

**Minutes of the Playing Fields & Open Spaces Committee
Held on 9th May 2011 at 7.30 p.m. in the Bush Room**

Present: - Cllrs Alison Peters (Chairman), Bernard Willcox, Mike Webb, Kitty Davies, Phil Squires, John Cutland, Terry Hunt.
Bob Phillips (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Evacuation Procedure

Evacuation procedures were noted.

3. Public Participation

None

4. Declaration of Interests

None

5. Minutes of the meeting held on 7th Feb 2011 and Matters arising

Resolved: The minutes with an agreed modification to item 5.2.3 were agreed and signed by the chairman.

5.1. Matters Arising

None

5.2. Outstanding Actions

5.2.1. PF 100510-2 To obtain estimates for Power Washing the surfaces to remove the moss growth in the Lime Kiln Play Area **Action to Clerk**

The Clerk reported that a test carried out by the SG operative proved that the pressure hose he used was far too powerful and would severely damage the surface.

An informal estimate for the work had been obtained from RedLynch Leisure a national company. The minimum charge would be £725.00 which included the first 125 m² the next 75 m² @ £5.50 per m² and any further area @ £4.50 m². It was felt that these charges were too great.

Cllr Mike Webb suggested trying Murray Plant Hire at Yate to see if they had the equipment to carry out the work.

It was agreed that the Clerk would continue to explore other ways of getting the surface cleaned including obtaining formal estimates from companies.

5.2.2. PF 100510-3 To consult with Landscape Companies to seek ideas to solve the problems of the YC Car Park Bank. Solutions to include estimates. **Action to Clerk**

To be added to the "Wish List" When created, close action.

5.2.3. ***PF 100802-2 to establish the availability of free bicycle stands and the requirements that are attached to their provision.*** ***Action to Kitty Davies***

Cllr Kitty Davies reported that "Life Cycle" (www.lifecycleuk.org.uk) provides **free** cycle parking stands under their **Take a Stand** scheme. Voluntary sector groups including the Youth Centre are welcome to apply. Good cycle parking tells the world that you're an environmentally-friendly organisation and it's a proven way of deterring cycle theft. 4 free cycle stands are available per applicant. Action originally closed but because the Clerk had been unable to confirm the offer was still available, Cllr Kitty Davies offered to re-check the detail.

Subsequently, Cllr Kitty Davies confirmed that the 2010/11 allocation of free stands had been used up and that we should check in June to see whether a further annual allocation for South Gos had been made.

Action Closed

5.2.4. ***PF 101101-1 to obtain an estimate for the removal of existing cycle stands, installation of four new "sunk in" stands on a gravel base. The Gravel base to be inset into the ground with preserved timber edge and weed control material.***

Action to Clerk & Cllr Kitty Davies.

One estimate obtained by Cllr Kitty Davies, Clerk to follow up an estimate from Mike York. 7/2/11
Action closed until replacement racks available.

5.2.5. ***PF 101101-4 to meet and discuss at the Cemetery the continued maintenance of the shrub borders and any replanting necessary and to consider a three year plan.***

Cllrs Alison Peters, Mike Webb and the Clerk

Ongoing 7/2/11

Ongoing 9/5/11

6. Playing Fields & Play Areas

6.1. Play Areas

Regular inspections have not identified any issues.

It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange for Mike York to complete the cement edge-fillet as soon as possible.

PF110509-1 To arrange for Mike York to complete the unfinished work installing the cement edge fillet at the Limekiln Play area. ***Action to Clerk***

6.1.1. Cross Hands Play Area

The swing height adjustment and the fitting of a No Dog Litter notice remain to be done.

6.1.2. Lime Kiln Play Area

Nothing specific to report.

6.2. Recreation Ground

Gas Cupboard - A wooden cupboard which contains the Jubilee Hall gas meter is damaged with both doors hanging off their hinges.

PF110509-2 To arrange for Mike York/others to provide a quote to secure and repair the wooden meter cupboard in Limekiln field. ***Action to Clerk***

Goalmouth repairs.

No repair work has been undertaken since the season end to date due to the extremely dry weather. The Grounds Maintainer will advise as soon as work can be undertaken. Cllr Mike Webb suggested that when the ground becomes wetter, pre-germinated seed could be used.

6.3. Field Users

The cricket season started with a very successful Memorial Charity match which raised nearly £400 for Cancer charities. The Council had been thanked by the organisers for waiving the charges for that day. League matches continue with a match being played every Saturday throughout the summer.

7. Play-Builder Project

The new equipment has now all been fully installed. Many comments and observations made by local people seem to indicate that the scheme is proving very successful. A few issues remain outstanding.

The new path – the surface of the path is still not satisfactory and despite the contractor, Jane's Pond, agreeing to carry out remedial work, it remains a problem. This item was not part of the Play-builder core project but is entirely financed by the Parish Council.

The play-nets – only the smaller two nets remain and it is proposed that they are left for the summer. Their use and status will be closely monitored.

Turfing on the mounds – due to the very dry weather since installation, a number of the turfs have died. The contractor, who was not required to water post-installation has agreed, as an act of goodwill, to provide 20 new turfs. These are to be delivered when the weather is more suitable.

Skateboard equipment – this second-hand equipment is currently being installed and is funded entirely within the Playbuilder grant.

To complete the project, it is proposed that several seats are provided and possibly some picnic areas. The Council has received a donation and we are also expecting to receive a gift for a memorial seat. Cllr Alison Peters suggested that she reconvene the Playbuilder sub-committee to investigate options further. This was agreed.

PF110509-3 To arrange a meeting of the Playbuilder sub-committee to investigate options for seating and picnic facilities. ***Action to Cllr Alison Peters***

Limekiln Playscape Official Opening – the Council has heard nothing from the SG Project Manager re. an official opening although this was probably because most SG people had been tied up with election activities.

It was agreed unanimously that an opening ceremony should be focussed on the Children and local people and be entirely without any political plaudits. It should be a locally hosted, locally attended event.

8. Cemetery

The rose bed was in desperate need of some new plants and cultivation. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange for remedial work and planting to a maximum value of £200.

PF110509-4 To arrange new plants and remedial work in the rose bed at the Cemetery to a value of £200.00. ***Action to Clerk***

9. Grounds Maintenance Report

9.1. All contracted work has been satisfactorily completed.

10. Budget Review

10.1. Committee Budget Report 31 Mar 2011

The report was presented to the committee without comment.

11. Correspondence

21-Apr-11 T Lorraine Shergold

Footpath report - bottom kissing gate at side of cemetery vandalised and broken.

The gate had been removed for safe keeping and we were awaiting an estimate for the work from Mike York.

12. Any other business

12.1. Additional Litter Bins on Limekiln Field.

It was agreed that this item would be added to the agenda of the Playbuilder sub-committee.

12.2. Field Store damaged panel.

The Clerk had now identified the make of building and would obtain a firm estimate for supply and fit of the broken panel.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.