

**Minutes of the Playing Fields & Open Spaces Committee
Held on 4th Feb 2013 at 8.10 p.m. in the Bush Room**

Present: - Phil Squires (Chairman), Alison Peters, John Cutland, Bernard Willcox,
Bob Phillips (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr James Sumner, Mike Webb

2. Evacuation Procedure

Evacuation procedures were noted.

3. Public Participation

None

4. Declaration of Interests

None

5. Minutes of the meeting held on 5th Nov 2012 and Matters arising

Resolved: The minutes were agreed and signed by the chairman.

5.1. Matters Arising
None

5.2. Outstanding Actions

5.2.1. PF121105-1 To examine the boundary shrubs at the Millennium Garden and consider the reported road safety issues. If necessary take appropriate remedial action.

Action to Cllr Mike Webb

The road safety remedial actions are complete. Action Closed

5.2.2. PF121105-2 To establish the requirement for formal training for all operatives performing daily/weekly/monthly routine visual inspections of playground equipment.

(On-going 4/2/13)

6. Playing Fields & Play Areas

6.1. Play Areas

- Cross Hands Play Area – nothing to report.

Removal of Play Area - PS commented that he thought it would be a good idea to remove the play area at Cross Hands as it was too expensive to operate for the small amount of usage. He asked the committee to explore the idea as we were probably one of the few Parish Council's in South Gloucestershire to provide play equipment at two sites. If we concentrated our resources on the Limekiln site, we would be able to provide more facilities and bring the existing ones up to date. JC added that he had brought this subject up previously.

It was pointed out that the play equipment was in fact widely used, especially by the families living in the Quarry Rd area and others living to the west of the village. Significant support had been given by the Principle Authority (Thornbury RDC) when this play area was set up and it was felt that the SG Council may well have a view on this idea.

No further action was agreed at this time.

- Lime Kiln Play Area
 - Surface treatment – it was agreed that the Clerk would trial the use of a domestic pressure hose to assess its potential.
 - Redundant Septic Tank/Cess Pit – The Clerk was asked to gain a view from a local plumber on options for the tank.
 - Springy thing! – It was agreed that the play item should be removed.
- Limekiln Field Play Equipment – nothing to report
- Jubilee Skate Park – nothing to report.

6.2. Recreation Grounds

The maintenance period at the end of the football season had been agreed with the contractor.

6.3. Field Users

Football – The Clerk reported that the expected Soccer camp in Half Term had been cancelled.

Both regular teams had suffered some postponements and new dates had been agreed.

Cricket – Alveston CC fixtures have been agreed.

6.4. Millennium Garden

It was agreed to plant some new shrubs away from the road sight line.

The Clerk was asked to arrange for the existing shrubs to be given their winter prune as soon as possible.

PF130204-1 To arrange for new shrubs to the value of £50 to be planted in the millennium garden. Action to Clerk

6.5. Trees

The Risk Management works on three trees as recommended in the tree survey had not yet been sought. The Clerk suggested that he would try and get some estimates in the next few weeks.

7. Cemetery

7.1. Report & Observations

Moles - A severe infestation of moles was apparent and the Clerk had engaged a contractor to deal with the problem. Unfortunately, to date, due to the poor weather, the treatment had made little progress.

7.2. Cemetery Development sub-committee

PS reported on the proposals of the sub-committee to initially deal with the poor state of the shrubs in the three bunds. (see separate report)

It was agreed that the Clerk would seek some estimates for work to:

- Remove the overgrown cotoneasters and berberis in the three bunds and dig out all weeds, particularly the brambles.
- The old roots at the end of the bund to the left of the Lych Gate to be removed, the end of the bund flattened and grassed over.

PF130204-2 To obtain estimates for the landscape work at the cemetery. Action to Clerk

8. Grounds Maintenance Report

The grounds maintenance work continues satisfactorily.

9. Budget Review

9.1. Q3 Budget Report

The Qtr3 Budget Report had been distributed with no comments forthcoming.

10. The 4-Year Plan

The Clerk had distributed a template plan for committee members to consider however, PS said that he and JS would decide the next steps.
AP requested to be consulted.

11. Correspondence

None

12. Any other business

- 12.1. Expiry of Youth Centre Car Park Lease. This item was previously discussed at the F&GP meeting and no further comment was made.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

**The next meeting of the Playing Fields and Open Spaces Committee is on
Monday 13th May at 7.45pm.**