Minutes of the meeting of the Parks Committee of Okehampton Town Council held on Monday 5th June 2017 in the Town Hall, Okehampton.

Present: Cllr. Miss Holt; (Chairman) Cllr. Rush; Cllr. Mrs. Goffey; Cllr. Mrs. Carpenter; Cllr. Mrs. Yelland; Cllr. Dr. Ireland; Cllr. Mrs. Cushing; Cllr. Vachon; Cllr. Tolley; Cllr. Leech; Cllr. Cummings; Penny Clapham (Locum Clerk)

Declarations of Interest - Members are reminded that they should declare any relevant interest regarding items on the agenda. None declared.

Urgent items - items for information only can be brought to the attention of the Committee at the discretion of the Chairman at the end of the meeting.
No decision can be taken on items not detailed on the published agenda.
Mention has been made of an email advising Council of a person slipping on grass in the park.

36. **Appointment of Minute-Taker for the meeting** - Locum Clerk attended to take the minutes.

37. **Apologies for Absence** - To receive apologies for absence from those Members unable to attend.
Cllr. Marsh; Cllr. Stephens; Cllr. Weekes.

38. **Deferment of Business** - For comment by the public.

39. **Members' Questions** - To receive questions from Members regarding the workings of the Committee.
Cllr. Leech - Noted that CCTV is not on the agenda. However, there is a camera still on the office workshop roof; a check will be made to see if this camera is working.

40. **Minutes** - To confirm, approve and sign the minutes of the Parks Committee meeting held on 27 March 2017. Cllr. Cushing requested the minutes to be amended noting that she is not on this committee.
Resolved: proposed by Cllr. Ireland, seconded by Cllr. Leech.

41. **Matters Arising** -
41.1 Litter bin at Macey's Terrace – in place and arrangements made for emptying. Noted.
41.2 Maintenance Agreement with Bowling Club – Club informed and letter sent to confirm. Noted.
41.3 Dog bin at Tramlines path – further request from member of the public for a dog bin. Cllr. Leech considers that a dog bin here will make no difference to this area. There is a dog bin on the Granite Way. As this is a bridleway this request will be passed to County Cllr. Ball.

42. **Park Bookings** – To note requests received:
42.1 Request from OCRA for creation of 2 cricket pitches for Dartmoor Cup Cricket Finals – Thursday 25 May – date has already passed.

42.2   Request from OCRA to use Park for Devon Youth Games (now South West Games) on Sunday 9 July 2017. (Note, the Park and Car Park will be clear by 6 pm in time for the pre-arranged Fair vehicles to arrive.)
Funlands Fun Fair is a subsidiary of Rowland and Anderton – they need to be advised of the South West Games.

42.3   Revised request for Rowland and Anderton Fair to use Simmons Park (mainly Car Park based) from 12 – 18 June 2017 (operating Thursday, Friday & Saturday).
Noted.

42.4   Request from Rotary for revised date for 'Spring' Fair: 24 June – to be confirmed.
Confirmed as moved to 23rd July.

43.   **Exclusive Burial Rights Policy** – To consider revisions to the existing policy and fee structure for the purchase of exclusive burial rights at Okehampton Cemetery.
Resolved: revisions and fee structure as advised. Proposed by Cllr. Goffey, seconded by Cllr. Leech – all in favour by show of hands.

44.   **College Request for Realignment of Public Footpath** – To note the request for a relocation of the public footpath from the existing route of the cricket field side of the wall to the playing field side and, as land owner, to agree the change.
Cllr. Goffey gave background information and the school's wish to fence their playing fields.
Cllr. Rush had a meeting – stock proof fencing indicated. Cllr. Leech considers this a positive move. Will give a proper boundary
Cllr Yelland seconded by Cllr Carpenter - all in favour by show of hands.

45.   **Dog Control and Fouling and Youth Football Training** – To consider a complaint from the organisers of Okehampton Argyle Youth FC concerning dogs in Simmons Park.
The youth teams are using the park. Should official club activity ask permission. Cllr. Cummings suggested bags are provided in order to clear the pitch. Cllr. Leech suggested that one of the duties of the park staff should be to check the grounds and clear waste. CCTV might make a difference. Council may have to pay a dog warden to show a presence. Cllr. Yelland commented that it is the responsibility of dog owners to pick up dog poo. Cllr. Leech considers Council have a duty of care. Cllr. Goffey does not consider this job is a park staff responsibility. More dog poo signs are needed. No action resolved.

46.   **Members' Reports and Reminder for Agenda Items** - To receive reports from Members attending other organisations on behalf of the Council.
(i)   Children's Centre - Cllr Leech. – no meeting.
(ii)   North Dartmoor Search and Rescue Group - Cllr Ireland. – nothing to report.
(iii)   Okehampton Community Archive - Cllr Holt. – first meeting a few weeks ago.
(iv)   Okehampton Community Recreation Association (OCRA) – Cllr. Tolley. Attended 2 meetings. 2nd May a presentation given by Skills Trust in skills and sport.
Projected building an all weather running track with all weather pitch in the centre, but this means moving the current football pitch. Cost £600,000 to £800,000. Further details were given to Council, including local sports clubs not being interested in taking on this project.

Trustee meeting – no nominations received for the current vacancy. Discussions took place for the replacement of the all weather pitch. To further consider the charitable status. OCRA next meeting AGM on 19th July.

Simmons Park is a public open space for the community. Suggest this is an agenda item for a future meeting.

(v)   Parklands Leisure Centre Users' Group - Councillors Leech & Marsh. – open invitation to meet the manager. Pleased with the approach running the Centre. Considers West Devon should have a member on this User group.

(vi)   Youth Issues/Room 13 - Councillor Marsh. – no report.

Meeting closed at 7.46pm

Signed……………………………………….   Date…………………………………..

Position……………………………………