

18th May 2021

AGENDA

Dear Councillor,

You are invited to a meeting of the:

Parks and Estates Committee
on Monday 24th May 2021 at 7.00pm, to be held at the
Civic Centre, Sambourne Road, Warminster, BA12 8LB

Membership:

Cllr Allensby (West)	Cllr Macdonald (East)
Cllr Brett (East)	Cllr Macfarlane (West)
Cllr Fraser (West)	Cllr Parks (North)
Cllr Fryer (Broadway)	

Copied to all other members for information.

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council and Committees, unless excluded due to the confidential nature of the business.

Due to Covid19 social distancing rules, if you wish to attend in person, please contact the council offices in advance of the meeting as numbers are restricted.

If you wish to contribute during public participation, please contact admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk prior to the meeting to enable this to be facilitated. If you do not wish to attend in person, the chairman may read out your contribution. The meeting is streamed live and recorded. If you wish to view the meeting, please see the link on the Warminster Town Council Website www.warminster-tc.gov.uk in the meetings diary.

Yours sincerely



Fiona Fox BA (Hons) MCIPD FSLCC
Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. **Election of a Chairman of the Parks and Estates Committee for the Municipal Year 2021–22**
Members to elect a chairman of the Parks and Estates Committee for the Municipal Year 2021–22.
2. **Election of a vice-chairman of the Parks and Estates Committee for the Municipal Year 2021–22**
Members to elect a vice-chairman of the Parks and Estates Committee for the Municipal Year 2021–22.
3. **Apologies for absence**
To receive and accept apologies, including reason for absence, from those unable to attend.
4. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest under Warminster Town Council's (WTC) Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.
5. **Minutes**
3.1 To approve and sign as a correct record, the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on Monday 29th March 2021; and the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on Monday 12th April 2021, copies of these minutes have been circulated and Standing Order 12.1 provides that they may therefore be taken as read.
3.2 To note any matters arising from the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on Monday 29th March 2021; and the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on Monday 12th April 2021.
6. **Chairman's Announcements**
To note any announcements made by the chairman.

***Standing Orders will be suspended
to allow for public participation.***

7. **Public Participation**
To enable members of the public to address the committee with a written submission, an allowance of three minutes per person regarding any item on the agenda and to receive any petitions and deputations. The chairperson will read any statements submitted in advance.

***Standing Orders will be reinstated
following public participation.***

8. **Reports from Unitary Authority Members**
To note reports provided which are relevant to this committee
9. **Parks and Estates Managers report**
Report attached for members information. For Noting

10. Co-option of advisors to the Committee

Under its terms of reference the Parks and Estates committee may appoint up to 3 co-opted members as advisors to the committee. Advisers can be appointed by a committee in the event that additional expertise is required to make decisions or add knowledge that would be of benefit to the committee concerned. Advisers have no voting rights except in the specific circumstances set out in the terms of reference.

Members to nominate and elect up to 3 advisors.

11. Report for Decision – Putting Green Area

The putting green area has become popular as a picnicking spot and members of the public have requested that more picnicking benches are put there.

Officers have compiled a report (**attached**) setting out three options.

Leave the area as a putting green and remove the picnic benches -
This will not satisfy the public's desire for more picnic benches.

Change the use of the area to picnicing only - This will satisfy the need for more picnicing areas but will mean the putting is lost.

Divide the area into two, one for picnicing the other for putting- This will satisfy the need for more picnicing and also keep the putting for those who wish to play.

Members received the report and to resolve which of the options they wish to adopt.

12. Communications

12.1 Members to decide on items requiring a press release.

12.2 Members to confirm their spokesperson for any item listed on the agenda and to report on the committee's decision if required.

The date of the next Parks and Estates Committee will be Monday 12th July 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 or by contacting us at Warminster Civic Centre.

