

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE
Minutes of a meeting held on 8 June 2010

Present: Cllr J A Byrne (Chairman)
Cllr S Robinson
Cllr Mrs G E Smith
Apologies: Cllr Mrs D L M Binns
Cllr N I Kay
Cllr J R Nicholson
Cllr Mrs S E Thorpe

Use of KGV field by Carl Benton

Mr Benton was interested in using the field and a further approach was awaited.

Replacement Litter bins outside Bluebird and Youth Club

The Clerk reported the response she had received from SDC about the viability of using dual purpose (litter/cigarettes) bins at these locations. The present bins were pole mounted and SDC had advised that pole mounted bins could not incorporate ash trays or stubber plates. SDC had looked into litter bins with ash trays and/or stubber plates. Ash trays were found to be unsuitable as the cigarette ends merely got blown into the street and therefore stubber plates were favoured but these were only suitable for bins which did not have open tops ie floor mounted bins. A floor mounted bin could be installed outside the Youth Club but due to space limitation a pole mounted bin was the only viable option outside Bluebird.

It was agreed that as cigarette bins were already installed at the Youth Club this facility was unnecessary and that therefore the council's decision in May **to purchase two pole mounted bins should proceed unchanged.**

Mortimer Gardens

The Clerk read out a letter passed to NTC by Nailsworth News from a correspondent suggesting the installation of a water turbine in the stream which would have the potential for generating income of approx. £9,000 per annum. The Clerk was asked to thank the correspondent for his interesting idea and say that when funds permitted it would certainly be considered. The Clerk thought SWTT had installed a turbine at Dunkirk Mill and it was agreed to pass a copy of the letter to Ian Macintosh for his advice on viability.

Old Market trees

The Clerk reported that a resident had observed that some of the trees had outgrown their protective cages and were tending to stunt growth. Cllr Robinson agreed to **inspect the trees and report on their condition and prioritise remedial action.**

Miles Marling Field – youth shelter

Cllr Robinson reported that Phil Sullivan SDC had looked into concreting the base of the shelter for an approx. cost of £150. Subsequently the Rotary Club whose members had litter picked the field on Clean Up Day had also shown interest in supporting this initiative. The Clerk pointed out that the Council itself had considered concrete in the past but had discounted the idea because of health and safety issues. The shelter was known to be used as a "climbing frame" on occasion and the fact

that this was an entirely unsuitable activity it would not absolve the Council from responsibility if someone fell onto concrete and suffered severe injury. It was agreed that the provision of a safety surface would be inappropriate as it would not last a week. The Chairman suggested that an alternative method of infilling the dip with a compacted mix of soil and shingle might provide a viable solution. **The Clerk** was asked to **contact Gerald Bufton** for a quotation and Cllr Robinson agreed to ask **Phil Sullivan and Rotary to contact the Chairman** about the way forward.

King George V field

It was agreed to ask **Gerald Bufton to provide a quotation** for infilling the ruts at the entrance to the extension field. The gates in the extension field should be immobilised and appropriate notices displayed.

The Clerk reported that she had received no acknowledgement of her letter to FGRFC seeking settlement of the commuted sum and legal fees. It was agreed she should **write again to the new Club chairman David Drew**.

The Clerk reported that she **suspected there was a water leak** as the water consumption had more than doubled although actual usage of the facilities remained unchanged from previous years. It was significant that when all the stop cocks had been turned off the water meter continued to turn. Severn Trent had sent out an inspector who had not contacted the caretaker as arranged and who had reported that there was nothing wrong but as this was patently not the case she had **requested a second visit from the operations team**.

Childrens Play Areas

The Clerk reported **the receipt** that day of the **ROSPA report** on the play areas. From a cursory glance a few minor repairs had been recommended and no equipment had been deemed dangerous.

Multi Use Games Area

Cllr Kay had provided a written update. It was agreed that the Clerk should ascertain whether the town council could apply **to renew the existing planning permission** which was due to run out on 21 July. If it was possible it was agreed that the **Clerk should submit an application** with NTC bearing the cost. It was further agreed that **letters should be sent** to all interested parties and signatories of the section 106 – **SDC, GCC, FGRFC, Primary School** – seeking their agreement in principle to a land swap. When outline agreement had been obtained a structural engineer should be employed to survey the proposed new site and produce specifications for the proposed MUGA sufficient to go out to tender.

Youth Provision

Cllr Robinson reported that the Club would be open for a fourth evening on a Thursday to engage in project work and Cllr Mrs Dorcas Binns had volunteered to assist Danica Emes up until the beginning of September. From September the Youth Club would become the Stroud open base for the Duke of Edinburgh's award with Cllr Mrs Binns again volunteering her time.

Green opposite Primary School

It was noted that some heavy plant and piles of earth and two minis with for sale signs were parked on council land. The owner of Sherwood had recently obtained planning permission and it was agreed that the **Clerk and Cllr Robinson would visit the site the following day** to discuss the situation with the resident concerned.

Proposed closure of Nailsworth Recreation Centre (NRC)

Cllr Kay had provided a written report on the present position. He and others were continuing discussions with SDC to pursue NTC proposals for the future of the Centre. SDC would be taking a final decision at the cabinet meeting in September. Members agreed to **endorse action** to continue the **exploration and promotion of the viability of the NRC including submitting a bid for a Graduate Challenge Worker** via University of Gloucester for a four month period starting in July.

Market Street garden

The Clerk confirmed that the tender documents had been sent out on 1 June with sealed bids requested to be returned to the Clerk by 12 noon on 21 June. The Clerk was asked to contact Martin Portus to see if he could attend a **meeting on 22 June at 9.30pm to open the tenders** with Cllrs Byrne, Robinson and Mrs Smith in attendance.

Nailsworth Games

Cllr Kay had provided a written progress report. Arrangements were proceeding smoothly and fine weather would guarantee a successful event.

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Date

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Chairman