

**Minutes of the Playing Fields & Open Spaces Committee  
Held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 8.00 p.m. in the Bush Room**

**Present:** - James Sumner (JS) (Chairman), Alison Peters (AP), Marcus Fry (MF), Steve Blick (SB), Mike Webb (MW), Paul Caddick (PC)  
Graham Smith (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

None

**2. Evacuation Procedure**

Evacuation procedures were noted.

**3. Public Participation**

Steven Evans  
Steve McMillan

**4. Declaration of Interests**

None

**5. Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and Matters arising**

5.1. **15.062 Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were approved.

5.2. Matters Arising

(Clerk) informed councillors that the cost of removal of grass from the Jubilee and Lime Kiln fields would be an additional £100 per month when applicable due to the requirement for skip hire, disposal and additional labour. In light of the additional cost and the fact that no further issues had arose Cllrs agreed that no further action should be taken. (SB) requested that (Clerk) investigate how all green waste is disposed of by CRK garden manicures.

**PF150907-1:** Investigate how all green waste is disposed of by CRK garden manicures.

**Action to Clerk**

(JS) recommended that the committee look into a new facility such as a fitness trail and requested volunteers to become involved with a sub – committee.

**PF150907-2:** Organise time & date for meeting of sub-committee to discuss new playing field facilities.

**Action to (JS) & Clerk**

(MW) confirmed that the WI had received funding for 2 \* Crab Apple trees to be planted in the wildlife area of the cemetery and will be located at the bottom right hand side.

5.3 Outstanding actions – None

**6. Playing Fields & Play Areas**

6.1. Travellers – Mr Evans as public participation expressed to the council his concerns and that of many local residents relating to the possible continued use of the grass area on Down Road as a preferred location for travellers and recommended that a mound be erected from builders rubble, covered with top soil and planted with wild flowers as a barrier to prevent any further intrusion. He recognised that South Gloucestershire Council did not have the funds to do this and proposed that volunteers within the community carry out the project. (Clerk) had researched into a similar scheme in Thornbury and produced photographs showing the current state of the bank which was in places over grown whilst other places completely bare. It was evident that no continued maintenance was carried out; however the area is hidden away and does not occupy such a high profile position as that of Down Road.

(Clerk) confirmed that he had held a meeting with Mark King of South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) (Land owners) and that SGC did not have funds available to carry out such a project but would allow the Parish Council to fund a project if deemed necessary. SGC preferred an option of erecting posts at intervals to prevent access and provided a quotation for doing this as follows: -

To supply and install approximately 170 no timber bollards along Alveston Down - £19,560  
This would be a three week scheme for 2 persons plus permanent attendance of a 3 Tonne 360° excavator and Operator. This has been priced on the basis that all posts will be concreted in and for the supply and installation of 3 no removable bollards to allow access.

Additional grounds maintenance - £977.60 per year (based on a 10 cut season) to accommodate the additional cutting required around and in front of the bollards.

The committee agreed that the costs provided by SGC were prohibitive and further consideration is required. It was felt that volunteers' erecting a rubble mound was potentially a "heat of the moment" option and more details and scrutiny of this proposal will need to be considered. Cllts agreed that the area at Down Road is an asset to the village and must be protected both from continues intrusion by travellers but also as a valued piece of green space which must remain aesthetically pleasing and remain an asset to the community as a whole.

(PC) recommended that a working party be set up involving councillors and inviting members of the public to participate. Mr. Evans agreed that this approach would be an acceptable way to move forward. (Clerk) informed Cllrs that he had received approximately five more letters from concerned residents and should look to inviting these people to encourage suggestions.

**PF150907-3:** Arrange a working party meeting.

**Action to Clerk**

(PC) expressed concern that the Jubilee Hall car park was also a vulnerable areas for travellers to occupy and suggested that height barriers be installed at the entrance and exit gates. (AP) informed (PC) that the car park was not Parish Council property and recommended that (MF) (as Parish Council representative on the JHMC) bring this to the attention of the Jubilee Hall Management Committee.

## 7. Cemetery

(Clerk) informed Cllrs that he had received a telephone call relating to the integrity of a tombstone which was possibly being undermined by tunnelling created by local wildlife within the area. Cllrs agreed that (Clerk) and (MW) should investigate the concerns and report.

**PF150907-4:** Investigate concerns relating to the integrity of the ground within area of the graves.

**Action to (MW) & Clerk**

## 8. Grounds Maintenance Report

None

## 9. Correspondence

None

## 10. Website

None

## 11. Any other business

(SB) requested that consideration should be made to replace the tree opposite the parade which had split and was cut down. (Clerk) informed Cllrs that the land belonged to SGC and would contact them to make enquiries.

**PF150907-5:** Contact SGC to investigate options relating to providing a replacement tree.

**Action to Clerk**

Meeting Concluded at 08.30 PM

**The next meeting of the Playing Fields and Open Spaces Committee is on  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 8.00pm.**