

**NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT & AMENITIES COMMITTEE
19 April 2016**

Minutes of the Development & Amenities Committee Meeting held on 19 April 2016

PRESENT

Chairman:	Cllr S Stuckey
Councillors:	
Cllr G Bull	Cllr B Hester
Cllr J Melville	Cllr A Thirtle
Cllr D Turner	Mr M Smith

The meeting opened at 19:00

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs West and Wheeler.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

3 **MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS ON 15 MARCH 2016**

As proposed by Cllr Bull and seconded by Cllr Hester, it was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2016 were a true record of the meeting.

4 **REPORT FROM GROUNDS STAFF**

The Town Clerk had spoken to the team, who had nothing out of the ordinary to report. Mr Gayfer had conducted a review of headstones in the cemeteries, recording those in danger of falling.

5 **PARKS**

War Memorial Park

The sculpture had now been returned to an upright position, as a result of work by the grounds staff and Cllr Thirtle.

Trackside

The Town Clerk had spoken to TT Jones Electrical Ltd about the proposed lighting of the skate park, but no quote had been received as yet. It was likely to be a costly project.

A quote for repairs to the ramps, as reviewed by Cllr Thirtle, Mr Gayfer and the Town Clerk with Freewheel, was still outstanding. Renosteel had also been asked to quote for these works, to include repainting. This would be chased. Repairs to the central ramp as reported on Facebook had been commissioned from Freewheel

[NOTE: Freewheel attended on Monday 25 April to carry out the works.]

A quote for £3,785 had been received from Norgate Builders for fencing the dog area. Although an additional gate was being provided, the quote had remained unchanged from the original.

Woodville

Mr Smith reported that a design proposal which took account of all input since 2014 had been prepared for the next Council meeting. The application for charity status was

**NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT & AMENITIES COMMITTEE
19 April 2016**

proceeding. The Charity Commission would need assurance that there was an adequate degree of control and flexibility over the Charity's fund, and also assurance over the future of the parks. The Town Clerk would liaise with Mr Smith over an appropriate letter. Mr Smith also reported that various firms and organisations had indicated that they would contribute once charity status had been attained. He also had several thousand pounds in cheque donations.

The residents at Nos. 36 (Mr D Greenwood) and 38 (Mr & Mrs Tibbles) had been invited to attend, and expressed concern about the current plan for siting the play area. The concerns included loitering, privacy, noise, items being thrown into their gardens, proximity to the road, on which vehicles often travelled quite fast, and the impact on the saleability and price of their properties following a report from William H Brown Estate Agents. They asked that the location be reconsidered.

Mr Smith confirmed that what had been designed in consultation with local residents and disabled children in mind could be "lifted" and moved anywhere else on the park. Both neighbours had no objection in principle to the area being relocated.

As proposed by Cllr Bull and seconded by Cllr Hester, it was agreed that members of the D&A Committee would visit the park and discuss options with Mr Greenwood and Mr & Mrs Tibbles.

6 SPA COMMON

The Council land at Spa Common had been used for grazing for many years, and some Members felt it should remain as such.

Mr Bullimore had advised the Town Clerk that his proposal, in conjunction with the Songbird Trust, for an educational wildlife area had been withdrawn. No further proposal had been received from the local residents' group following the site meeting.

Miss Gotts, who lived adjacent to the site, had submitted a written proposal to lease the land and prepare it for grazing. Mr & Mrs Cooper, of Valley Gardens, had submitted a written proposal to lease the land for use as a dog training and exercise area and eventually for grazing as well, and both were available in case Members wished to ask any questions. Members however wanted a clear definition of the status of the land (was it 'common land' or owned outright by the Council?) before making a decision, and felt it would be unfair to take individual proposals forward at this stage

As proposed by Cllr Bull and seconded by Cllr Melville, it was agreed that this should be deferred to await full Council views on the definitions requested at the Council meeting on 29 March.

7 MIDLAND ROAD CAR PARK

The Town Clerk had contacted the three companies which had submitted quotes for the resurfacing work. Mackinnon had replied to explain its quote in detail, and the Town Clerk reported that returning the top section of the car park to its original state would cost £7,865. There were no further valid quotes at this time. This would be taken to the Council meeting on 26 April.

**NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT & AMENITIES COMMITTEE
19 April 2016**

8 **DOG FOULING**

North Walsham in Bloom had asked for a trial period of siting a bag dispenser in the churchyard, and had asked if the Council would fund this (at approx. £00). The Town Clerk and Mr Gilbert had discussed this and thought it may be worth trialling in the War Memorial Park as well. Due to concerns about the dispensers being emptied overnight, Cllr Hester proposed agreement to the trial but only in the churchyard, seconded by Cllr Thirtle.

The Town Clerk had received a report on proposed locations of bins from NNDC Environmental Protection officers, and noted that they had a preference for using standard litter bins. It was also reported that Highways permission was required for bins placed on footpaths. As proposed by Cllr Bull and seconded by Cllr Thirtle, it was agreed that bins should be located as per the Council's original list with urgent action on those that were on Town Council property and Highways permission sought for other bins.

9 **MARKET CROSS**

There had been no progress on contacting Historic England.

10 **SAM2 SPEED WARNING SIGNS AND MANAGEMENT**

A simple spreadsheet management system was to be devised for siting the signs. This would run over a 20-week period, and grounds staff would have copies. It was intended that information from the signs should be published online – the output included three simple graphs which could be used. Data would also be provided to the police.

11 **CAR PARKING**

The Christmas Lights Group had asked if the Council would fund a one-day lease of Bank Loke Car Park for the switch-on. Cllr Bull proposed that the Council should use the opportunity to write to our local District Councillors to put pressure on the District Council to provide it at no charge for that event, seconded by Cllr Melville and agreed.

12 **MACHINERY REQUISITIONS**

As proposed by Cllr Bull and seconded by Cllr Hester, it was agreed that the Council be advised to lease rather than purchase an older, well-used flat-bed truck. It was suggested that the local government leasing framework ESPO be tried.

In response to a request that driving licences would need to be checked, the Twn Clerk advised Members that this formed part of the annual appraisal.

An ISO storage container had been ordered and would be sited on the Chapel Cemetery backing onto Sainsburys.

13 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

When inspecting the area for the dog park, it had been noticed that the hedge along the outside of the park was growing through the fence and was difficult to maintain. Cllr Thirtle therefore proposed removing the hedge, seconded by Cllr Bull and agreed.

**NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT & AMENITIES COMMITTEE
19 April 2016**

NNDC had emailed the Twn Clerk to request permission to use the War Memorial Park for the PCC and EU Referendum counts (on 6 May and 23 June respectively). As there had been no problems arising from their use for the May 2015 election counts, this was agreed.

4/4A Market Street –

- It was felt that a CCTV camera was needed on the new paved area to support those sited at the lower end of Market Street, in the precinct and on Kings Arms Street. A quote from the contractor would be requested.
- It was noted that the pigeons had returned and were making a mess on one side of the area. NNDC Environmental Protection were aware that action was needed.

14 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that future meetings of the Development & Amenities Committee would be held on the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting would be on 24 May, starting at 18:00.

The meeting closed at 20:20