangement may have to be negotiated, via a meeting to involve the Mayor and Chair of R&A Committee. Any agreement would still need to be enshrined in a new Section 106 agreement with the planning consent.

Once terms had been agreed, Cllr Crawley proposed a formal meeting of all parties to agree the way forward. GCC had agreed to put forward the planning application and project manage the building of the MUGA. The Clerk pointed out that an application to renew the current planning consent for the Muga on the original site had already been submitted by NTC to the District Council.

**Possible Astro-turf multi sport pitch**

A grant of 50% to a maximum of £350k is on offer from the Premier League through the Football Foundation to provide match funding for community projects providing facilities for football and other

sports. FGR FC and the School are keen to explore the idea of a full size floodlit astro-turf court on the school's existing football pitch which they could both share, with the community at large. A package scheme is being developed which also includes new grass areas on the original MUGA site and the lower car park and upgrading of the School changing rooms. If supported by all parties, this would be the subject of public meetings and a planning application. The whole project would cost approx £400 - £450K

It was suggested that this new project could run in tandem with the MUGA, although Cllr Crawley introduced the idea that the astro-turf pitch could replace it, although members were concerned that there might be limited time available for community use, and did not want to jeopardise the building of the MUGA which it was hoped would be ready for summer 2012.

Cllr Crawley highlighted some of the questions to be answered through undertaking a feasibility study over the next two months, including the sources of capital to bridge a funding gap of £100 - £150K; meeting the annual running costs, including a sinking fund to finance surface replacement after 10 years; and the funds to make a planning application, separately from the Muga.

### **NAILSTOCK 2011**

Only 120 tickets had been sold and Cllr Kay feared the event might have to be cancelled; the organisers needed to raise £48k to pay for fencing, security, toilets, etc. A decision would be made tonight.

### **KGV SKATE PARK**

Several attempts to contact the base-building contractor Summerbys had failed, and so it was agreed to abandon this firm and Andy Wilkins had forwarded a quotation from Baileys of Chalford and Yateman & Sons of Brimscombe. Site visits had been made to consider whether the spoil could be deposited somewhere in situ, but it was re-affirmed that this was not appropriate. Discussion ensued as to whether Andy Wilkins should be formally employed to project manage the build, although he had indicated he did not have much time and it was presumed he did not have the necessary insurances. The Mayor offered to speak with Cllr M Robinson about the best way forward.

**PROPOSED that Council appoint Baileys of Chalford to build the concrete base for the new half pipe at KGV skate park at a cost of £3500 + £600 for removal of spoil + vat, pending appointment of a suitable project manager**

It was hoped the project could be completed in time for the summer holidays.

### **MORTIMER GARDENS AND TOWN GARDENING**

Volunteer gardening groups had been sent their grants as agreed and most had already made a start on their allocated areas, which were looking good. NW Gardening Club sought permission to remove an evergreen from one of the beds along the stream, the one in the second bed having already died. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange for the live plant to be moved to another location.

Ruskin Mill had offered to make matching plaques at a cost of £5 each for all the beds, to be paid for from NTC gardening budget.

The WI had written offering a donation towards planting costs for the "Fountain Street Garden" (? Market Street Triangle) and for a commemorative plaque in honour of Meirwen Harvey. The proposal needed further clarification which the clerk was asked to obtain.

### **MARKET STREET GARDEN**

Following a site meeting, a revised specification had been prepared by Martin Portus and a new quote received from Five Valleys Landscaping with three paving options, giving total project costs of £24,055; £26,492; £21,775, all plus vat, but with no contingency figure. It was noted the quote allowed for access to water on site, which was not readily available. With additional costs and fees, the Clerk advised that the budget figure of £30k should be increased by £5k.

The suggestion had been made to use the railings from the temporary community centre at Forest Green, but it was felt these could not be adapted to fit the slope and curve along the A46.

The cheapest of the three paving options was agreed upon and it was hoped that retiring Cllrs Byrne and Nicholson would be prepared to continue overseeing the project.

**PROPOSED that the Five Valleys quote of £21,775 + vat be approved for creation of the Market Street Garden, with colour of the paving blocks to be agreed later and an additional £5k found from council funds at the end of the year.**

#### **MILES MARLING FIELD & CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS**

There was nothing to report.

#### **KGV FIELD AND EXTENSION FIELD**

The Clerk advised that members should consider reviewing hire charges in light of the increased vat rate and increases in cost of utilities. Members suggested all charges be raised by approx 3% in line with hire charge increases already approved for other council premises. The new charges would be:-

	Current charge	Proposed 2011/12
Pavilion	£15 incl vat	£15.50 incl vat
Tennis courts	Seniors £4 per hour incl vat Juniors £2 per hour incl vat	£ 4.20 incl vat £ 2.10 incl vat
Football pitch	Seniors £34 per match + vat .. £15 training + vat Juniors £16 per match + vat	£35.00 + vat £15.50 + vat £16.50 + vat

#### **YOUTH PROVISION**

The Mayor advised that new contracts had been signed between the Youth Club and its youth workers, other than Yacob Mulla who might (regrettably) be applying for a part time job elsewhere. Young Gloucestershire had approved the contracts and would manage the wages, billing the Youth Club each month. The Mayor mentioned that pensions for Danica Eames and Yacob Mulla were in abeyance as their current teachers' pensions through GCC were more favourable than the stakeholders' pension on offer from Young Gloucestershire requiring minimum contributions of 3% from both employer and employee. Teachers' pensions could only be run for a minimum of five employees but the Mayor was investigating joining with others to meet this requirement.

**PROPOSED that NTC advance to the Youth Club half the funding for youth workers' wages twice a year on receipt of the precept. The Club would submit monthly bills to be tallied against payments at the end of the year.**

#### **QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE 2012**

The Mayor had received an email from Karen Robbins with fond memories of the celebrations in the town to mark the Queen's Silver Jubilee, and asking if NTC was planning any specific celebrations for next year. The Mayor had told Mrs Robbins he would put it to the council. Members suggested commemorating the Jubilee could coincide with celebrating the Olympics. Bryan James and Jenny Evans had been instrumental in organising the Silver Jubilee and could doubtless be asked for advice.

#### **NAILSWORTH HEALTH PARTNERSHIP**

Cllr Kay advised that the NHP wanted to set up a sub group to help advise and monitor how the surgery implemented new government regulations. Cllr Kay had circulated an email on the subject and asked for it to be discussed at the April council meeting which was agreed.

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Date

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Chairman