

**A RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING OF ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL WAS HELD AT 7.00 PM. ON MONDAY 24 JUNE 2013 AT GLOBE HOUSE ALCESTER (Seggs Lane Entrance)**

**Present**

Councillor Bunting, Councillor Cargill, Councillor Cumberbatch, Councillor Kenyon, Councillor Brown, Councillor Payne, Councillor Payne, Councillor Knapman, Chris Wright and J.Rowlatt

**Public participation at discretion of chair**

There were no members of the public present.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Hine and Councillor Adams.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None

**3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Councillor Knapman asked for an item concerning Bee Friendly Towns be put on the Full Council agenda. The reasons for the way this was handled was outlined by the Town Clerk. Though further discussions took place the Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd of April were agreed and signed.

**4. Election of New Chair**

Prior to electing a new Chair for the Recreation Committee, Mayor Mark Cargill and Councillor Cumberbatch extended a vote of thanks to Councillor Bunting for all his hard work during his time as Chair. Councillor Cargill proposed Councillor Cumberbatch as new chair, Councillor Brown seconded the proposal and Councillor Cumberbatch was elected. He will be discussing a new format for the committee with The Mayor and The Clerk

**5. Recreation Facilities**

**Jubilee Centre**

No business.

**Jubilee Fields**

The play area fencing has been completed and signage put up stating dogs are excluded from the play area. Initial problem with concreting to pedestrian gates has been resolved. One top bar to fence has already been broken. We have received a quotation from A Sutor for pile driving works at the Weir Field bank. Councillor Knapman commented that the situation with the whirlpool affecting the erosion has improved recently. It was agreed to monitor the situation also to carry out a costing using other options for repairing the river bank which have been looked into by the Environment Committee.

**Moorfields**

Cllr. Knapman made reference to a proposal made earlier by the Environmental Sub Committee as follows:- It was proposed that as ATC has now received £1000.00 from Morgan Sindall - we should replace the two diseased trees lost at Moorfields with Honey Fungus resistant varieties: Flaxinus Ornus (Flowering Ash) is suggested. The dead Horse Chestnut at Stratford Recreation Ground also needs to be replaced. A Rowan (Mountain Ash) has died too close to the line of the pipe.

**Collins Way**

Notices excluding dogs from the play ground have been put up.

**Bleachfield Street Play Area**

No problems reported.

**Recreation Ground Stratford Road**

Planning Permission and Ancient Monument consent has been granted to take down dead Horse Chestnut tree and work is expected to take place this Friday.

**6. Ground Maintenance**

Grass cutting

It was reported that we had to purchase 2 new strimmers this month, the old one is to be kept as a spare when repaired.

#### Footpaths

Repairs have been made to the strip of footpath which was reported as a trip hazard after a complaint was received that a child had fallen over.

#### **Dog Bins**

Kinwarton Parish Council has requested if Alcester Town Council would be willing to provide a dog waste removal service for them as they do not have a system of their own for dog waste.

Councillor Cumberbatch said that we should carry out a costing and if we do agree there should be a traceable link and also a sliding service level agreement.

#### **7. Environment**

Councillor Knapman reported on matters arising from her Environmental Sub-Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr. Steve Payne has unfortunately had to decline an invitation to join the committee. The wild flower site at the Weir Field is coming along. Various groups have been approached regarding planting/reinstating hedgerows.

#### **8. Allotments**

Inspection was made on 12<sup>th</sup> June. All ok apart from 2. Letters to improve were sent and we will check the situation again. There are 2 more on the waiting list. Notices were put on the gate at Corinthian Court also a new padlock and chain. The padlock and chain vanished overnight and notices torn off and returned with offensive remark on them. Cllr. Cumberbatch confirmed that the agreement to use the gate was for the purpose of delivering the skip and The Clerk stated that access to the site was via the path with a wheel barrow. It was suggested that plot holders on North Bleachfield site should receive a letter to this effect and a mention in the next newsletter.

#### **9. Cemetery**

Memorials from last month for Tew and Hill were agreed by email.. Consent for a cremation tablet for Diana Wilson was given. Cllr. Cumberbatch asked what was the criteria used when approving memorials. An inspection of the graves with kerbstones is still to be carried out.

#### 10. Vision for Alcester

The cheque for the planning application for the skate park was returned as the scheme falls under permitted development .

#### **11. Section 106**

The Clerk wrote to Carol Stephens as requested at the last Recreation Committee meeting. .

#### **12. Items for Recommendation to Full Council**

No items

#### **13. Terms of Reference**

Cllr Cumberbatch and The Clerk are to go through the Terms of Reference for the Recreation Committee..

#### **14. Correspondence**

A request to purchase a piece of land at Westbury Park has been turned down as the land now has Fields in Trust status and cannot be sold.

#### **14.Date of next Meeting**

Tuesday 22 July 2013 at Globe House

