

**Rec Users Group**  
**Notes of Meeting held on 17 May 2018**

Present: Town Councillors Stuart Shepherd, Jane Dewick

Joy Norris (Town Clerk), Chris Pearson (Senior Open Spaces Wrden), Davina Salt (Administration Officer),

Doris Brion, Ross Brion, John Glaubitz, Dan Haines, Sue Johnson, Sue Moore, John Pallister, Matt Rowswell,  
 Kenny Timson

Item No	Notes	Agreed / Recommendation	Action required	Action by
1.	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b>                      Mike Fear (South Somerset County Highways)</p>			
2.	<p><b>Terms of Reference</b>                      The current TORs cover the Wharf Lane Rec, West Crescent &amp; Britten's Field                      There should be more than two meetings a year. It was felt this was not enough to cover all the areas that would need to be discussed. The meetings will be held quarterly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month</p>	<p>RECOMMENDED that the Terms of Reference be expanded to include Herne Hill and Winterhay Lane Rec</p> <p>AGREED meetings would be held quarterly</p>	<p>Town Clerk to draft revisions to terms of reference and present to Council for consideration</p> <p>Next meeting 13 September 2018</p>	<p>Town Clerk</p>
3	<p><b>Herne Hill</b>                      The experts who are involved with the Herne Hill Advisory Group are still happy to act in this capacity.</p> <p>Since the bottom track has been done, it is inaccessible during the winter months. It used to be just a track for walking but it is now wide enough to get a vehicle along it. There is a possibility that the path could be shut or have scalping's</p>			

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	<p>compacted onto it or grasscrete. There are a number of trees that have been felled for safety reasons but it now looks as if the earth is slipping. The Herne Hill Management plan is very important. The management plan was been re-written approx 18 months ago and includes a plan for coppicing the hazel</p>			
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>West Crescent play area</b>          Money had been received from Tesco for the play area; the Town Council would be considering if more money could be used from the earmarked reserves          Consultation had taken place with local residents and the responses received showed a clear preference for the embankments climbers</p>			
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Q &amp; A session</b>          The football club commented on how effective the weed killing had been and would like the same to be done again this year.          The cricket club commented that the weed killing had not been very effective. Following discussion it was thought the effectiveness may have been affected by the time of year that the weed killer was spread           There was some concern over the amount and length of the grass clippings on the rec with residents commenting that</p>	<p>As the weed killing had been effective for the Football it was planned that all weed killing would take place in the autumn</p>		

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<p>it looked like a hay field. The grass had been cleared on the main outfield and on Britten's Field outfield by the cricket club but this had taken 5 days.</p> <p>There is vandalism that happens in the rec along with littering. The hedge along the rec by Orchard Vale looking out over the children play area always used to be cut to fence height but it is now much taller. It was felt this could possibly be a contributing factor to the vandalism however it does provide some privacy from the road for the children that are playing in the park.</p> <p>When exiting the Archie Gooch pavilion there is no warning triangle on the ground which means that people do not know who or what has priority.</p> <p>The Dog Survey has been completed and resulted in posters being put up and more bins being installed. It was felt by local residents that there was an ongoing problem with dogs in the children's play area. Perhaps the dog warden could make a visit to Ilminster.</p> <p>The re design of the play area was carried out by the SSDC play officer and was done in conjunction with the play and paths group. The design has been</p>		<p>A litter pick is carried out every week day morning by the Open Spaces Team and any vandalism is reported to the police. As a prevention to vandalism the lights are permanently on at the toilet block.</p>	
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	<p>approved by the Town Council. It was designed to be modular so it could be done in sections as when funds become available. There is no plan to put up a fence around the skate park as there will be a trim trail around the area which should act as a natural barrier This is the first stage in the rec masterplan and it must be remembered that this is an expensive project.</p> <p>The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is available to Town and Parish Councils but the timing of the payments are subject to certain criteria being met. Grants and lottery funding may be available but in most cases bids must be match funded. It could take 10yrs to complete the masterplan.</p> <p>It is hoped that a path from Canal Way to the cricket club Shed will be built this year.</p> <p>The rec masterplan includes a circular path around the perimeter of the rec it is estimated the cost could be £200,000 - £250,000.</p> <p>It is hoped that with the aid of the group the various elements of the masterplan can be can start to be prioritised.</p>			
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	The rec is flooding in the area of the old football pitch, the water isn't draining away.		There is a requirement to look at the flows of water in this area. A possible solution could be to put a French drain in.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> Thursday, 13 September 2018 at 7.30pm.			