

RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE

REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 21ST NOVEMBER 2007

PRESENT Councillor Mrs Cruse – in the Chair

Councillors Cruse, Hazelton, Howells, Mrs Lord, McMurray, Mrs Mason, Miers, Pasley, Miss Stanley, Walters, Mrs Way

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

APOLOGIES There were no apologies for absence

RW759 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Lord

- Personal interest in Minute No. RW761 - Portishead Skatepark Project
Reason – Lives in vicinity of Lake Grounds

Councillor Mrs Mason

- Personal interest in Minute No. RW762 - Redcliffe Bay Hall
Reason – Member of Redcliffe Bay Hall Management Committee

Councillor Miers

- Personal interest in Minute No. RW762 - Redcliffe Bay Hall
Reason – Member of Redcliffe Bay Hall Management Committee

Councillor Miss Stanley

- Personal interest in Minute No. RW761 - Portishead Skatepark Project
Reason – Member of Portishead Skatepark Project Group

Councillor Mrs Way

- Personal interest in Minute No. RW762 - Redcliffe Bay Hall
Reason – Member of Redcliffe Bay Hall Management Committee

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

Councillor Pasley stated that any views he expressed on matters to also be considered at North Somerset Council would be provisional and based on the facts known. He would be exercising his rights to reconsider the matter afresh when the matter went before North Somerset Council.

RW760 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman introduced Mr Tony Mosley, Chairman of Portishead Skatepark Project, and invited him to update members on the work of the group so far.

Mr Mosely detailed the assessment that had been carried out on the five options for the location of the skatepark following the consultation exercise that had been carried out earlier in the year –

- Adjacent to Leisure Centre – had been rejected on advice from Environmental Health and Planning Officers.
- Lake Grounds – strong objections had been received and not being pursued at the present time.
- Bristol Road – strong objections received from Football Club and Cricket Club.
- Trinity School – not being pursued because of residents concerns about the on-site MUGA
- Kilkenny Field – this site was actively being pursued. Whilst the precise location had not been defined a skatepark on this site would meet the necessary criteria as it would be in an area screened by existing trees, more than 100m away from the nearest residential properties and would benefit from informal supervision. It was also close to parking and not too far from public conveniences.

Mr Mosely confirmed that informal discussions had taken place with Councillor Pasley, as ward councillor, North Somerset Council's Property Manager and Parks Manager, and legal advice was being sought.

Mr Mosely concluded by urging the Council to give their in-principle support to the establishment of the skatepark as this would facilitate their negotiations with North Somerset Council and an application for funding from the National Lottery.

The Chairman invited Mr Mosely to remain to answer any questions councillors may have.

RW761 PORTISHEAD SKATEPARK PROJECT

Some members generally expressed their support for the establishment of a skatepark on a site at Kilkenny Field.

During the ensuing discussion the following points were raised –

- The Skatepark Project group were urged to seek the support of the North Somerset Council Executive Member and to ask for his help in determining whether or not planning permission was required.
- Local residents and the police must be consulted.
- A noise assessment must be carried out.

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead and North Weston Town Council:

1. Supports the efforts of the Portishead Skatepark Project in its efforts to establish a new skatepark facility in Portishead.

2. Gives its in-principle support to the Portishead Skatepark Project in pursuing the assessment of a location at Kilkenny Field as a suitable location for this new facility.
3. Urges North Somerset Council as landowners to provide all necessary assistance to the Portishead Skatepark Project in its endeavours.

RW762 REDCLIFFE BAY HALL – PROVISION OF A DISABLED PARKING BAY

This item was referred to the Committee from the 7th December 2007 meeting of the Town Council.

The Committee were reminded that the Town Council had agreed to fund the installation of a disabled parking bay at the Redcliffe Bay Hall at a cost of £3,580 in July 2006. Unfortunately a number of difficulties were encountered during site survey works making it necessary to seek further advice from North Somerset Council's Disability Officer. This resulted in a new specification being drawn up and new quotations being obtained –

Company A	£5,980
Company B	£7,500

RECOMMENDED that

The quotation of Company A be accepted and the Town Council allocates additional funding of £2,400 to enable a disabled parking bay to be provided at the Redcliffe Bay Hall.

RW763 APPLICATION FOR A GRANT – NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL RANGER SERVICE SUMMER 2008 EVENTS

Members expressed their disappointment that this application had been received too late to be considered in accordance with the Town Council's grant timetable, despite previously advising the Ranger Service of this requirement.

Other members considered that these events should be funded by North Somerset Council and that families attending the events should be asked to make a donation.

The Clerk was also asked to make the Ranger Service aware of other local charitable organisations who may be able to consider an application for funding towards these events.

RECOMMENDED that

The Ranger Service be invited to discuss the application with the Committee at the 30th January 2008 meeting.

RW764 BUS SHELTERS

Members were asked to consider a request for a bus shelter to be located at the bus stop adjacent to the play area at Avon Way.

The Clerk confirmed that a preliminary check of the location had indicated that the pavement width would accommodate a shelter but suitability of the site could not be confirmed until a full site survey and utility check had been carried out.

RECOMMENDED that

In principle, the Town Council agree to install a bus shelter at the bus stop adjacent to the play area at Avon Way, subject to the necessary survey and utility checks.

RW765 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Further to Minute Nos. RW749 and RW752 members now received a response from Mr Hauser from which it was noted that –

- The public conveniences were shortly to be deep-cleaned.
- Attempts had been made to remove the graffiti on the external wall of the Wyndham Way conveniences but had been unsuccessful.
- Mr Hauser had asked for the Town Council's suggestions for an alternative location for the recycling bins.

During the ensuing discussion some members considered that the public conveniences, particularly the Lake Grounds, were still a disgrace and desperately needed upgrading. It was also suggested that rather than trying to remove the graffiti, the wall should be repainted.

A consensus view was not reached on a suitable location for the recycling bins and members were asked to consider this in time for the 12th December 2007 meeting of the Town Council.

RECOMMENDED that the Clerk respond to Mr Hauser stating that –

- The external wall of the Wyndham Way conveniences should be repainted if it is not possible to clean off the graffiti.
- The Town Council are very unhappy about the condition of the toilets at the Lake Grounds.

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