

Minutes of the **Open Spaces Committee** held in the Council Chamber, North Street, Ilminster on Tuesday 30 January 2018 at 7.30pm

**Present:**

Chairman: Cllr S Shepherd

Councillors: P, Burton, J Dewick, J Fagan, J Fowler, M Gunn, M James, V Keitch, I Mackillop, A Shearman, R Swann and T Walker.

**In Attendance:**

Officers: Miss J Norris (Town Clerk), Mrs D Salt (Administration Officer (Information)) and Mr G Taylor (Open Spaces Warden)

2 members of the public attended the meeting.

**Speaker Mr M Fry-Foley**

Spoke regarding the Ilminster Midsummer Experience (IMEx) 2018 – requesting the sale of alcohol. The points raised by the speaker included:

- Discussed the possibility of a company selling gin to be allowed to sell as an off-licence at the IMEX food and craft fair on Sat 10 June and to have a bar in the community lunch area on Sunday 10 June.
- The gin would be sold from a specially converted horse trailer.
- Previously, the organisation who ran the community lunch also had a licenced area which was carefully marshalled; it was suggested that the gin sales could be an addition to the bar area as part of the community lunch.

**OS129 Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr D Belobaba.

**OS130 Declarations of Interest.**

Councillors made Declarations of Interest as detailed in the table below

Name	Agenda Item	Minute No	Nature of Interest	Type of Interest	Action
Cllr S Shepherd	Agenda 6 Ilminster Midsummer Experience (IMEx) 2018 – Request Regarding the Sale of Alcohol	134	Licence committing for the cricket club	Personal	Spoke and voted
	Agenda 7 Pathway between The Shed and Canal Way	135	Secretary of the cricket club	Personal	Vacated the meeting for the agenda item
	Agenda 9 Headstone	137	Knows the applicant	Personal	Spoke and voted

Name	Agenda Item	Minute No	Nature of Interest	Type of Interest	Action
Cllr V Keitch	Agenda 6 Ilminster Midsummer Experience (IMEx) 2018 – Request Regarding the Sale of Alcohol	134	Sits on the SSDC licensing committee	Personal	Spoke and Voted
	Agenda 9 Headstone	137	Knows the applicant	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr A Shearman	Agenda 6 Ilminster Midsummer Experience (IMEx) 2018 – Request Regarding the Sale of Alcohol	134	Marshall at the rec	Personal	Spoke and Voted
	Agenda 9 Headstone	137	Knows the applicant	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr J Fowler	Agenda 7 Pathway between The Shed and Canal Way	135	A member of the Cricket Club	Personal	Spoke & Voted
Cllr P Burton	Agenda 6 Ilminster Midsummer Experience (IMEx) 2018 – Request Regarding the Sale of Alcohol	134	Marshall at the Car event	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr R Swann	Agenda 9 Headstone	137	Knows the applicant	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Matt James	Agenda 9 Headstone	137	Knows the applicant	Personal	Spoke and Voted

#### OS131 Minutes.

- a) The draft minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2017 were presented for confirmation.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2017 be confirmed as a correct record subject to the recording of Cllr Shearman's declaration of a personal interest in Agenda Item 6 Request to use Recreation Ground on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018 as he is a marshal at the event.

- b) The action list relating to the Open Spaces committee was considered  
The following issues were raised during discussion of this item:
- It is hoped to start the work to contact organisations and advertise for members of the Rec User Group later in the week



- The consultation regarding the West Crescent Play area will be done after the work for the Rec Users Group (this prioritisation had been agreed with the Committee Chair)
- Additional dog poo bins are unlikely to be funded by South Somerset District Council (SSDC); if the Town Council go ahead and install 2 new bins confirmation from SSDC would be needed that they have capacity to empty bins. SSDC recommended the purchase of dual use bins.
- The grant form for the SSDC Area West grant for the Herne Hill Notice Boards is nearly complete

**RESOLVED** to note the Office Action List

### **OS132 Police Report**

There was no police report and no policing matters were raised or reported.

### **OS133 Open Spaces Team Report.**

The Open Spaces Team reported recent open spaces activities in Ilminster. Highlights of the report included:

- Playground safety inspections carried out
- Watering plants as and when needed
- Signs at the town entrances have been cleaned
- Painted the bed of the snake grass cutting machine
- Hedges cut back
- Stiga in for servicing
- The bench in the Wharf Lane Rec childrens' play area which was commissioned as a millennium project needs refurbishment
- Noticeboard back up on the toilet block
- All graffiti removed from skate park; this was done as part of the training to be able to use the chemicals in future should the need arise
- Fire alarms installed in the shed
- Winterhay Lane the Hippo springer has been removed because it was broken when the play inspection was carried out.

