

**Minutes of Okehampton Town Council Parks Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 7pm in the Council Chamber,  
Town Hall, Okehampton**

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor Mrs C Marsh (Chairman)  
Councillor T Leech (Chairman, Planning)  
Councillor J Yelland (Chairman, Policy & Resources)  
Councillor D Weeks (Chairman, Property)  
Councillor R Rush  
Councillor B Tolley  
Councillor Miss C Holt  
Councillor Dr M Ireland

**Other Members Present:** Councillor Mrs V Cushing

**In Attendance:** Mr J McGahey (Park-Keeper)  
Mrs E James (Town Clerk)

		<b>Action</b>
<b>489</b>	<b><u>Apologies for Absence</u></b> - Apologies were presented on behalf of Cllrs Carpenter, Goffey and Parkins	
<b>490</b>	<b><u>Deferment of Business</u></b> – None	
<b>491</b>	<b><u>Members' Questions</u></b> – None	
<b>492</b>	<b><u>Minutes</u></b> - The minutes of the Parks Committee meeting held on 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2018 were <b>APPROVED</b> and signed by the Chairman on the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded Cllr Yelland.	
<b>493</b>	<b><u>Matters Arising</u></b> –	
<b>493.1</b>	<b><u>Simmons Park Car Parking Charges</u></b> – The Clerk advised that the consultation was underway and would close on 30 <sup>th</sup> November. Should there be no adverse comments received the new charge would come into effect on 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2019.	
<b>493.2</b>	<b><u>Putting Green</u></b> – Ongoing	
<b>493.3</b>	<b><u>Sports Track Proposal</u></b> – There was no update to report	
<b>493.4</b>	<b><u>Play Area Floor Surfacing</u></b> – Quotes to be obtained	J McGahey
<b>493.5</b>	<b><u>Compostable Dog Excrement Bags</u></b> – No decision was taken on the way forward.	
<b>493.6</b>	<b><u>Bowling Club Agreement</u></b> – The pump removal was to be carried out by J McGahey later in the week. A response to correspondence was awaited from the club.	Clerk
<b>493.7</b>	<b><u>Sculpture</u></b> – The Clerk reported that the proposal had been withdrawn due to lack of funding.	
<b>493.8</b>	<b><u>Noticeboards</u></b> – Cllr Ireland suggested Fairplace as a possible location and would report further at the next meeting.	
<b>493.9</b>	<b><u>CCTV</u></b> – A scheme and costings had been received which was noted for	

	future discussion.	
494	<b>Bookings</b> – On the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded by Cllr Yelland, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to agree a request by Cruse Bereavement Care to hold a Footprints Memory Walk and event in Simmons Park on 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2019 subject to required insurance and documentation being received and approved by the Clerk.	
495	<b>Waste Removal</b> – The Clerk reported that for health and safety reasons a 2 <sup>nd</sup> bin had been obtained and would be emptied on request.	
496	<b>Play Equipment Repairs</b> – The Committee noted that parts had been ordered for 2 pieces of equipment.	
497	<b>All Saints Churchyard</b> – On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded by Cllr Leech, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to upright the grave stone of Sydney Simmons’ father which had been knocked by a recent tree fall.	Clerk
498	<b>Graffiti Wall</b> – The Clerk read out email correspondence regarding an escalation of graffiti in the area. Cllr Leech advised that this had been highlighted at the last Okehampton Matters meeting, but the incidents weren’t always being reported to the Police.  On the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded by Cllr Marsh, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to go ahead and create a graffiti wall inside the first shelter in Simmons Park and that rules would be written by Cllr Marsh, J McGahey and the Clerk. A press release was also agreed.	Cllr Marsh, J McGahey, Clerk
499	<b>Apprenticeship</b> – A discussion was held during which general support in principle was given by Cllrs. On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded by Cllr Yelland, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to progress with the proposal.	Clerk
500	<b>Transfer of Assets</b> – The Clerk reported that WDBC had published a notice of intent to transfer 3 pieces of land to the ownership of the Town Council, including the land and toilets at Fairplace, and that approval for the transfer was being sought at a WDBC Hub meeting on 20 <sup>th</sup> November.  On the proposition of Cllr Weekes, seconded by Cllr Rush (3 abstentions) it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that a letter be sent to WDBC and the Okehampton Times regarding the publicised closure of the public toilets in Market Street.	Clerk
501	<b>Budget 2019/20</b> – A draft budget provided by the Clerk was reviewed and would be further discussed at the next meeting.	
502	<b>Payment of Invoices</b> – On the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded by Cllr Weekes, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve payment of the schedule.	
503	<b>Members’ Reports and Reminder for Agenda Items -</b> (i) <b>Children’s Centre</b> (Cllr Leech) – Cllr Leech had been in contact with the manager and a meeting date was awaited.  (ii) <b>North Dartmoor Search &amp; Rescue Group</b> (Cllr Ireland) – The group had recently supported community events and would be helping with the upcoming Edwardian Evening in December. Training emphasis was currently on water skills/rescue and an open day was being held on 12 <sup>th</sup> December.	

- (iii) **Okehampton Community Archive** (Cllr Holt) – No meeting had been held. The next meeting was on 26<sup>th</sup> November.
- (iv) **Okehampton Community Recreation Association (OCRA)** (Cllr Tolley) – The next meeting was due to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> November.
- (v) **Parklands Leisure Centre Users Group** (Cllr's Leech) – A meeting was due to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> November. Concerns from users regarding the pool floor had been received. It was believed the repair would not be undertaken until 2019.
- (vi) **Youth Issues/Room 13** (Cllr Marsh) – No report
- (vii) **Twining Association** (Cllr Parkins) – No report

**PART TWO ITEMS**

It was **RESOLVED** that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information. Proposed by Cllr Leech, seconded by Cllr Yelland.

It was further **RESOLVED** that Mr J McGahey be permitted to stay for the first item of business.

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>504</b> <b><u>Simmons Park River Bank Repairs</u></b> – Quotations received for repairs to the bank as per a schedule provided by the previous Park-keeper was considered. On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded by Cllr Yelland, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that a survey be undertaken by Cllr Rush's son and that revised quotations based on this be obtained.</p> <p><i>(Mr McGahey left the meeting)</i></p>	<p>Cllr Rush, J McGahey</p>
<p><b>505</b> <b><u>Simmons Park Car Park Expenses</u></b> – Cllr Marsh reported on expenses arising for the car park and requested permission to investigate the leases for the car parking areas, which was agreed.</p>	
<p><b>506</b> <b><u>WDBC/Fusion Lease Agreement</u></b> – The Clerk reported that transfer of land, which would allow the amendments to the lease, were hopefully now in progress.</p>	

On the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded Cllr Ireland, it was **RESOLVED** to exit Part Two and ratify decisions made in Part Two.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

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**Councillor Mrs C Marsh**  
**Chairman**