

Minutes of the **Open Spaces Committee** held in the Council Chamber, North Street, Ilminster on Tuesday 24 April 2018 at 7.30pm

Present:

Chairman: Cllr S Shepherd

Councillors: D Belobaba, P Burton, J Dewick, J Fowler, M Gunn, V Keitch, A Shearman, R Swann and T Walker.

In Attendance:

Officers: Miss J Norris (Town Clerk), Mrs D Salt (Administration Officer (Information)) and Mr C Pearson (Senior Open Spaces Warden).

OS159 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fagan, James and Mackillop.

The Chair welcomed and introduced Mr Chris Pearson as the Senior Open Spaces Warden.

OS160 Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest made in respect of any items on the agenda.

OS161 Minutes.

- a) The draft minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2018 were presented for confirmation.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2018 be confirmed as a correct record.

- b) The action list relating to the Open Spaces committee was considered.
Issues raised during consideration of this agenda item included:

RESOLVED

- (i) that no 5 OS158 27.03.18 Skatepark Graffiti - running a graffiti workshop will continue to be investigated and progress reported back at the next meeting.
(ii) to note the action list

OS162 Police Report.

This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Police to report on any matters relevant to policing in Ilminster and a written report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Discussion included:

- A public order offence is behavior which affects order in public places.

OS163 Open Spaces Team Report.

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

- Fencing has been put across where the new hedge has been planted to protect the saplings.
- Fly tipping must be reported to SSDC so that an accurate picture can be built up - this will help to bring about prosecutions.
- The Burma Star Garden is looking good, thank you from the Councillors to the Open Spaces Team for the work done at this location.

- The three open spaces wardens will be taking part in tractor training 1-3 May 2018.
- The snake has a cog which has broken it is hoped that this will be repaired by 27 April 2018.

OS164 Financial Monitoring.

Information about the Open Spaces Committee, income, expenditure and commitments compared with the 2017/18 budget was considered.

Issues raised included:

- The Town Clerk will confirm if the green and red type has transposed incorrectly with the Deputy Clerk.
- The Town Clerk informed the councillors that there would need to be some moving round of money within the budget to ensure that the end of year accounts balanced.
- Line 626 - There have been more burials and cremations than expected therefore the estimated income was much lower than what has actually been received. The start of 2018 has been exceptionally busy with interments and memorial applications as well as Exclusive Right of Burial transfers.
- Before anybody can put a memorial on a plot the owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial (ERB) has to give their permission; therefore if the person who was interred is the ERB holder the ERB has to be transferred before permission is given for a new memorial or any changes made to the existing memorial. An ERB is an asset and has to be dealt with in accordance with the deceased person's Will so the ERB is transferred to the Executors who then have to ensure the instructions in the Will are followed
- A claim has been made via the small claims court for the unpaid interment fee, as yet no payment has been received; It was suggested that company concerned may have ceased trading
- The Council has spent more money than was budgeted for in the Open Spaces budget however the Town Clerk is confident that savings have been made in other areas to compensate for this

OS165 West Crescent Play Area.

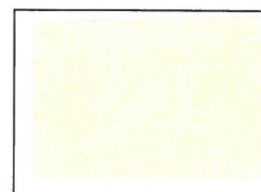
- a) To receive an update on the consultation regarding new play equipment funded by the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme.
- b) To consider the maintenance of the existing play equipment and the purchase of new equipment – taking into account the grant from Tesco, the budget provision and the consultation.

Discussion on these agenda items included:

- letters have been delivered to approx. 1100 houses near the play area
- The consultation is scheduled to close at the end of April
- the possibility of refurbishing the existing play equipment by cleaning and repainting
- The Town Clerk has arranged for the supplier to meet with herself and the Senior Open Spaces Warden to assess what is possible for the area so that as soon as the consultation is closed progress can be made.

RESOLVED

- (i) to wait until the consultation has been completed before making any decisions about which new play equipment to purchase
- (ii) to refurbish the existing play equipment.



OS166 Monumental Mason Registration application for Ilminster Cemetery.

Consideration was given to a request from a memorial mason company to register as a monumental mason to carry out works in Ilminster Cemetery.

Discussion on this agenda item included:

- The Town Council's rules and regulations state that memorial masons should be registered with either the National Association of Memorial Masons (NAMM) or the British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons (BRAMM); this memorial mason is not registered with either professional organisation

RESOLVED that the company is not given permission to work in Ilminster Cemetery

OS167 Ilminster Lions Fete and Ilminster Town Football Club Family Day June 23, 2018.

Consideration was given to a request for the Fete (which is part of Family Day) to take place on Britten's Field.

Discussion on this agenda item included:

- part of the fete is taking place on land that isn't part of the lease – hence the request
- the fete has already been advertised
- Really good that the fete is returning to a location in Ilminster
- Granting this request will mean part of Britten's Field being closed off to the public as the Lions charge admission; the field was bought for the whole town for public use and now access is being restricted.
- the Town Council do not charge charities for using open spaces for their events

RESOLVED to give permission for Britten's Field to be used for the Lions Fete on 23 June 2018.

OS168 South Somerset District Council Play Days.

Consideration was given to a request for Summer Holiday Play Day events to take place on The Rec at Canal Way on Monday 30th July 6th and 13th August from 10am to 3.30pm.

RESOLVED to allow South Somerset District Council play days to take place on the Wharf Lane Rec on 30 July, 6 August and 13 August 2018

OS169 South Somerset District Council In it together – getting women active.

A request was considered to use The Rec to run an outdoor boot camp course as part of the project for getting women active. The course to start on Sunday 17 June at 11am and continue for 6 weeks.

RESOLVED to give permission for the South Somerset District Council In It Together – getting women active outdoor boot camp to take place on the Wharf Lane Rec on Sunday mornings starting on 17 June and continuing for 6 weeks

The meeting closed at 20.21hrs

