

### MINUTES

#### of the Parks and Recreation Committee

held online, on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm

#### Membership:

<b>Cllr Brett (East) Chairman</b>	*	<b>Cllr Fryer (Broadway)</b>	*
<b>Cllr Davis (East)</b>	*	<b>Cllr Pitcher (Broadway)</b>	*
<b>Cllr Doyle (East)</b>	A	<b>Cllr Robbins (East)</b>	*
<b>Cllr Fraser (West)</b>	*	<b>Peter Hewitt (co-opted)</b>	A

**Key:** \* Present    A Apologies    AB Absent

#### In attendance:

**Officers:** Tom Dommett, Assistant Town Clerk, Stuart Legg, Parks and Open Spaces Manager, Judith Halls, Office Manager

**Online Meeting Attendees:** 1 attendee

#### **PR/20/058    Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Doyle and from co-opted member Peter Hewitt.

#### **PR/20/059    Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Davis declared a non-pecuniary interest under Warminster Town Council's (WTC) Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, as he is a neighbour of the Town Park, but he would remain for the discussion and vote.

#### **PR/20/060    Minutes**

**PR/20/060.1** The minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were **approved as a true record and signed**.

**PR/20/060.2** There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – **Noted**.

#### **PR/20/061    Chairman's Announcements**

Chairman, Cllr Brett had no announcements for the meeting.

#### **PR/20/062    Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

**PR/20/063** **Reports from Unitary Authority Members**  
There were no reports from Unitary members.

**PR/20/064** **Assistant Town Clerk's Report: Lake Pleasure Grounds and Associated Land**  
The Assistant Town Clerk's report was **Noted**.

**PR/20/065** **Accounts up to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021**  
The accounts for the Parks and Recreation Committee until 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were **Noted**.

**PR/20/066** **Ash tree at the rear of the Scout Hut**  
Warminster Town Council had received a request from Warminster Scout Group to remove the Ash tree at the rear of the scout hut. This tree had been identified as causing damage to the foundations of the building.

Officers met with the scout leaders and agreed that the tree is causing an issue, which would in all likelihood cause major damage to the hut.

**Members unanimously resolved to allow the scout group to remove the Ash tree at the rear of the scout hut and for them to plant two suitable replacements in the park. It was suggested that as this particular Ash tree appears to be resistant to Ash die back the scout group could attempt to grow replacement seedlings from this tree to be replanted at a later date.**

**PR/20/067** **Alternatives to pesticide use in the Lake Pleasure Grounds**  
The council's pesticide policy states that; 'It is the aim of the council to stop using pesticides, by a phased reduction of use on its land'.

Members received a report from officers outlining four alternative methods of weed control that would reduce the use of pesticides.

**Members unanimously resolved, in line with the Warminster Town Council Pesticide Policy and Climate Change Declaration to introduce a trial, using the four methods:**  
**Manual weeding**  
**Mulching**  
**Vinegar/acid based solutions**  
**Annual flower mix planting**  
**as alternatives to pesticides, in the Lake Pleasure Grounds.**

**PR/20/068** **New Staff**  
Members noted that following the decision by Warminster Town Council to bring some previously contracted services in house, two grounds persons and one cleansing operative had been appointed – **Noted**.

**PR/20/069 Communications**

**PR/20/69.1 Members requested a** press release on the decision to use alternatives to pesticides in the Lake Pleasure Grounds. Members also requested a press release on the new mower when it arrived in a couple of weeks.

**PR/20/69.2 Cllr Fraser** would be the committee's spokesperson.

**Meeting closed 7.25pm**

**The Parks and Recreation Committee will merge with the Environmental Services Committee to form the new Parks and Estates Committee. This will hold its first meeting on Monday 24th May 2021 at 7.00pm**

Minutes from this meeting will be available to all members of the public either from our website [www.warminster-tc.gov.uk](http://www.warminster-tc.gov.uk) or by contacting us at Warminster Civic Centre.