Issues raised by Councillors during this agenda item included:

- The fly tipping near the garages in the rec / Britten's Field was removed by SSDC
- The chemicals are working well for the removal of the graffiti
- The defibrillator signs for the telephone kiosk have been sourced but listed building consent application is required before installation.

### **OS134 Ilminster Midsummer Experience (IMEx) 2018 - Request Regarding the Sale of Alcohol**

The view and relevant consent of the Town Council was sought by the organisers of IMEx who had been approached by a local company requesting to sell alcohol on both days of IMEx.

Discussions on this agenda item included:

- No problems with the company selling off license on Sat 10 June
- Confirmation to licensing standards would mean that selling must be within in a controlled area
- Broadly in agreement that IMEx can't stagnate it must be allowed to grow

- Must be under licence
- If others companies come forward with similar request each application would need to be considered on an individual basis
- Town Council doesn't object but the organisers would need to apply to SSDC for the appropriate license

*Note: 19:58hrs The meeting went out of session to allow M Fry-Foley to expand and clarify some points.*

- *Rotary will not be running the community lunch and the organisers of IMEx will be asking others to organise the community lunch.*
- *There is the potential for two bars to be running in a confined space.*
- *The Gin and Sin company is not a standard bar - looks good*
- *If there is another application would have to come back to Town Council for approval*
- *The preference would be for whoever runs the lunch would also run the bar.*
- *Gin and Sin could be completely separate giving people a choice*
- *A temporary event notice would be required*
- *The alternative is that they have a presence on both days but off license*

*Note: 20:06hrs the meeting went back into session*

**RESOLVED** based upon the information currently available the Town Council would not object to a licence application for the selling of alcohol but would reserve the right to review their stance depending on other applications received for the same event.

*Note: 20:08hrs Cllr Shepherd vacated as Chair and sat as a member of the public, Cllr Swann Chaired the next agenda item.*

### **OS135 Pathway between The Shed and Canal Way.**

A suggestion was considered from the Cricket Club to put a path in from The Shed to Canal Way with the Town Council paying for materials and cricket club paying for the labour to do the work.

Discussions on this agenda item included:

- Some reservations how this fits in with the rec users group/masterplan
- There is an existing concrete path between The Shed and The Mead
- People using The Shed park on Canal Way which would lead people naturally to walk along the proposed path
- May increase the number of cars using Canal Way to park if access is increased by a footpath
- Why would the Town Council want to pay for it
- The request is for "in principle" agreement
- Liability if the footpath isn't up to standard
- On the masterplan for the rec there were plans to put this path in
- The path would make it easier for people to access the rec and would therefore benefit a wider community than just people who visit The Shed
- Costings are required
- There is already an access from the Rec onto Canal Way that could be used
- The proposed path would be on the Town Council side of the Ilminster Education Foundation (IEF) land



- It would be a partnership between the Town Council and the cricket club
- The Town Council would approve the standard

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the Committee agrees “in principle” to the proposal for a footpath between The Shed and Canal Way and
- (ii) That the Committee supports the principle of the Town Council paying for the materials and Ilminster Cricket Club providing the labour
- (iii) That the Cricket Club is asked to provide detailed costings for consideration by the Town Council

Note: 20:22hrs Cllr Shepherd returned to the Chair

**OS136 Lost Property Policy.**

A lost property policy was considered.

Discussions on this agenda item included:

- Advertise lost property for 2 weeks and then if it is unclaimed disposing of it is in-line with Avon and Somerset Police procedure

**RESOLVED** to recommend to council that the policy attached at Appendix 1 is accepted and implemented.

**OS137 Headstone**

A request for a headstone to be erected that falls outside of the Town Council Rules and Regulations was considered.

Discussions on this agenda item included:

- The applicant is a local family
- A local company has given them the stone which is taller than the maximum height specified in the Ilminster cemetery rules
- It is not known why the maximum headstone height was set
- The risk of not letting this happen could damage the reputation of the Town Council

**RESOLVED** that the application for the headstone be allowed due to the particular circumstances of the case

**OS138 Update on Development of Rec Users Group.**

A report on the progress to convene a rec users group was considered

Discussions on this agenda item included:

- Advertise as widely as possible to encourage as many members as possible
- There is not sufficient time to hold a Design a poster by the schools competition

The meeting closed at 20:38hrs

