

**A RECREATION ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL WAS HELD ON TUESDAY
18 NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.00PM AT GLOBE HOUSE, ALCESTER
(Seggs Lane entrance)**

Present

Cllr. Cumberbatch, Cllr. S. Payne, Cllr. Hine, Cllr. Eric Payne, Cllr. Adams, Cllr. Cargill, Cllr. Knapman, Cllr. Neal Sturgess, Chris Wright and J. Rowlatt.

Public Participation at Discretion of Chair

There were no members of the public present.

A G E N D A (Standing Orders apply)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. Brown and Cllr. Kenyon.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 28 October 2014 were proposed by Cllr. Cargill, seconded by Cllr. Cumberbatch, approved and signed

4. Strategic Objectives and Aims for 2014/15

With regard to some of the implications arising from the Neighbourhood plan, The Clerk raised the issue of how the expected increase in school places in the next few years is likely to impact on our infrastructure and asked the Councillors for their thoughts bearing in mind some of our current projects e.g. the youth shelter and skatepark. The Clerk said 3 potential options for provision of extra spaces put forward included expansion at St. Nicholas School site with possible loss of some of the Jubilee Fields, Moorfields site or another site altogether. None of these options were well received by Councillors. Councillor Hine declared an interest, being a resident of St. Faiths Road. The REOS Committee will be kept up to date bearing in mind any future use of the Fields.

5. Play Areas Equipment/Other Recreational Facilities

Councillor Bunting reported that 2 small pieces of damaged play equipment have been removed from Jubilee Fields and Bleachfield Street. Jan is to get quotes for replacements.

Rubbish has been removed from the roof of the Jubilee Centre.

The drainage problem at the Mugger has been investigated and instructions given to Alan Sutor to put right.

The Clerk said that the surface of the Mugger should be periodically power-washed and asked for a quote to be got.

The Clerk is to contact the Youth Council to ask when we will be getting the money from them for the youth shelter and has a decision been made on the siting of the shelter.

Councillor Cumberbatch and The Clerk are to inspect the 3 storage pods and decide what to do with them.

Quotations have been requested for repairs to the safety surfaces in the play areas.

6. Trees & Footpaths

The decision whether or not to remove a hawthorn bush at Moorfields has been postponed following an objection from Councillor Knapman on ecological grounds. Lennox is to visit the site and inspect.

Councillor Cumberbatch reported that one of the 3 measured mile walks we have signed up to is dangerous and until repairs are carried out the footpath will be cordoned off and warning notices put up. It was agreed that we should accept the quote (in excess of £11,000) we have received for re-surfacing.

7. Environmental Matters

Councillor Knapman reported back on a positive meeting she had had with Chris Wright, Councillor Cumberbatch and Matt Willmott of Natural England. Matters discussed a long term plan for Westbury Park, new wild flower strip at the community orchard and the roundabout island. A Community Action day has been arranged to take place on 21 February 2015 at the Jubilee Centre, with speaker Geoff Newman (Natural England) giving an inspiration talk, culminating in a hands-on pruning demonstration at the Community Orchard. It was noted that the work of this sub-committee was taking shape with plans for the future.

8. Allotments

Following a meeting with the Manager of Corinthian Court, Councillor Cumberbatch reported that our skip could be put on the allotment site using their car park as access twice a year as usual but no other parking by our tenants would be allowed. The tenants will be notified of this.

9. Cemetery

A meeting between Cllr. Cumberbatch and Cllr. Brown to discuss the plans for the refurbishment of the cemetery has been arranged for Friday morning at Globe House. Jan to attend.

The memorials for Austin, Williams, McAllister and Avery were all approved.

10. Litter Bins

It was suggested that it would be a good idea to install bins in tandem with new benches and to source the best options.

11. Budget Update

Figures will be available 2nd week in January 2015.

12. Correspondence

It was agreed to support the tug of war event again in 2015.

13. Propositions to Full Council

REPAIRS TO RIVERSIDE WALK AND REPLENISH IN INSTALLMENTS Nina proposed, Yvonne seconded. Committee agreed by a majority vote.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 20 January 2014