

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL  
**RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE**  
 Minutes of a meeting held on 13 December 2011

Present	* *	Cllr S Robinson (acting chairman) Cllr J L Duckworth Cllr Mrs A Elliott Cllr Mrs S M Reed
Apologies		Cllr N I Kay Cllr Mrs S E Thorpe
non attendance		Cllr M M Rahman
	*	denotes absence from part of the meeting

### **KGV Skateramps**

Installation of the new half pipe was eventually started on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Whilst unloading his equipment, the driver managed to tip his forklift over backwards. He was unhurt and Mr Mansell had been very helpful in getting the vehicle uprighted again, having called in the support of Cllr Dart. Maverick had made a point of passing on thanks for Mr Mansell's assistance, as well as that of the young skateboarders who had lent a hand with the work.

On arrival of the anti-slip paint, the Clerk had contacted Andy Wilkins who was still happy to help but felt it would be a good idea to get a professional quote. The Clerk would ask Cllr M Robinson to identify a suitable contractor. It was suggested photos of the upgraded installation should be taken for the website.

### **KGV playing field & Extension Field**

The Clerk had been approached by a local football club, looking for a new home ground and interested in the KGV extension field, where they would be prepared to build new changing rooms. The Clerk had explained that the extension field was held on a lease which she believed the contract excluded any construction permission.

The Mayor advised that this request had been touched on at a meeting with Cllr Kay and Ian Crawley to discuss financing of the MUGA, school field etc. He had been informed that Dale Vince of FGR-FC was not happy with the extension field and might be willing to finance improvements to make it useable as a sports pitch. Cllr Kay was to discuss the matter further with the FC. The Clerk added that there was little space to build changing rooms over that side of the KGV field and bringing in electricity and water would be wholly impractical.

The Clerk confirmed that it had been agreed for the FGR u.16 ladies team to use the main pitch, but she was unsure whether any matches had yet been played. Taverners and Youth Football were the current users of the main field.

TW Hawkins had submitted a quote for grass cutting next season; KGV & MM = £1757.18 + £80 per flail cut for the KGV extension field, where the number of cuts depended on conditions and growth. This was no increase on last season's cost. Cllr Mrs Elliott wondered if there was a council policy to tender for regular maintenance contracts. NTC was pleased with the service provided in this instance and as the price had not increased the quote was approved. However Cllr Duckworth suggested council could consider introducing a policy to tender every so many years for maintenance contracts.

### **Provision of a MUGA**

The Mayor reported that the parties involved were still talking and no progress had been made at the meeting held last Friday.

### **Mortimer Gardens & Town Gardening**

The situation was tidy and well kept at the moment with Mr Mansell cutting back undergrowth to clean up the steps from MG down to the stream. One of the bus stop signposts had been uprooted and thrown into the stream, from whence it had been removed, but would need cementing back into place.

The Mayor mentioned the blocked drainage at the corner property (currently occupied by FiFi's hairdressers) leading to rainwater running down the main steps into MG, which would become a hazard in colder weather. The Mayor offered to personally deliver a letter to Gerry Baylis and encourage him to have the problem rectified, pointing out as owner of the property, his liability in the case of accident.

### **Market Street Garden**

The garden was now completed and in the snagging period. The architect was still unhappy with some shoddy brickwork which he had requested be redone for a second time. It was noted that soil from the lower bank was washing into the road in heavy rain, and planting with earth retaining plants should be prioritised. The architect was not in favour of grass, not least because of health & safety issues in mowing on a slope. He had made some suggestions for planting on a woodland theme and would work on a final plan in the knowledge that the budget was £2000. The Clerk added that a hole was to be prepared in front of the electrical box for planting the WI tree – an Amalankia had been recommended.

The Clerk advised that the lighting was connected and could be activated with a timer as soon as desired. The railings looked good and the town signboards had now been put up. The Clerk would arrange repair of the old stone wall below the garden.

### **Miles Marling Field**

FG-RA had sent in a copy of a consultation paper that had been circulated to residents requesting views on the use of the field particularly feedback on the idea of installing a basket ball net.

### **Children's Play Areas**

Information on how others handled the problem of dog fouling in play areas was awaited. Cllr Mrs Elliott advised that notices and bins had been put up in Victory Park Cainscross, which had made a slight improvement. Cllr Duckworth continued to try and obtain more information on the spray painting scheme.

The Clerk had been contacted by SDC trying to get back any spare dog fouling lamp post signs as it had run out of stock. Peter Wilson had put some up in Norton Wood following complaints, and the council's remaining signs would be kept for use when residents reported problem areas.

### **Youth provision**

The Mayor advised that the full time youth worker was still on sick leave and emergency cover was being maintained to keep the Club open 3-4 evenings a week. She was now on SSP, which the Youth Club was required to pay and the Mayor had been advised by Young Gloucestershire that it could not be claimed back. Cllr Mrs Elliott did not think this was correct and would look into it.

There would be no increase on the £2500 received from the SDC youth grant despite lobbying by ward Cllrs.

### **Nailsworth Games 2012**

Cllr Mrs Elliott would write to town organisations to invite their participation in the 2012 event.

### **Queen's Golden Jubilee events**

The next meeting of the organising committee would take place on Thursday 19 January at the Youth Club at 7.30. The Clerk had forwarded some information that had come in and might be of

interest. The Clerk had been asked to find out about insurance for the fireworks to be set off by the scouts; a few additional questions needed to be answered but it looked likely that this could be covered under the NTC insurance if the council was sponsoring the event.

**Complaint from Minchinhampton resident re Christkindl Evening**

The Clerk had circulated the letter with three main complaints: temporary road closure during the day, dissatisfaction with stewards, change of name from Goodwill Evening. The Clerk was asked to respond that she would pass the comments on to the organising committee, but that as far as NTC was concerned, the day had been managed correctly having obtained all necessary permissions for road closures etc.

**Groundsman’s work schedule**

The Mayor advised that he and Cllr Mrs Thorpe had asked that Mr Mansell fill in a work timesheet as from January.

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Date

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Chairman