Parks and Estate Managers Report:

Parks and Estates Committee 24th May 2021

Lake Pleasure Grounds

- 1 **Lake:** The Japanese Knott weed on the islands has been treated. This will be treated again in the autumn.
- 2 **Pavilion Café:** Continues to offer a takeaway service and has just recruited seasonal staff for the busy summer period.
- 3 **Skatepark:** is open inline with Covid regulations and being well used.
- 4 **Public Toilets: Central Car Park public conveniences:** All toilets are open.
Lake Pleasure Grounds public conveniences: all toilets are open.
Risk assessments have been updated in line with the current situation.
- 5 **Paddling Pool:** Currently Closed. Awaiting final decision by Full Council on its replacement by a splash pad.
- 6 **Elizabeth Collyns Garden:** Fairfield Farm Collage have resumed their weekly maintenance visits.
- 7 **Flower Beds:** The summer bedding will be in at the beginning of June; the local primary schools will be planting again this year. Wildflower seed mix has been sown in the other beds. Wildflower seed mix has also been sown along fence lines as an alternative to chemical sprays.
- 8 **Boats on the lake:** Will recommence once regulations allow.
- 9 **MUGA area, the boat house:** Nothing to report.
- 10 **Putting green:** See agenda.
- 11 **Tennis courts:** Easter Tennis Camp was very successful. The fencing has been repaired in a couple of areas. A refurbishment project will be bought to committee in the future.
- 12 **Tree works:** Most of the work has been completed. The final work will be carried out over the next month or so.

Outside Services

- 13 **Play Areas:** Open in line with guidance on Covid19.
- 14 **Closed churchyards:** Grass cutting is continuing.
- 15 **Hanging baskets and Tubs:** Wildflower seed mix has been sown in all tubs around the town. Hanging baskets will be delivered and put up at the beginning of June.
- 16 **Sweeper (Basil Brushes):** Continues to clean the town. Has been working with the barrow man to remove the weeds at Portway and on Boreham road. Will be used to water the hanging baskets.
- 17 **Street Furniture:** Replacement bin parts have been ordered along with replacement bins as agreed at the last Parks and Recreation committee meeting.

Stuart Legg

14.05.2021



Delivering a brighter, greener future for all

REPORT FOR DECISION

Parks and Estate Committee 24th May 2021

Stuart Legg Parks and Estate Manager

Putting Green Area

Recommendation

Members debate the options for the putting green and resolve which option they wish to undertake.

Purpose of the Report

To provide members with information to make an informed decision.

Background

In 2017 Warminster Town Council re-opened the putting green in the Lake Pleasure Grounds. This is a 9 hole course. Members of the public were able to hire putters and balls from the Pavilion Café for a small fee of £1.50 per round. The putting green was not a major income generator but did offer something else for visitors to enjoy whilst in the park.

Due to the Covid pandemic the putting green did not reopen in spring 2020 and has remained closed.

The area has become a popular picnic area during the pandemic with 3 picnic tables placed in the area. Particularly with the café only offering a takeaway service.

Findings

Officers have noted the popularity of the area for picnicing and believe this will continue throughout the summer particularly as the Pavilion Café will continue to offer a takeaway service.

The putting green requires a large amount of staff time and equipment to maintain. The cost of which is not covered by the playing fees.

Members of the public have frequently approached officers to ask for more picnic benches within the area. Officers believe the Broxap Sneyd Hill picnic bench will be appropriate. (see picture) These cost circa £400 each.



Officers considered changing the putting green around to allow for an area to be used for picnicking and feel a nine whole course is still possible. See map.

Conclusion

Officers believe there are three options for members to consider:

1. **Leave the area as a putting green and remove the picnic benches -**
This will not satisfy the public's desire for more picnic benches.
2. **Change the use of the area to picnicking only -** This will satisfy the need for more picnicking areas but will mean the putting is lost.
3. **Divide the area into two, one for picnicking the other for putting -** This will satisfy the need for more picnicking and also keep the putting for those who wish to play.

Financial and Resource Implications

Depending on the option.

1. No additional cost
2. Additional benches will be needed to fill the space. These cost circa £400+ VAT each.
3. Additional benches will be needed, these cost circa £400+ VAT each. The area would need to be divided by additional shrubs at a cost of £200.

Legal Implications and Legislative Powers

WTC has the power to provide this service under the General Power of Competence.

Environmental Implications

Officers cannot foresee any negative environmental impact as a result of this.

Risk Assessment

WTC will carry out risk assessments for any work undertaken.

Crime and Disorder

Officers are not aware of any issues the council should consider under the Crime and Disorder Act.