

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE
Minutes of a meeting held on 10 April 2012

Present: Cllr N I Kay (chair)
Cllr J L Duckworth
Cllr A Elliott
Cllr M M Rahman
Cllr S Robinson
Cllr S E Thorpe

Joe – representing skate ramp users

Non attendance: Cllr S M Reed

Old Cottage – right of access across Shortwood Green

The Clerk confirmed that solicitors had been instructed to prepare a revised agreement in advance of the potential sale of the property.

KGV field – skate ramps

The clerk reported that due to conflicting instructions the contractor had understood that the ramp painting was to be undertaken after the holiday period and he had therefore started some painting at the town hall before going on holiday, returning next week. The clerk had corrected the instructions - the **ramps to be painted immediately** on his return **weather permitting**. Any assistance the young people were able to give in preparing the ramp surfaces would be most helpful. Joe said he would impress on his friends not to use the ramps until the paint was properly dry.

Joe suggested that the side surface of the new ramp could be an ideal site for a **summer street art project**. Cllrs agreed this was an interesting idea and the mayor thought funding might be available from SDC and that possibly the duo who had decorated doors at NYCE and the empty property in Market Street might be interested in becoming involved.

Joe raised the question also of the **possible re-surfacing of the original skate ramp area**. Whilst not ruling this out Cllrs pointed out that there was no available money in the current budget but that the project could be considered for inclusion in next and future years' budgets. The cost of replacing the surface and the implications for the existing ramps were unknown and it was agreed that the clerk would undertake some research to obtain a clear picture of the complexity of the project. Joe said the skaters were keen to participate and would like to help with fund raising. The chair thanked Joe for his interest and suggestions and commended his attendance at the meeting

KGV – use of extension field

Members agreed that a brief reference should be made in Nailsworth News inviting interested groups to get in touch if interested in using the space.

MUGA at Forest Green

Cllr Kay had circulated a note of a meeting Mr Ian Crawley had attended with representatives of FGRFC on 2 March at which it was clear that the Club had decided against transfer of title of the Section 106 land to NTC although it might be willing to consider a lease to the School/Diocese for a period commensurate to the period the Diocese might offer to NTC. There was some disagreement as to whether the Diocese was still willing to grant a lease. The mayor reported that Ray Figg SDC had indicated that SDC would not

sanction any use for the section 106 money other than for building a MUGA at this time. No information was available about the progress of the proposed land swap between GCC and the Diocese. The mayor considered that the need for a MUGA was urgent and he was keen for the committee to recommend to council that

1. NTC should build a MUGA on the school car park for a cost of approx: £65-70000 without wasting any more time negotiating with the Diocese to agree security of tenure;
2. The remainder of the section 106 money should be spent at Miles Marling field to provide a basket ball net and hard standing.

Considerable discussion ensued and agreement could not be reached on the above proposition. Some members wanted more background information ie precise terms of the Section 106 etc. and it was agreed that **Cllrs Kay and Robinson would prepare a background note** for discussion at a later meeting.

At his meeting Mr Crawley had also broached the possibility of a **matched funding grant** application to the Football Foundation through FGR for funds from the Premier League allocation for community partnership. The section 106 money could be used as matched funding for a bid which would include the MUGA and improvements to the pitches at the school and KGV extension field and additional sports equipment storage at the school. Whilst there appeared to be no objection in principle **more details** of how this would work and how section 106 funds would be safeguarded would be **required** before any decision could be taken by NTC.

Dog fouling

It was agreed that **Cllrs Elliott, Reed and Thorpe would prepare a report** on the implications and options for action to progress the possible ban on dogs in NTC public spaces for consideration at a future meeting. Members were mindful that the difficult aspect of introducing a ban would be enforcement. **Cllr Duckworth agreed to research** further the "spray painting" initiative.

Mortimer Garden & town gardening

The clerk reported on the response received from Mr Baylis to NTC's request that he unblock the drain by the steps in Mortimer Garden into which surface water from his building discharged. In essence Mr Baylis denied any responsibility for the drain which was not on his land claiming that by "practice and custom" built up over the last 125 years he had an established right to discharge water into the drain. After a short discussion it was agreed that the clerk should **investigate the ownership of the drain** and ask SDC, the previous owner of the gardens, for a copy of the renovation plans in order to identify the route of the drain.

The clerk reported that two paving stones by the edge of the stream had become loose which she had asked Mr Mitchell to secure. In doing this repair Mr Mitchell had noticed that all the mortar on the underside of the paving overhang had disintegrated and he recommended that this should be replaced to **strengthen the edge pavings**. This was approved.

Policy on banners and boards – Mortimer Garden and Market Street Garden

After discussion it was agreed that **no posters or advertising material/boards should be allowed on either the railings or the interiors of the two gardens**. The only exception was the erection of a banner behind the sitting wall in the Mortimer Gardens for the duration of Festival Saturday in May.

Coincidentally in discussion with the Neighbourhood Warden that day he had confirmed that the SDC policy on display of posters etc had been rescinded and that permission had to be

obtained from GCC for the display of advertising material. The implication was that notices could not be displayed anywhere on the highway (this included lamp posts etc) without the prior agreement of GCC or on private land without the permission of the landowner. In the circumstances it might be **prudent to limit any recommendations on advertising practice to NTC land only.**

Nailsworth Society request to use banner posts to solicit new members

A request had been received from the Nailsworth Society to use the banner posts to advertise the club and encourage new members to join. In discussion it was noted that the purpose of the posts was to enable wider publicity for one off local events to catch the attention of passers through the town. Publicising the annual activity of a local society was probably limited to a more local interest which could be tapped into by posters or articles in the Nailsworth News which was delivered to every household. However an interesting point had been raised and members agreed it would be an appropriate time **to review its policy on the use of the banner posts.** A decision of the request would therefore be deferred pending the outcome of the review.

Youth provision

The mayor wished to record **thanks to Cllr Carter** who had worked hard on behalf of the Youth Club to secure £2500 from SDC towards the running costs of the Club in financial year 2011/12 and an undertaking for further funding for a similar purpose in financial year 2012/13.

The mayor was pleased to report that **Tracy Young would start at the Youth Club on 8 May.** She was very much looking forward to resuming the role of youth worker with the added challenge of the community involvement aspect.

Cllr Thorpe had noticed that **Kapers Play Scheme summer events** were being run at some Recreation Centres and had queried with SDC why Nailsworth was not included. It was thought that the scheme was only run in SDC managed Centres but **a response from SDC was awaited.**

Nailsworth Games and Queen’s Diamond Jubilee events

Cllr Elliott reported that local sports clubs had received letters inviting them to arrange taster sessions for their particular sports and a number had responded positively already. There would not be a day event at the Nailsworth Primary School.

The mayor reported on the Jubilee programme which had been prominently covered in the April Nailsworth News. A decision on the SDC grant and possible funding from Renishaw was awaited.

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Date

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Chair