

**Minutes of an Okehampton Town Council Parks Committee Meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Okehampton**

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor C Marsh (Chairman)  
 Councillor B Tolley (Mayor)  
 Councillor P Jessop (Chairman, Planning)  
 Councillor J Yelland (Chairman, Policy & Resources)  
 Councillor T Abbots  
 Councillor C Holt  
 Councillor M Ireland  
 Councillor T Leech  
 Councillor D Travers

**Other Members Present:** Councillor J Goffey  
 Councillor B Matravers  
 Councillor D Sanger

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

	<b>Action</b>
196 <b><u>Appointment of Chairman</u></b> – On the proposition of Cllr Holt, seconded Cllr Yelland, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to appoint Cllr Marsh as Chairman.	
197 <b><u>Appointment of Vice-Chairman</u></b> - On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded Cllr Tolley, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to appoint Cllr Abbots as Vice-Chairman.	
198 <b><u>Apologies for Absence</u></b> – Apologies from Cllr Wood who was ill were <b>approved</b> on the proposition of Cllr Yelland, seconded Cllr Marsh.	
199 <b><u>Deferment of Business</u></b> – Cllr Goffey thanked Mr McGahey for his efforts keeping the tree at Fairplace living through the drought.	
200 <b><u>Members’ Questions</u></b> – None	
201 <b><u>Termination of Tennis Club Agreement</u></b> – Cllr Marsh reported that a meeting with all parties had been held on 27 <sup>th</sup> July 2022 when the Agreement had been terminated and the minutes were signed directly following the meeting. Confirmation from WDBC that the process was complete was to be ascertained by Cllr Leech.	Cllr Leech

**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 involved the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information. Proposed by Cllr Ireland, seconded by Cllr Yelland.

202 <b><u>Play Equipment Repair/Replacement</u></b> – Consideration was given to the various options and the Park-Keeper explained the difficulty obtaining quotations for netting replacement which had resulted in just one quotation that RoSPA, who undertook the annual inspections, would likely approve.  On the proposition of Cllr Jessop, seconded Cllr Leech, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to replace the netting at the cost of £1,721.02 from GB Sport & Leisure, noting that the price may have increased since the quotation was obtained.	Park-Keeper
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**203** **Mower Repair/Replacement** – The Park-Keeper reported that he would like to trial some alternative options for a replacement mower that was used both in the park and cemetery.

(Cllr Travers arrived.)

On the proposition of Cllr Marsh, seconded Cllr Yelland, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the trial of different mowers and that the Park-Keeper report to the next meeting for consideration of the purchase of the most appropriate.

Park-Keeper

**204** **Cemetery Land Purchase** – A valuation for the potential purchase of a plot of land for future use as a cemetery was considered. The Clerk reported that based on 12 burials per year, it was estimated the existing cemetery would run out of space in approximately 5 years.

On the proposition of Cllr March, seconded Cllr Tolley, it was **RESOLVED** to recommend to full Council that the valuation sum of £40K be offered to the landowner, that a pre application planning enquiry be sent to WDBC for the change of use of the land, and if both of those were positive the Environment Agency and/or relevant companies be appointed to undertake checks including a land use risk assessment.

Clerk

On the proposition of Cllr Yelland, seconded Cllr Ireland, it was **RESOLVED** to exit Part Two and ratify decisions made therein. The meeting was closed at 6.57pm.

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**Councillor Marsh**  
**Chairman**