

TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the RECREATION COMMITTEE

held on

Thursday 28th April 2016 at 7.30pm
in the Pavilion, Hunter Park, Twyford

Attending

CLlr Cornwall (Chair)
CLlr Forder Stent
CLlr Lawton
CLlr Sellars
CLlr Wheeler

In attendance

Clerk – Tony Bronk

Apologies/Absences

CLlr Cook
CLlr Corcoran
CLlr Mitchell
CLlr Watson
CLlr Woodward

R01/16	Apologies for absence
	Apologies were received from Cllr Cook and Cllr Watson and the reasons for their absence accepted. The absence of other Counsellors was noted.
R02/16	Declaration of interests
	A Personal Interest was declared by Cllr Sellars when use of Hunter Park by the Twyford Playgroup was discussed because of his role as its Treasurer.
R03/16	Public Participation
	No members of the public attended the meeting.
R04/16	To sign as a correct record the minutes from the last meeting on 17th March 2016
	The previously circulated minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting dated 17 th March 2016 were considered. Resolved: “The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2016 are approved as an accurate record of the meeting”. Proposed by Cllr Wheeler, seconded by Cllr Sellars and carried unanimously.
R05/16	Update on dog fouling of open spaces and action taken
	CLlr Cornwall has spoken with the Dog Warden and additional signs are in place at Hunter Park and the allotments. There appears to have been a reduction of dog fouling at Hunter Park and Northfields but some other locations reportedly remain a problem and will continue to be monitored. Unfortunately, poo bags are being deposited in the waste bin within the children’s play area at Hunter Park. The bin is not emptied by Winchester City Council – the Parish Council pays for collection from the bins in the car park (the green bin near the Pavilion is on a separate contract and intended for waste originating from users of the Pavilion). Concerns were expressed about the effects of the smell and flies when the weather becomes warmer. Consideration was given to using the Twyford Information email to ask dog walkers to only deposit poo bags in the red bin of the car park, however, after further discussion it was decided

	<p>that signs should be tried first.</p> <p>ACTION – 1. The Clerk is to ask the Hunter Park maintenance contractor to empty the bin in the play area.</p> <p>2. The Clerk is to place signs on the Pavilion bin and in the children’s play area asking that dog walkers only place poo bags in the designated red bin in the car park.</p>
R06/16	Pavilion
R06.1/16	Update on the painting contract and maintenance of the building interior
	<p>The painting contract was awarded and the job completed. Several councillors have seen the outcome and expressed their satisfaction with the new colour scheme.</p> <p>It was noted that the Disabled Toilet had some maintenance work undertaken and that a soap dispenser had been ordered and should be fitted shortly.</p> <p>Some concerns were expressed that the cleanliness of the interior of the Pavilion needed more attention and that some cobwebs had not been removed after several weeks.</p> <p>ACTION – The Clerk is to arrange a meeting with the Cleaner and the Chair so as to determine the frequency and extent of cleaning required.</p>
R06.2/16	To agree a course of action regarding unclaimed lost property currently stored in the pavilion
	<p>It was established that store cupboards in the Home and Away Changing Rooms had collected a range of items that prevented the intended use of the cupboards; and that both Referee Changing Rooms were being used as storerooms. A cursory examination of the contents of the store cupboards confirmed that, with the exception of some cricket stumps and bails, the contents were of minimal value and should be disposed of.</p> <p>ACTION – 1. The Clerk is to liaise with the contractor responsible for cutting the cricket wicket to ascertain the owner of the cricket equipment and the remaining items of the store cupboards are to be disposed of.</p> <p>2. The Clerk is to ask the user of Referee Changing Room 2 to ensure it remains available for use by other hirers of the Pavilion and to limit their use to that room.</p>
R07/16	Football / Cricket Update
	<p>It was noted that Cricket will start on Wednesday 4th May and that most weekends and some weekdays are booked.</p> <p>Stoneham AFC has renewed their use of the football pitch by booking for next season.</p>
R08/16	Allotments Update
	<p>Each plot was measured and put into one of four categories, by area, for a new fee structure. Overall, annual fees were increased; but due to the fee banding by plot size some fees decreased whilst others increased, resulting recently in two complaints.</p>

