

**NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE
Minutes of a meeting held on 12 February 2013**

Present	Cllr S E Thorpe (Chair) Cllr J L Duckworth Cllr A Elliott Cllr S M Reed Cllr M P Robinson Cllr S Robinson
Non-attendance	Cllr N I Kay

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Councillors were pleased to note that the **repairs to the play equipment** in the KGV field and at Shortwood had been satisfactorily completed.

Cllr S Robinson reported that he had ordered the two **new planters for the bottom of Spring Hill** and had informed the individuals who had taken on the responsibility of planting them out and keeping them tidy.

Cllr Thorpe reported that she had inspected the **overhanging tree in Mortimer Gardens**. The Clerk reported that a local resident had expressed concern about a sycamore tree on Forest Green Green, adjacent to Jubilee Road, which he believed to be a potential hazard to his property. The Clerk agreed to instruct Tree Maintenance to examine both trees and to quote for any remedial work deemed to be necessary. The Clerk reported that she had asked Yakub Mulla GCC to re-inspect Forest Green Green and request Western Power to undertake urgent restoration of the grass area following its recent works at that location.

The Clerk reported that the electrical power source to the Market Street Garden had not been functioning. She had indicated the location of the power source to SDC.

The proposed wording of the plaque for the **new memorial bench in Cossack Square** dedicated to the late Mrs Dorothy Blair was approved.

Proposed mural for Nailsworth Bus Station

Mr Andrew Davies of Ruskin Mill had provided some details about his design proposals, which had been circulated to all Committee members. Cllr Reed reported on further discussions with Mr Davies, and she explained that Mr Davies and his students proposed to use stencils to create a design referencing local mills, sheep, textiles and the transit of people. Mr Davies had sent NTC a draft design, created with input from his students, which included images of Leves, the Nailsworth Clock Tower and Olympic medal winner Peter Reed. Councillors liked the idea of the Clock being included, but felt that the images of Leves and of Peter Reed were inappropriate and suggested that the latter should be replaced with an image of Nailsworth Fountain. They also felt that the heading should simply read 'Nailsworth'. Cllr Reed agreed to liaise with Mr Davies to check whether a final draft design had been created. It was agreed that subsequently to this a meeting would be arranged between Mr Davies, Cllrs Thorpe and Reed and with the Clerk to agree on the final design, including an appropriate background for the stencils.

KGV extension field: proposed use for allotments.

The Clerk reported that she had been in communication with Krista Harris SDC, who was investigating whether the allotment use would be permitted under the terms of the S106 agreement on the land. Go-Grow had drafted a letter outlining its proposals to be sent to Fields in Trust, and the Clerk would amend this as appropriate and forward it to that body.

KGV pavilion: proposed lease for early years facility

The Clerk reported that she had requested more details from the applicant regarding her views on an equitable financial arrangement with NTC for the use of the pavilion, but no response had yet been received. SDC Planning had confirmed that the pavilion's planning status was currently D2 (community use) and the proposed use would be D1, so planning permission for change of use would be required. If this were granted, D2 use would still be allowed. The Clerk agreed to write a further letter to the applicant encouraging her to submit the previously requested details as a necessary prerequisite for the required planning application. She advised that it would be also be necessary for NTC to discuss with SDC Building Control the applicant's proposed use of the fire exit as the main entrance to the building.

The Clerk reported that Fields in Trust had confirmed that it would have no objection to the proposed use of the building as an early years facility.

Children's play areas

The Clerk reported that work to repair the slide in the KGV had been completed. SDC had yet to confirm whether the £34,000 S106 money from the Newmarket Road development would be available to fund new play equipment. It was believed that, in due course, S106 money amounting to £11,500 from the proposed development at the Vicarage site in Avening Road could be made available for new play equipment.

Cllr Thorpe and the Clerk reported that they would shortly be meeting with a representative of the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association to discuss details and costings for potential new play equipment for the KGV play area, prior to an application being made for S106 funding. Cllr Reed advised that she understood that legacy money from the London 2012 Olympics could be available for play equipment.

Councillors recognised the desirability of consulting potential users before making the final decisions on the purchase of play equipment. They re-affirmed that any new equipment should be targeted on the under 9 age group.* Cllr M Robinson agreed to do some on-site market research with users of the KGV play area. Cllr Thorpe agreed to check what kind of equipment had been proving popular at Lawnside. The Mayor agreed to mention the matter in his article for the March Nailsworth News, and Cllr Duckworth agreed to put a relevant page on the NTC website.

The Clerk reported that she had received a questionnaire from SDC relating to play areas in the parish. This was to feed into the Local Plan. The Clerk and Cllr Thorpe agreed to complete the questionnaire together.

** during discussion, Cllr Thorpe pointed out that the age group referred to should have been 'under 8' rather than 'under 9'.*

Dog fouling policy

Cllrs Thorpe and S Robinson had undertaken a tour of NTC land with the Town Groundsman to investigate the extent of the local dog fouling problem and to

consider how the SDC Dog Control policy might impact on this. Cllr Thorpe had drafted an NTC Dog Fouling policy based on that of SDC, which she had previously circulated to all committee members. This was discussed. It was noted that the SDC policy did not allow NTC to ban dogs from the KGV football pitch, as this rule could only be applied to enclosed areas. However, it might be possible for NTC to take its own independent measures. Notwithstanding this limitation, the SDC policy did make it compulsory for all dog owners to clean up after their dogs on all areas of land to which the public have access. Councillors felt that the provision of more dog bins in strategic positions could encourage more dog owners to act responsibly, and it was noted that few bins were currently provided on the pedestrian/cycle trail and on the Commons. The Clerk agreed to write to Mrs Joy Way, NTC's National Trust representative, to request that the NT Committee should consider placing dog bins near Beaudesert Park School car park and close to the parking area at Hampton Green.

After some discussion, it was agreed to recommend the adoption of Cllr Thorpe's Dog Fouling Policy for Nailsworth, and to purchase an additional two dog bins for the KGV field, one to be placed near the entrance to the extension field and the other one in Wood Lane. It was agreed that the existing bin near the Vicarage should remain in situ. The Clerk explained that SDC would remove the dog waste, but only if the Town Groundsman had previously emptied them and placed the contents where they could conveniently be collected by the SDC vehicles.

MUGA at Forest Green

Cllr Thorpe reported that she had contacted the lead SDC councillor for the MUGA project to express NTC's concern that there appeared to have been no progress on the proposed discharge of FGRFC's S106 agreement on the original site. Cllr S Robinson reported that he had been informed by SDC Planning that there had been some internal misunderstanding, but that a meeting had been arranged for 24 February between the football club and Pippa Moore and Ray Figg of SDC. NTC would be informed of the outcome. SDC would take enforcement action on the land earmarked for the MUGA, which was currently in use by the club for parking.

Proposed showing of the film 'Trashed' in Climate Change Week

Cllr S Thorpe explained that the film was a documentary on environmental issues, focusing particularly on the problem of waste and how this could be dealt with at source. It was available for hire at a cost of £60 and was being shown at various locations in the Stroud District. Councillors felt that it would be appropriate for the film to be shown in Nailsworth during Climate Change week (4-10 March) and Cllr Reed suggested that the film's topic linked effectively with the Town Action Plan. The Committee agreed to recommend that NTC underwrite the costs of showing the documentary film 'Trashed' at the Arkell Centre on Friday 8 March. The total cost would be £86, comprising £60 for the renting of the film and £26 for the hiring of the Main Hall and sound and vision equipment at the Arkell Centre. It was agreed those attending should be asked to make a donation towards costs.

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Chair

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Date