

Whiteley Town Council

Recreation and General Purposes Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held in the Council Rooms at Meadowside Leisure Centre, Whiteley on Wednesday 21st May 2014 at 8pm.

Committee members present Pat Thew (Chairman), Tasmin Smith (Vice-Chairman), Colin Bielckus, Malcolm Butler John Butter, Mike Evans, David Jenkins, Chris Wye.

Five members of the public, Town Clerk Nicki Oliver.

1. **To elect a Chairman for the ensuing year** Pat Thew elected.
2. **To elect a Vice-Chairman** Tasmin Smith elected.
3. **To receive apologies for absence** Hazel Croft-Phillips
4. **To receive declarations of interest regarding agenda items** None.
5. **To adjourn meeting to allow participation by members of the public**
Resident Keith Slack asked for an update on the tree and hedge cutting in the Solent Hotel, response not received yet. Also raised a complaint about Winchester City Council grass cutting. **Issue has been raised with WCC, Cllr Sam Newman McKie is also asking for an urgent visit from the grass cutters.** Other issues raised by members of the public include concerns about a dog chasing a deer on Meadowside Recreation Ground. Chairman open to ideas to manage dogs off leads. **Gate to play area needs repairs, railings need replacing along the ditch at the back of Hyssop Close. Clerk to deal with gate and report railing to WCC.**
6. **Meeting resumed to consider the following agenda items:**

6.1 To receive an update on Area K issues (Cllr Thew) **Complaints about the estate management company are ongoing. Threatening letters being sent to residents in response for non payment of fees.**

6.2 To note any outstanding play area repairs and landscape maintenance issues

6.2.1 To receive update on project for inclusive play equipment for disabled children (Clerk) **Consultation to be included in the Town Plan survey.**

6.2.2 Request for additional seating on the recreation ground (Cllr Achwal) **Ongoing.**

6.2.3 Update on hedge planting & maintenance of existing hedges (Chairman) **400 saplings from the Woodland Trust plus those donated by Whiteley Shopping have been planted. It was agreed to remove all Leylandii on Council land and replace with native species.**

6.2.4 Update on refurbishment of skatepark (Clerk) **Some work has been completed, further work required. Clerk is pursuing contractor.**

6.2.5 Update on request to rotovate and re-bark the Meadowside play area (Clerk) **Order placed with OCS.**

6.2.6 Proposal to widen path from leisure centre to all weather pitches – update (Clerk) **Path to pitches is excluded from the Council's ownership so Clerk advised caution in funding work.**

6.3 To receive update on plans for events

6.3.1 Fireworks 2014 (Cllr Bielckus) **Meeting due to be held with those involved with the event.**

6.3.2 Meadowside Music Festival 2014 (Cllr Thew/Cllr Jenkins) **Plans progressing well.**

6.4 To receive an update on the proposal to review Tree Preservation Orders on Whiteley trees, enquiry about Solent 2 SINC (Cllr Croft-Phillips) and request for a site tidy (Cllr Wye) **Refer to next meeting.**

6.5 To review the OCS contract for landscape maintenance which ends or is renewed in October 2014 **Cllr Smith has reviewed the contract and will report next month.**

7. **To identify any unmanaged risks within this committee's remit** None.
8. **Review effectiveness of communication, development of links with other community organisations and support for local democracy through making information more widely available** Continue to monitor.
9. **Recent correspondence/ reports from meetings attended of relevance to this committee** None.

Meeting closed 9pm