	<p>Reliance had been placed on some measurements submitted by plot holders, one of whom subsequently asked that an independent person measure their plot and confirms its area. It was found that the plot was not rectangular and that due to its irregular shape each side was of a different length. As the area had been originally determined by use of only two lengths it was subsequently calculated that the plot actually covered 98.4 rather than 103.85 square meters; and accordingly the annual fee should be £15 rather than £25. The need to credit the plot holder was noted.</p> <p>ACTION – the Clerk is to credit the holder of plot 23 the sum of £10.</p> <p>The second complaint was that the plot holder was unaware of the Allotment meeting on 11 April, had been informed that fees would not increase by more than 10%; and that due to the nature of the increase applicable to their plot a ‘pensioner discount’ should be applied. After reviewing the correspondence and the change of the fee from £16.50 to £25.00 [100 to 150sq.m.] the following resolution was put to the meeting.</p> <p>Resolved – “The Parish Council considers the Hunter Park allotments to represent very good value, there is a long waiting list and the low annual cost does not warrant a discounted charge based on a plot holder’s receipt of a state pension.”</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Lawton, seconded by Cllr Sellars and carried unanimously.</p> <p>ACTION – The Clerk is to write to the complainant and inform them of the decision of the Committee.</p> <p>A skip is not being provided for the allotment Spring Tidy-Up.</p> <p>Allotment holders are considering action to pollard a Sycamore tree within the allotment. It was noted that allotment holders were informed at the Allotment meeting that the Parish Council would not assist with any associated costs.</p>
<p>R09/16</p>	<p>Open Space funding</p>
<p>R09.1/16</p>	<p>Update on the Outdoor Gym installation in Hunter Park</p>
	<p>It was noted that the Outdoor Gym equipment had been installed earlier in the week and was now in use.</p> <p><u>Health and Safety</u></p> <p>A concern had been raised with Cllr Lawton that the equipment was not fenced off and it could present a danger, in particular, that children under 12 year old should not use it. The potential dangers to users of Hunter Park were discussed and that a formal risk assessment was required.</p> <p>ACTION - The Clerk is to document a risk assessment; and make appropriate enquiries to ascertain whether the equipment must be within a fenced off area and whether any restrictions as to its use must be imposed.</p> <p><u>Launch Event</u></p> <p>A formal ‘Launch’ was discussed. Due to the short time for publicity prior to a launch over the</p>

	<p>May Bank Holiday weekend and the poor weather forecast the following weekend was considered. Concern was expressed that the launch on Saturday 7th would conflict with other village events. It was agreed that the Clerk should liaise with the local fitness instructor who assisted with the selection of the equipment and who had offered to run some free sessions to demonstrate the use of each piece of equipment to arrange a launch on Sunday 8th or an evening during the following week.</p> <p>ACTION - The Clerk is to arrange the Launch event and to publicise it via the Parish Notice boards and the Twyford Information email.</p>
R09.2/16	To discuss basketball area in Hunter Park
	<p>It was noted that the Council has not yet utilised all of its Open Spaces funding from Winchester City Council but that the amount available was insufficient to resurface the basketball area to an appropriate standard.</p> <p>ACTION – The Clerk is to ascertain the costs of play equipment appropriate for use by children older than those catered for by the children’s play area, to enable the next meeting of the Committee to consider a purchase.</p>
R09.3/16	To agree the proposed replacement of the Peter Weston Bench in Hunter Park
	<p>The Clerk provided documents giving examples of benches and their costs, each within the overall cost constraint established by the resolution of the Full Parish Council meeting of 21st April 2016.</p> <p>Resolved – “A Balmoral five foot Teak Park Bench shall be purchased from Corido if delivery of the advertised bench to Hunter Park can be arranged.”</p> <p>ACTION – The Clerk shall liaise with the chosen supplier of the proposed replacement of the Peter Weston Bench to organise delivery of the selected bench.</p>
R09.4/16	To discuss established footpath routes in Hunter Park
	<p>The meeting discussed a section of pathway near the football training area, a photograph of which had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting. It was acknowledged that the pathway is a means of access to and from the upper level of the park and that the roots of several large and well established trees have crossed the path for many years. Views were expressed that the character of the park is such that users would accept the impact of tree roots on pathways, and that to try to cover roots sufficiently to allow buggies to traverse them was inappropriate. It was acknowledged that this could deter some potential users from readily accessing the upper part of the park from its existing eastern approach but that access remained available from the western approach. Persons taking a circular walk could; and have been observed to use, a route below the training area.</p>
R10/16	Date of the next meeting [Thursday 22 nd September 2016]
	Prior to determining the date of the next meeting it was noted that two communications concerning requests to use Hunter Park had been received after the publication of the Agenda.

Parking due to Queen Street closure

An application to use the car park from Friday evening to early Sunday had been received to enable residents of Queen Street to park elsewhere because of the closure of Queen Street for a street party to mark the Queen's birthday. It was noted that the park has been booked for cricket and that too many cars from Queen Street would cause problems for the hirer. It was therefore decided that up to 5 cars could park, provided they display a permit and park adjacent to the allotments, so as to minimise the impact on marked spaces.

ACTION - The Clerk is to make 5 temporary parking permits and explain the basis on which the temporary parking is permitted.

Circus

An application by Twyford Playgroup to use Hunter Park on Sunday 17 June 2017 (and to set up on the evening of Saturday 16th) had been received. A response was required prior to Tuesday 3rd May because a deposit had to be paid. It was agreed the response would be that the Parish Council agreed in principle, but that the matter would have to be formally approved by the Full Parish Council which would wish to establish the terms for use of Hunter Park and the charge necessary to cover the costs incurred by the Council.

ACTION – 1. The Clerk to inform the Playgroup of the Parish Council's consent in principle, but with the Council's caveats concerning recovery of costs and terms of use.

2. The Full Parish Council Meeting Agenda for 19 May to include an item to discuss and agree terms for use of Hunter Park for the proposed circus.

The Chair noted the previously scheduled date of the next meeting, but considered additional meetings were needed.

Resolved – "The Recreation Committee shall next meet on Thursday 23rd June at the Pavilion".

Proposed by Cllr Cornwall, seconded by Cllr Sellars and carried unanimously.

Approved as an accurate record

Signed..... Date.....
Chair of the Recreation Committee