

Report of the Meeting of the Playing Fields and Cemetery Committee
held on 8 October 2019 in the Council Chamber

Present: Cllr Clive Parkinson (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Jayne Stansfield
Cllr Angela Symonds
Cllr Pam Shipp
Jack Hainsworth (St. Mary's Closed Churchyard)

Wendy Sydenham (Deputy Clerk)
Hannah Cornford (Minutes)

Absent: Cllr Martin Trueman
Cllr Ashley Bijster

1. TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Bob Griffin (Out of Thornbury)
Cllr Helen Harrison (Out of Thornbury)

2. TO RECEIVE ANY MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. TO RECEIVE ANY REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The only members of the public present were representatives from Thornbury Football Club, so item 7 was brought forwards.

7. TO CONSIDER PLANS FROM THORNBURY TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB FOR AN EXTENSION TO THE PAVILLION

Plans from Thornbury Town Football Club for an extension to the Pavilion were circulated. A representative from the Football Club tabled a sketch of a revised version of the plans and briefly outlined the reasons for requesting the extension. They confirmed that the extension would be fully funded by the Club and that the aim would be to build it next summer in between seasons. The plans were discussed and the Committee confirmed that they were very supportive of them in principle. However, the inclusion of a flat roof in the original plans was felt to be problematic. Cllr Clive Parkinson proposed that the Committee support the plans in principle, but ask that they are revised to change the flat roof to a pitched roof and that these revised plans are brought back to the next Committee meeting for final approval. The planning application could then be submitted with Thornbury Town Council as the applicant. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Angela Symonds and unanimously agreed. The Deputy Clerk also agreed to confirm that planning permission was needed and to investigate the situation with regard to VAT.

5. **TO RECEIVE A GENERAL REPORT ON ST. MARY'S CLOSED CHURCHYARD**

Jack Hainsworth provided an update on issues at the churchyard. He highlighted a number of jobs that needed to be done – strimming, removal of garden waste, etc. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that she would ask the outdoor staff to help with this as soon as possible, but that understaffing had caused the delays. Mr Hainsworth reported that the tree by one of the gates had been cut back successfully. The Vice Chairman thanked Mr Hainsworth for his update.

(Mr Jack Hainsworth left the meeting.)

4. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ANY OPERATIONAL ISSUES OR MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 03.09.19 NOT CONSIDERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

The Deputy Clerk reported that the War Memorial Association had advised that she could proceed with a pre-application with only two quotes and that a third could be obtained further down the line.

With regard to the water supply to the splash pad, the Deputy Clerk reported that work on a legal issue was ongoing. She also reported that it had been difficult to obtain exact figures for how much the supply would increase with the additional pipes. It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk should continue to investigate this issue and also to arrange a meeting with the company who maintains the splash pad to see if they could offer any further clarification on how the new pipe may affect the supply.

The Deputy Clerk reported that we would not be able to provide a venue for the “Happy Circus” but the organisers had been appreciative of the efforts the Council had made to try to accommodate them.

6. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S PLAY EQUIPMENT INCLUDING**

(a) To note progress on actions from the latest RoSPA Play Safety Inspections 2019

No progress had been made due to staffing problems.

(b) To receive an update on improvements to the Osprey Park Play

The final version of the design for the play area had been circulated. This now included both the springer options as additional funds had been allocated from CIL. The play panel had also been changed in line with the results of the consultation. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the consultation had raised the option of fencing off the area and also the option of providing goalposts on the grassed area. Quotes had been obtained for these options but it had been decided not to go ahead with them. The fencing would not be fully enclosed and therefore would not be particularly effective in view of the costs involved. The goalposts would be kept as a possible future addition.

A legal issue concerning the positioning of the slide and trampolines had been resolved and a pre-commencement meeting with the contractor had taken place. The works were planned to start on 11 November 2019 and should be finished by mid-December.

Cllr Parkinson thanked everybody involved in the consultation and it was agreed that once the play area was finished, a further letter should be sent to local residents with feedback from consultation.

8. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL TO HOLD A PUBLIC EVENT NEAR THE STREAMLEAZE PLAY AREA TO LAUNCH THEIR TREE PLANTING PROJECT

The launch event planned for 10 December 2019 at 1.30pm at the Town Hall and then at Streamleaze was noted.

9. TO RECEIVE ANY URGENT CORRESPONDENCE

None.