



New Alresford Town Council

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DRAFT Minutes of the Recreation & Environment Committee held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 23rd October 2018, Alresford Recreation Centre, The Avenue, Lower Meeting Room, Alresford. SO24 9EP

Councillors	Present	Apologies	Absent
Cllr Sprott	✓		
Cllr Deeming		✓	
Cllr Byrne		✓	
Cllr B Jeffs	✓		
Cllr Gordon-Smith	✓		
Cllr Witchard		✓	
Mr Lewis (Tennis Club)		✓	
Mr Cleeve (ATRC)	✓		
Mr Walshe (ATFC)		✓	
Mr Peters (ATFC)		✓	

Also present: Frances Simpson - Committee Clerk, Town Clerk & Deputy Clerk

181001

Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Witchard, Byrne, Deeming, ATFC (Mr. Walshe), Tennis Club (Mr. Lewis) and Mr. Peters (ATFC)

181002

Declarations Of interests

No declarations of Interest were received from this committee.

181003

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 26th July were signed at a previous Full Town Council meeting.

181004

Public participation.

There were no members of the public present at this meeting.

181005

Sports Club Updates.

The Rugby Club gave the committee the following update: Rugby has got off to a good start this season but double-booking problems with the use of the astro turf on Thursday night's at Perins have arisen. A meeting is to be set between ARFC and Perins to endeavour to solve these issues and to sign a three-year contract. Cllr Sprott will attend this meeting on behalf of NATC, as well as ARFC and AYFC. Saturday parking issues at Perins will also be addressed at this meeting. It is hoped that Perins will be able to agree a car park closing time of 6pm as opposed to 4pm on Saturday's to ease the problem. ATFC will confirm the results of this meeting in writing.

Mr Cleeve is hoping to solve the ramp issue for the Tennis Club hut so that the Club will be able to finalise the works.

Mr Cleeve also offered advice to the council regarding the damage on the football pitches at Stratton Bates. Topsoil has been delivered to ATFC in order that the club members can tread in bare patches and divots before

and after play. At the end of the football season Mr Cleeve kindly offered to scrape the top off the bare and uneven parts of the pitches and lay topsoil, turf and then fence off. He will require some football volunteers to do this and thereafter to water.

Proposal: NATC will set up a MOU for the Spring circus visit to Stratton Bates asking them to 'please respect the repairs that are going on with the pitches. Proposed: Cllr B Jeffs **Seconded:** Cllr Sprott **Agreed**

181006 To consider any matters arising not considered on the agenda elsewhere/Clerks update.

Proposal: Clerk will obtain 3 quotes to fell the diseased Ash tree at the Memorial Gardens and choose the most suitable.

Proposed: Cllr B Jeffs **Seconded:** Cllr Gordon-Smith **Agreed**

181007 To discuss the notes of Stratton Bates and Sun Hill September walkabout and agree any repair actions.

Following a Councillors walkabout of Stratton Bates and Sun Hill Recreation Grounds various maintenance tasks were agreed ranging from bench sanding and wood staining to tree maintenance and minor playground repairs.

This was a unanimous committee decision.

181008 Five-year Plan for all NATC Recreation Grounds

"The committee agreed that the play-park facilities at each of the Council's three sites are below the standard that the town's children deserve.

Although the play-parks are inspected for safety and repairs continue to be made as necessary, much of the existing equipment has gone beyond its expected lifespan. The result is tired and somewhat uncoordinated facilities within each of the parks. The Committee considered the alternative approaches that could be taken and agreed that due to the high cost of installing new equipment, the Council should concentrate its resources on making one of the town's play-parks a facility for Alresford to be proud of.

The Committee considered factors such as the proximity to the geographical centre of the town and access for all, including from any areas of deprivation in the town. It was agreed that the Committee should make a coordinated plan for a new play area at Stratton Bates Recreation Ground.

The Committee will aspire to carry out this project to a high standard and recognise that this will require funding significantly beyond the Committee's existing budget and that currently held in reserve by the Town Council. This will be reflected in the request the Committee makes to Council for its budget.

It was agreed that whilst the play equipment at both sites will continue to be maintained, no major additions will be made to the Arlebury Park or Sun Hill play areas until the facilities at Stratton Bates had been fully revamped. Once that objective has been achieved, a review will be carried out in relation to the remainder of the town's facilities. The Committee acknowledges that it will

take a number of years to reach this next phase, not least because of the requirement to fund the facilities.

The Committee agreed to make a coordinated plan for a new play area at Stratton Bates Recreation Ground. Initially an indicative sketch will be drawn up by Cllr Gordon-Smith and then a budget can be ascertained by the committee. Various avenues of local authority and grant funding will be explored, together with assistance from voluntary groups, corporate donations and sponsorship. The NATC office will liaise with the open space officer from WCC. The Committee agreed that it would like public input on the type of play equipment to be installed and a survey will be devised and advertised in the Forum, Council website and Council Facebook and Twitter pages in the future.

The Committee would also like to install a planted sheltered setting, potentially including a natural wooden structure for teenagers to use as a place to sit in the south western corner of Stratton Bates Recreation Ground. This project will be discussed at the next Recreation & Environment committee meeting on 29th January 2019.

Also, to be included in this Five-Year Plan will be the Skatepark and the area immediately surrounding it including the youth shelter at Arlebury Park. Some preliminary work has started and the clerk will measure the area for a potential addition to the skatepark's hard standing."

Resolution -Proposed: Cllr Spratt **Seconded:** Cllr Gordon-Smith **(Agreed)**

181009

Review terms of reference for this committee.

Cllr Spratt has drafted terms of reference for this committee and will send to all councillors for comments and feedback.

181010

To note possible dates for a Litter pick.

27th April 2019 was agreed to be the date of NATC Spring litter pick day. A co-ordinated approach would be required from all committee members. The office will do an advertising campaign via the Forum, Council website and it's social media pages.

181011

Pitch Playing Strategy

This document has been discussed at a previous Town Council meeting. Omissions have since been observed but they cannot be added until the next time that the document is reviewed by WCC. This was noted. The Committee Clerk would contact the stakeholder clubs to ask for their comments on the existing document.

181012

Memorial Tree at Stratton Bates Recreation Ground

A former Alresford resident has requested to plant a tree as a memorial at Stratton Bates. The committee feel that this would not fit in with their strategic plan for this ground. It was suggested that the clerk contact the family and enquire whether they would like to contribute towards other shrub/tree planting or buy a plaque to be fitted to a bench.

181013

Allotments

A recent Councillor visit to Spring garden allotments identified some Autumn tree cutting work in various locations. The clerk will obtain quotes for the next meeting in January.

181013.1

It was agreed to ask Mr Bridges and Lengthsman to quote for the **clearing work on the allotments of central ditch** and to top the trees around it and a second quote for taking the trees right back. The clerk will have these quotes for January meeting.

SLR Camera

A resident came to a recent Town Council meeting requesting that the SLR be positioned on Sun Hill near the Nursery road junction to warn of speeding. Clerk to investigate this with the resident and HCC Roads and Transport. NATC would like to see the traffic statistics for this location if possible. At the same time HCC may be able to identify any hotspots in Alresford where the camera should be highlighted. Committee agreed that residents should be asked in the Forum to write in to NATC indicating any speeding hot spots.

181014

Budget

The budget was reviewed prior to submission to the Finance Committee.

181015

This meeting closed at 10.35pm

To note the date of the Recreation & Environment meeting as 29th January 2019

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