

**Committee: Open Spaces**

**Date: 4 April 2023**

**Title:** Clerk's update

**Purpose of Report:** To receive an update on matters that are not on this agenda.

**Recommendation:**

Members to note the report

**Report:**

**Playparks and Fitness Trail**

1. As Members are aware, officers have been tasked to apply for S106 funding to assist with the development of the Fitness Trail at the Recreation Ground on Canal Way and also the refurbishment of the play parks at Winterhay and West Crescent. These have now been submitted and we are awaiting the outcome from the Localities Officer.
2. It is intended that we will circulate a letter to the residents in the Winterhay area to notify them of the changes and enhancements that are planned. This will include delivering letters to the residents at the new houses around Forge Close and Foundry Close since it will be the S106 funds from the building of these houses that will have contributed to the playpark.
3. It should be noted that the S106 and Community Infrastructure Levy funding is currently being looked into across the county in order to bring about a consistency of application. Details of this are due to be provided, it is hoped, in the near future, and this will be brought to Members through a Planning, Highways and Transport meeting once it is available.

**Recreation Ground – Toilet Doors**

4. As noted elsewhere on the Agenda, the replacement five doors have now been installed on the toilet block in an effort to minimise the any future damage that has taken place.

5. These doors are of a much sturdier construction and should withstand far better any attempts to damage them. Unfortunately in the process of installing them it was necessary for some tiles to be removed so the old door frames could be taken out. The external team are looking into the best way to ensure that the remedial work is carried out in as aesthetically pleasing and secure manner as possible.

**Skate Park**

6. As a result of an email from a young member of the community, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Open Spaces Committee along with the Clerk met with him and his mother to discuss how the skate park can be improved.
7. The discussions revolved around the possibility of holding a “Skate Jam” and other publicity events to try and publicise the need for the skate park to undergo refurbishment and upgrading. The cost of this will not be insignificant with the three new skate parks in Yeovil reportedly having cost close to £400,000 to build.
8. As a result of the discussions officers are looking into options and will bring this to the committee for their thoughts and consideration in a future meeting.

**Licences for Sports Clubs**

9. Of the three licences drawn up, two have been signed by the Ilminster Youth Football Club and the Ilminster Cricket Club Ltd, and we are just awaiting the Ilminster Town Football Club to sign their licence prior to the Open Spaces meeting.

**Mark Tredwin  
Town Clerk  
March 2023**