

**MINUTES OF PORTISHEAD TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
30th OCTOBER 2013 7.30PM**

- PRESENT:-** Councillor Mrs Cruse - in the Chair
- Councillors: - Burden, Cameron, Clark, Mrs Knight, Mrs Koops, Mrs Lord, Mrs Philpott & McMurray
- Staff: - Mrs S. Sherborne, Assistant Clerk to the Council
- Public:- There were 6 members of the public present

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone but gave a special warm welcome to Mrs Sherborne, who was clerking the meeting in the absence of the Town Clerk.

RW1283 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mrs Knight and McMurray stated that any views expressed on matters to also be considered at North Somerset Council would be provisional and based on the facts currently known. They would be exercising their right to reconsider any such matter afresh when the matter went before North Somerset Council.

There were two declarations of interest recorded in the Declaration of Interest Register;
Cllr Mrs Cruse & Mrs Lord declared pecuniary interests in agenda item no. 9 Portishead Youth Centre. Exemption has previously been granted on this interest.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Walters, Pasley and Terry and the Town Clerk, Mrs Jo Duffy.

RW1284 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Maltby a local resident spoke in favour of the Lake Grounds Play Area. He hoped that the District Councillors of Portishead Town Council would actively support the scheme to ensure landlords permission is received.

Ms A Vine was invited to address council but declined on the basis that her friend, Ms Sarah Jackson, was going to speak on the same matter.

Whilst it would have been nice to put them out to the schools there is still a process to go. If a selection is made this evening it will go to Town Council in a fortnights time and then to North Somerset Council. It is envisaged that once we have been given the go ahead it won't take very long for the equipment to be installed.

Councillor McMurray opened the discussion amongst the committee and stated that he thought it was a good idea. Councillor Cameron believed that whilst it would be difficult to forecast the usage of the equipment, he felt it would benefit a wide range of people in the community

A pie chart was put together from the 123 written comments made during the time the proposed plans were put on display in the Folk Hall. In order of preference:- Design no. 4 – 37 likes, design no. 5 – 30 likes, design no. 3 – 24 likes, design no. 1 – 15 likes, design no. 2 -14 likes, design no. 6 – 2 likes and 'other, referring to no design on display' – 1 like .

Councillor Mrs Lord stated that it would be foolish to ask children to vote and then not accept their suggestion. She proposed that design number 4 (springy balance board, large climbing frame with banister slide and monkey bars, spinning seesaw, two exercise bikes, a rowing machine, bin and bench) be put forward.

Councillor Burden seconded the proposal made by Councillor Mrs Lord.

Councillor Mrs Cruse suggested that the meeting select a second choice, option 5 (large scale climbing frame with 2 spinners, a banister slide, ladder and rope deck, roundabout that rocks and spins, surf board style rocker, hanging roundabout plus two picnic tables @ £29,995) just in case our first option is not acceptable by the land owner.

Councillor Mrs Knight proposed that a second choice, option 5 (large scale climbing frame with 2 spinners, a banister slide, ladder and rope deck, roundabout that rocks and spins, surf board style rocker, hanging roundabout plus two picnic tables @ £29,995) be put forward just in case our first option is not acceptable by the land owner.

Councillor Mrs Lord seconded the proposal made by Councillor Mrs Knight.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

Portishead Town Council purchase, in order of preference, option numbered 4 totalling £26,014 (twenty six thousand and fourteen pounds) providing springy balance board, large climbing frame with banister slide and monkey bars, spinning seesaw, two exercise bikes, a rowing machine, bin and bench as a first choice but should this not

be acceptable by the land owner, option 5 (large scale climbing frame with 2 spinners, a banister slide, ladder and rope deck, roundabout that rocks and spins, surf board style rocker, hanging roundabout plus two picnic tables @ £29,995).

RW1286 TO DISCUSS THE CCTV SYSTEM IN PORTISHEAD

Councillor Mrs Cruse stated that she was perhaps incorrectly of the belief that the list of questions before her should have been investigated and findings reported back to this meeting. A copy of the North Somerset CCTV Log Book for Portishead was tabled for consideration.

A discussion took place as to whether CCTV works in catching/detering criminal behaviour and whether it is cost effective. It was general felt that CCTV does reassure the public. Camera locations were also discussed.

Councillor Mrs Lord believed that it is very difficult to prove a negative, there will be no statistics for the amount of crimes that have been deterred. She stated that at the last PACT meeting there was a very strong case to site a camera by Homebase, which is to be investigated with Homebase by the PACT chairman. In addition, individual cameras contribute to the network of cameras across the district where a stolen car or a car used in a smash and grab can be tracked and stopped on the motorway. This would not show as a Portishead arrest in the statistics.

Councillor Burden referred to the CCTV log and identified that some of the roads listed for catching criminal activity/behaviour were not covered by a camera. He felt that it is best for the District Scrutiny Panel to investigate whether Portishead Town Council are getting proportional service for the money paid, as Portishead Town Council don't get the required data.

Councillor McMurray, having chaired a District Scrutiny Review meeting some years ago felt, at that time, that CCTV was value for money.

The clerk of the meeting updated members by confirming, following a conversation with the CCTV controller, that CCTV was going to be scrutinised by a Scrutiny Panel being created by North Somerset Council. Any questions or detailed information that members required should be submitted to a representative (*Cllr David Pasley*).

Councillor Mrs Cruse read the list of questions that were suggested. She proposed that the Clerk be asked to write with relevant questions to the police, Chamber of Trade to ask the views of the traders and North Somerset Councils Scrutiny Panel.

Councillor Burden felt that we should ask North Somerset Council Scrutiny Panel for confirmation that Portishead Town Council is getting an equitable share for the amount of money being put in.

