

Minutes of the Okehampton Town Council Parks Committee Meeting held on Monday
17th June in the Council Chamber, Town Hall,
Fore Street, Okehampton at 7 pm

Committee Members Present: Councillor Mrs C Marsh (Chair)
Councillor Dr M Ireland (Vice Chair)
Councillor M Davies (Town Mayor)
Councillor A Leech (Chair Planning)
Councillor P Vachon (Chair Property)
Councillor Mrs M McDonald (Chair Policy & Resources)
Councillor Mrs J Goffey
Councillor K Ball

Other Members Present: Councillor T Cummings
Councillor D Pledger

In Attendance: Mrs J Gillard (Deputising for Town Clerk)
Mr D Whitfield (Park Keeper)

55. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of Councillor D Weekes.
56. **Deferment of Business** – (for comment by the public) – There were no questions from members of the public.
57. **Members Questions** – There were no questions from Members.
58. **Minutes** – The minutes of the Parks Committee meeting held on 20th May 2013 were approved and signed by the Chair on the proposition of Councillor M Ireland, seconded by Councillor M Davies.
59. **Urgent Items brought forward by the Chair** – The Mayor stated there was a Community Day, Charter Hall, 10am – 1pm, 29th June where Council had booked a table. Agreed Councillors Vachon and Davies be Working Group to progress arrangements.
Councillor K Ball stated that literature issued by Hunt Group was inaccurate regarding Primary School places – he advised they were not oversubscribed and had capacity for the September intake. Councillor Ball to distribute email confirming the figures.
Request received from Scott May's Dare Devil Stunt Show to use Park for Stunt Show in September. Councillors agreed in principle to hold event but more information was required – meeting on site with company suggested together with obtaining feedback from other sites they used.

60. Matters Arising –

60.1 Clapps Wood - Councillor Davies reported WDBC and the Town Council have signed all paperwork, now awaiting transfer of funds from WDBC to Devon & Cornwall Housing Association, transaction can then be completed.

60.2 OCRA Sports Pavilion, Simmons Park – Councillor Davies advised paperwork has been completed, OCRA solicitors requiring amendment re boundary, once resolved transaction will be completed.

60.3 Park Bookings – the Chair reported that the Park booking fee paid by Paulo’s Circus for 2012 was £500 and not £1000 as advised at the previous meeting- the £1000 paid last year was for 2 year’s hire. Noted by Councillors.

Agreed that Terms & Conditions for future bookings for the circus include that they remove posters on completion of the event.

Daredevil Stuntshow fees – agreed feedback be obtained from other sites used before agreeing fee.

60.4 Replacement/New Play Equipment – noted no budget available.

60.5 Have a Field Day, 7th July 2013 – Mr Whitfield advised costings of resiting dog bin and erection of stone for QEII plaque would be £200 approx. Resolved to proceed with funds to be taken from General maintenance /footpaths budget.

60.6 Dog Bins – Mr Whitfield advised cost of 9 x 45 litre bins approx £1600. No budget at present, agreed to retain on agenda with view to obtaining grant to enable purchase.

60.7 Notice Board - Councillor Goffey reported there was a Grip It board available, freestanding, no pins required, holding 10 x A4 sheets, cost £565 plus £185 fixing. Suggested location at Fairplace against old Police Station wall. Agreed product and location seemed suitable. Councillor Goffey to discuss with other organisations.

60.8 Red Telephone Box, North Street – the Acting Clerk advised BT permission for move not required, they would need to disconnect electricity which they would do with no charge. The Chair advised planning permission not required if moved to Town Council property. Investigations to be made for costs of moving.

60.9 Sophia Simmons’ Memorial – the Acting Clerk advised Exeter Diocese required more information before authorising replacement, this has been sent to them, response awaited.

61. Mobile CCTV Cameras – Mr Whitfield reported approx cost of package £2100 providing 5 fixed cameras, 2 of which would turn 360 degrees, 50 metre range infra red, wireless, 5 areas to be covered. Further quotes to be obtained. Councillor Vachon requested the cost of signage be included in the overall costings. Councillor Leech pointed out the quality of the cameras needed to be sufficient to ensure the output could be used for evidence purposes. Carried forward to next agenda.

62. Siting of 2 New Benches – it was noted these benches are to be sited at the Bowling Club.

63. **Procedures for booking Tennis and Putting** – the Chair advised both currently booked through the Leisure Centre. Booking can be transferred to OCRA, Councillors resolved to make this transfer as more appropriate site for tennis booking and more promotion can be made for putting.
64. **Ladies Putting Club** – resolved to retain fees at £350 as previous year.
65. **Lamp Posts on Public Footpath from Leat Road to Cricket Field** – see appendix A map, the Chair advised posts 001 – 005 were actually owned by the Town Council although there was no longer a post at site 005. Noted by members.
66. **Access through car park during Spring and Autumn Fair** – agreed safety could be improved if alternative exit made through College but there would be difficulties with different land levels if this was undertaken. Agreed to discuss further and retain on agenda.
67. **Members’ Reports -**
Parklands Leisure Centre Users’ Group – no meeting.
Okehampton Community Recreation Association – Councillor Mrs Marsh reported Pavilion planned to be open 6/7 July but it is not yet fully equipped or furnished.
North Dartmoor Search & Rescue Group – Cllr Ireland reported building fund has anticipated shortfall of £15,000. Requested letter of support from Council to assist with ongoing fundraising – resolved that appropriate letter be sent. Training event planned to be held at Belstone, reviewing framework for membership of team.
Tennis Court Management – no meeting, Chair to ascertain if there are any issues.
Okehampton Community Archive – Councillor Vachon reported Group are trying to obtain funding to take on historical information boards in town to update and repair them. Heritage Walk in closed churchyard also being investigated. Reported the Red telephone box at St James Chapel in a bad state, resolved letter be sent to BT enquiring on frequency of cleaning.
Carnival Committee – Councillor Cummings reported Coffee Morning held. Murder/mystery event and children’s disco planned for fund raising.
Youth Issues/Room 13 – no report.
Children’s Centre – no report.

PART TWO

ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ON THE GROUND THAT EXEMPT INFORMATION MAY BE DISCLOSED 9 (if any).

The Committee is recommended to pass the following resolution:-

“On the proposition of Councillor Ball, seconded by Councillor Leech, it was resolved that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the Meeting for the under mentioned item of business on the grounds that exempt information may be disclosed as defined in the paragraph given below from Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) to the Act”.

Paragraph 9 – Any terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods or services

68. Parks Budget

It was resolved to come out of part 2 on the proposition of Councillor Ball, seconded by Councillor Leech, move back into part 1 and ratify all decisions taken in part 2.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Councillor Mrs C Marsh
Chairman