

**Minutes of the Playing Fields & Open Spaces Committee
Held on 3rd November 2014 at 8.30 p.m. in the Bush Room**

Present: - James Sumner (JS) (Chairman), Terry Hunt (TH) Mike Webb (MW), Marcus Fry (MF), Steve Blick (SB)
Graham Smith (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Alison Peters (AP)

2. Evacuation Procedure

Evacuation procedures were noted.

3. Public Participation

None

4. Declaration of Interests

None

5. Minutes of the meeting held on 1st September 2014 and Matters arising

5.1. **14071 Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 1st September were approved.

5.2. Matters Arising – None

5.3. Outstanding actions – (Clerk) confirmed that some park benches had been done with more to be completed in the coming months.

6. Playing Fields & Play Areas

6.1. Play Areas

6.1.1 Cross Hands Play Area – New Equipment.

(Clerk) reported that the application for the Merlin Housing grant had been submitted and accepted and was awaiting notification of the amount of grant and when this would be released.

6.1.2 (Clerk) informed the committee that a H&S inspection had been booked and was due to be completed in November.

6.2. Recreation Grounds

Nothing to report

6.3. Field Users

6.3.1. (MF) raised the question that football pitches should be marketed to obtain further use. (MW) informed members that the Alveston Football pitch is known to league teams / users. (Clerk) informed the committee that the management of field usage, team times and cup fixtures is exceptionally time consuming along with pitch inspections during rainy spells to ensure the pitch is not over used and ruined. Last year the pitch was over used and games not cancelled when they should have been resulting in a pitch which was in poor condition during the second half of the football season and the start of the Cricket season. Currently TBFC is the only field user during the winter period and (Clerk) recommends that this should continue for this season with a review of field usage strategy at the end of 2014/15 for the forthcoming season.

6.4. Millennium Garden

Nothing to report

7. Cemetery

- 7.1. Landscaping – (Clerk) informed the committee members that he had undertaken an inspection of the cemetery with (MW) relating to the planting and positioning of trees. It was concluded that if planting was to continue in line with the cemetery plan that the cemetery would appear over grown, dense and contain too many trees. (Clerk) advised that the cemetery plan be altered in order to reduce the density of tree planting in the future. (JS) recommended that all members be supplied with plans in order to consider the recommendations

PF141103-1: Distribute cemetery plans to all members.

Action to Clerk

(MW) informed members that there were two removal/replacement requests relating to dead memorial trees but was unable to obtain replacement trees from suppliers until at least the end of the month due to the exceptionally mild weather

8. Grounds Maintenance Report

- 8.1. (MW) recommended that due to the exceptionally warm weather that all Parish grounds receive a further grass cut. (Clerk) informed members that SGC had finished all contracted grass cutting for the current year.

PF141103-2: Arrange additional grass cut with grounds maintenance contractor.

Action to Clerk

9. 2015/16 Charges

(Clerk) presented the 2015/16 list of charges which had been approved by the F & GP committee. (Clerk) asked members to consider the necessity for listing charges which have, over time, become obsolete and recommended that a review of cemetery charges and strategy be considered relating to the position of graves and choices given to the end user. (JS) requested that "Cemetery" strategy relating to both grave plots / positioning and trees strategy be placed for full consideration at the next PF & OS meeting.

10. Correspondence

None

11. Any other business

(Clerk) informed members that he had reinstated the policy for locking the outer cemetery gate after contact via the land agent recommending that gates should be locked at closing times to prevent the potential occupation of the field by travelers

(SB) informed members that the barriers at the bridal way adjacent to Wolfridge Ride were left in a permanent unlocked state after work had been completed by the electric company and the padlocks had been removed and requested that SGC be contacted to reinstate padlocks to the barriers.

PF141103-3: Contact SGC to request that padlocks be reinstated to the barriers at the bridal way adjacent to Wolfridge Ride.

Action to Clerk

Meeting Concluded at 09.00 PM

**The next meeting of the Playing Fields and Open Spaces Committee is on
Monday 2nd February at 7.45pm.**