Councillor Cameron felt it appropriate to request National Statistics.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

Portishead Town Council write to the Police, Portishead Chamber of Trade and North Somerset Council Scrutiny Panel to request answers to the following questions:

- Provide statistics of when CCTV has been instrumental in implementing criminal charges, crimes stopped, fixed penalties issued, people cautioned and cases going to court via CCTV evidence.
- Up to three years of statistics should be provided.
- Information on vulnerable or missing persons found, stolen cars recovered.
- The Council needs to know the views of the Traders in the Town.
- Is there evidence to show whether the CCTV system acts as a deterrent?
- The local Portishead Police Beat team should be asked what information they can provide in terms of how many incidents have occurred, where valuable information via the CCTV footage has been provided.
- The Council also needs to have the Police beat figures for the Portishead area in order to compare the level of crime against CCTV usage.
- Confirmation that Portishead Town Council is getting an equitable share for the amount of money being put in.

RW1287 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE LAND AT HORATIO HOUSE

Councillor Mrs Knight had no update for the meeting but the item should remain on the Recreation and Works committee Agenda.

Councillor Mrs Lord advised that she had spoken to the Director of Planning at the last ALCA meeting regarding the matter and would be emailing him further in the hope of receiving a response. There were no objections to Councillor Mrs Lord suggestion for her to mention in her email that the matter was picked up by Portishead in Bloom and affects our chances.

RECOMMENDATION that:-

There were no recommendations made.

RW1288

TO REVIEW QUOTES FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE GRANWOOD FLOOR, DECORATION AND NEW CHAIRS AT REDCLIFFE BAY HALL

Councillor Mrs Cruse change the order of discussion to;-

Chairs -

Councillors Mrs Cruse and Mrs Koops discussed the colour of the chairs detailed on the quotation. Both felt that the colour of the chairs for the Folk Hall and Redcliffe Bay Hall should have blue cushioned seats.

A debate took place about the necessity to replace the chairs in the Folk Hall. The committee in general felt it appropriate to replace the chairs at Redcliffe Bay Hall only, in keeping with the refurbishment undertaken.

Councillor Mrs Cruse proposed that new chairs are purchased for Redcliffe Bay Hall and that the committee look at the chairs in the Folk Hall at the next Town Council meeting.

Councillor Mrs Koops queried whether the cost of disposing the old chairs had been factored into the process and that disposal costs be provided at the next Town Council meeting.

Councillor Mrs Knight expressed the need to publicise the improved facilities at the Redcliffe Bay Hall with a view to increased use. Councillor Mrs Koops informed the meeting that there had been an advert placed in the Portishead People. Councillor Mrs Lord believed there to be a council page coming up in December's North Somerset Times and it might be an idea to supply a photograph of the hall.

Councillor Mrs Lord asked if figures could be provided at the next Town Council on the amount of chairs that have been refurbished/recovered over the last five years.

Granwood Floor –

Councillor Mrs Koops proposed accepting quote A @ £2,568 (two thousand five hundred sixty eight pounds), which includes a one year warranty and 12 month inspection.

Councillor Mrs Lord seconded the proposal made by Councillor Mrs Koops.

Decoration –

Councillor Mrs Koops stated that the quotation before the meeting to decorate the lobby is comparable with a previous quote from a decorator who is no longer able to complete the work. She believed that any work done in the toilets at this stage would be undone as the urinals and pipes have been neglected and they really need a good overhaul. The kitchen floor need replacing and suggested the kitchen be painted.

Councillor Burden felt it would be more cost effective to wait and have all the painting done at the same time. There seems to be a lot of time and effort being spent on agreeing lots of small jobs on the hall.

Councillor Mrs Lord agreed with Councillor Mrs Koops that if we want to increase the amount of bookings at the hall we needed to improve the ambience of the hall/entrance and thus supports Councillor Koops suggestion to redecorate the lobby.

Councillor Mrs Koops stated that she would prefer and proposed to have the entrance lobby and kitchen painted at the present time.

Councillor Mrs Lord seconded that proposal.

A vote took place: 4 in favour, 0 against

RECOMMENDATION that:-

Portishead Town Council;

1. purchase for Redcliffe Bay Hall 100 new chairs (blue seats) at a cost of £14.02 per chair (£1,402 – one thousand four hundred and two pounds) and that consideration also be given to the cost of disposing the existing chairs,
2. accept quote A @ £2,568 (two thousand five hundred sixty eight pounds) to renew the floor at Redcliffe Bay Hall,
3. approve the decoration of the entrance lobby and kitchen at Redcliffe Bay hall.
4. seek costing's for bringing the Redcliffe Bay Hall toilets up to a modern and acceptable standard.

RW1289 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE WYNDHAM WAY TOILETS

The Assistant clerk verbally updated the meeting. The work has started on the toilets. The first week the internal demolition and strip out was taking place. Week commencing 21st October the front elevation was due to be rebuilt and this week work will start on building the external partition walls. Handover of the facility is scheduled for 22nd November.

RW1290 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE YOUTH CENTRE DEED OF TRANSFER AND LEASE

The Assistant Clerk verbally updated the meeting. Wards solicitors have been advised that the Town Council is happy with the contents of the lease and to proceed with the final version. Wards have been chased and asked to act with urgency. It is anticipated that the Youth Centre will sign the lease at the beginning of November.

RW1291 TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES ON CAR PARKING IN PORTISHEAD

The Council has received no updates, to date.

RW1292 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE LAND AT HORATIO HOUSE
CCTV – responses received
TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES ON CAR PARKING IN PORTISHEAD
TO RECEIVE A QUOTATION FOR THE UPGRADING OF THE
TOILETS AT REDCLIFFE BAY HALL

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm