

## **RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE**

### **REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2006**

**PRESENT** Councillor Mrs Cruse – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bickley, Fowles, Johnston, Mrs Mason, Miers,  
Walters

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

**APOLOGIES** Councillors J H Clark, J S Clark, Mrs Lord, A McMurray, J McMurray

#### **RW677 HEAVENS FIELD PLAY AREA SITE VISIT**

Councillors Mrs Cruse, Bickley, Johnston, Mrs Mason, Miers and the Clerk met at Heavens Field Play Area. Members walked the site and expressed the general opinion that whilst it was in good condition overall there were a few matters that could be attended to, in particular clearer identification of the entrance gate, provision of a bench within the play area and reinstatement of a sign. It was also suggested that North Somerset Council be asked to cut back the bramble and nettles which were overgrowing the road and the access path leading to their property at the Retreat, over which there is a right of access to the play area.

The meeting reconvened at the Folk Hall.

#### **RW678 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs Mason

- Personal interest in RW680 Redcliffe Bay Hall Exterior Maintenance  
Reason – Member of Management Committee

Councillor Miers

- Personal interest in RW680 Redcliffe Bay Hall Exterior Maintenance  
Reason – Member of Management Committee

#### **Declaration by members who serve on both the Town Council and District Council**

Councillors Johnston and Walters stated that any views they expressed on matters to also be considered at North Somerset Council would be provisional and based on the facts known. They would be exercising their rights to reconsider the matter afresh when the matter went before North Somerset Council.

#### **RW679 HEAVENS FIELD PLAY AREA**

The Committee continued their discussion about the Heavens Field Play Area.

RECOMMENDED that

1. The entrance gate to the play area be painted in order to clearly identify its position. (*Clerk's note – Councillor Johnston offered to carry out this work*)
2. The play area sign (giving ownership etc details) be reinstated.
3. A simple bench seat be provided within the play area
4. North Somerset Council be requested to cut back the overgrown brambles and nettles.

The Clerk was also asked to find out what North Somerset Council intended to do with The Retreat and to remind them that the Town Council are their neighbours and had a right of access over the pathway. A question was also raised about the positioning of the security fencing around The Retreat as it appeared to be on Town Council-owned land.

#### **RW680**

#### **REDCLIFFE BAY HALL – EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE**

Further to Minute No. RW620 the Committee now received details of the quotations received for exterior maintenance and installation of a disabled car parking area at Redcliffe Bay Hall.

After receiving clarification on a couple of points from the Clerk it was

RECOMMENDED that

1. Replacement of shiplap boarding, fascias, soffits and incorporating new gutters and downpipes – The quotation in the sum of £5,660 be accepted.
2. Disabled Car Parking Area – The quotation in the sum of £3,780 be accepted.

#### **RW681**

#### **SEVERNSIDE SIREN TRUST**

Further to Minute No. 671 the Committee now received a report, detailing the background and operation of the Trust, from Councillor Johnston.

Members noted that whilst in recent years the risk of a major chemical accident had reduced due to the closure of companies at Avonmouth, it was still considered that an additional siren should be provided to the west of the Avon, in the upper area of Portishead. It was understood that sites at Weatherly Drive (water company land) and at Weston Lodge Farm were being investigated by the Trust. The Committee supported this view and

RECOMMENDED that

The Severnside Siren Trust be encouraged to pursue a location for an additional siren on the western side of the Avon in the upper area of Portishead.

**RW682                    PROVISION OF LITTER BINS AT THE LAKE GROUNDS**

Councillor Johnston informed the Committee that he considered the number of litter bins on Esplanade Road at the Lake Grounds to be inadequate. He pointed out that there were currently only 7 bins and none of these were positioned near the open-air swimming pool. Further, because the bins were open-topped, gulls were able to remove rubbish which consequently made the Lake Grounds area extremely untidy at times. He asked the Committee to consider providing 10 new closed-top Portishead Blue bins, the same design as in the High Street. The Clerk confirmed that the NSC Area Officer had indicated that the Portishead Blue bin covers could be provided at a cost of £60 each.

Other members also expressed their concerns that the existing litter bins did not appear to be emptied at weekends and cited in particular the untidy state of the Lake Grounds on the previous Saturday morning. Councillor Johnston also reported that he had personally tidied up the area outside the open-air pool in previous weeks.

RECOMMENDED that

1.        The Town Council provide 10 Portishead Blue bin covers for the Lake Grounds at a total cost of £600, to be met from the environmental enhancement budget.
2.        North Somerset Council be asked to ensure that the bins are emptied on a daily basis, including weekends.
3.        Mr Ian Edser, NSC Streets and Open Spaces Group Manager, and Mr Mike Brown, NSC Area Officer, be invited to the August meeting of the Recreation and Works Committee to discuss matters of concern.

**RW683                    APPLICATION FOR A GRANT – PORTISHEAD ACTIVITY WEEK**

The Committee considered an application for a grant towards the Activity Week, scheduled to be held from 31<sup>st</sup> July to 4<sup>th</sup> August inclusive, from PCSO Debbie Charman and Portishead Youth Centre. Members noted that the proposed activities included kayaking in the Marina, sailing, bowling, go-karting, first-aid training with the Ambulance Service, Police training, and Fire cadet training.

Members unanimously supported this initiative and

RECOMMENDED that Portishead Activity Week 2006 be awarded a grant of £500.

**RW684**

**ITEM NOT ON AGENDA – PUBLIC SEAT OUTSIDE FORMER POST OFFICE IN QUEENS ROAD, REDCLIFFE BAY**

The Clerk reported that the new owner of the former Post Office in Queens Road, Redcliffe Bay, had requested that the public seat outside the premises be removed. Councillors were asked to let her know if they were aware of any suitable locations in the vicinity of Queens Road where the seat could be repositioned. It was understood that a Grit Bin was also being removed.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm