

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **GROUND AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Monday 2 September 2013**

(7:00pm – 7.55pm)

Present:

David Dollard (Chairman)
Peter Brock
Andrew Kendall
Mike Lock
Manny Roper
Alan Smith

Jon Trevett - (co-opted – non voting)

Also Present:

Juliet Sims – Assistant Town Clerk
James Divall – Community Health and Well-being Project Manager
Rich Davy – Environment Officer

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

8/189 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 July 2013, copies of which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8/190 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Philip Chandler, John Hann, and Darren Shutler.

8/191 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

8/192 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

8/193 **OUTDOOR GYM INITIATIVE**

The Committee considered the report of the Community Health and Well-being Project Manager. (agenda item 5 refers).

James Divall, the Community Health and Well-being Project Manager advised the Committee that Milford Park was to be the pilot site to develop and install an outdoor gym, with the further development of the new footpaths in Milford Park to provide a circular walk/running track around the Park, and that the different equipment which had been looked at would cost £19,345, with a further £20,000 for the walk/running track.

The equipment could be used during the day or the evening.

James added that the pilot project at Milford Park would be assessed to see who would use this facility, and that this Outdoor Gym Initiative would be the first in South Somerset, with Dorchester being the nearest one to Yeovil.

In response to the Members' comments James advised that the Outdoor Gym would not need to be supervised. There would be instructions next to each piece of equipment on how to use it, and that as it was not possible to set the equipment to exceed one's own weight, it was safer than the standard gym equipment. The maintenance was low, and whilst safety surfacing was not necessary he would seek advice on what type of flooring would be best.

Members expressed their concern that the equipment could be vandalised, and that the cost of maintenance could be higher than envisaged. Reference was made to potential problems arising from the equipment being used in the dark, and whether eco equipment would be available, with perhaps a dynamo system which when pedalling would source a light. James would look into this option, and added that there was an option where you can download an app on a smartphone which would record the number of repetitions, and suggested that Members could look at this on the website.

Representatives of the Outdoor Gym equipment would be happy to bring some equipment to Yeovil for Members to try out. This could be arranged if this was supported.

RESOLVED

that the matters be noted.

8/194 **PLAY AREAS**

Members considered the report of the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer (SSDC). (agenda item 6 refers)

RESOLVED

that the matters be noted.

8/195 **PRESTON PARK PLAY AREA UPDATE**

The Committee considered the report of the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer (SSDC). (agenda item 7 refers)

There was a meeting of the Preston Park Play Area Steering Group at the end of July, and it was agreed that an order would be placed in September 2013, with work expected to go ahead in mid October.

RESOLVED

that the matters be noted.

8/196 **OPEN SPACES REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT**

The Committee noted that the Principal Horticultural Officer was on leave, and that there was no report for this meeting.

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted.

8/197 **ALLOTMENT MAINTENANCE UPDATE**

The Committee considered the report of the Street Scene Co-Ordinator (SSDC). (agenda item 9 refers).

Reference was made to the use of water at Milford Dip Allotment site and examples given of various practices.

The Chairman indicated that the Town Clerk was aware of the situation and had already sought the help of the Tenant Site Representative to encourage good practice amongst all tenants on this site.

He added that a set of guidelines were being put together by the Town Clerk for all allotment tenants based on best practice and encouraging the efficient use of water throughout the growing season.

RESOLVED

that the matters be noted.

8/198 **ALLOTMENT STRUCTURES**

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (agenda item 10 refers).

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted, and
- (2) that the terms and conditions be amended to include a reference to no shed or greenhouse to exceed 2.1m (7 ft) in height without the express consent of the Town Council.

8/199 **NEW INITIATIVES BUDGET**

The Committee considered this matter, which had been deferred from the July meeting.

The Committee agreed to request funds to be put aside towards the cost of an outdoor gym initiative, with the Country Park being an optional and additional site.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted, and
- (2) that the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee be requested to contribute £10,000 towards the costs of a new Outdoor Gym Initiative.

8/200 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT – JUNE /JULY 2013**

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period June to July 2013 (Agenda Item 12 refers),

RESOLVED

that the Financial Statement be noted.

Chairman

JS
12/09/2013