

## **RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE**

### **REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2003**

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

Councillors Mrs Bickley\*, Gething, Johnston, Mrs Lord, Mrs Mason, A McMurray, J McMurray, Miers, Terry, Walters

\*Councillor Mrs Bickley arrived at 8.00pm, just prior to Minute No. RW513

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

**APOLOGIES** Councillors J H Clark, J S Clark, Pasley

Before commencing the meeting the Committee agreed to re-arrange the agenda to enable Councillor Mrs Bickley to be present for the items concerning the Speedwatch Initiative and Traffic and Highways matters (Agenda Items Nos 3 and 4)

#### **RW508 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs Lord

- Personal Interest in Minute No. RW509 – Lake Grounds maintenance and other issues  
Reason – Owner of neighbouring property

Councillor Miers

- Personal Interest in Minute No. RW512 – Request for permission to erect a notice board on the Folk Hall Car Park from Portishead Neighbourhood Watch Panel  
Reason – Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for Hillside Road

#### **RW509 LAKE GROUNDS – MAINTENANCE AND OTHER ISSUES**

Councillor Walters informed the Committee that he had received a number of comments and complaints about the standard of maintenance at the Lake Grounds. He also expressed his concern about the operation of the concessions for both the Lake Grounds and Approach Golf Course. The Committee fully supported Councillor Walters remarks and

**RECOMMENDED** that the relevant North Somerset Council officers be asked to provide the Town Council with a short report on the way the present concessions are operating and their plans for any upgrading in the present financial year.

**RW510 HEAVENS FIELD PLAY AREA**

The Committee were informed that a request for additional play equipment at the Heavens Field Play Area had been received from Miss Stephanie Barker, a 14 year old resident of Newhaven Road, on behalf of 20 children living in the vicinity of the play area. Councillor Miers provided members with details and costs of a multi-play unit (incorporating monkey bars, climbing wall, ladders, poles etc.) which the children would like.

RECOMMENDED that

1. Subject to a site survey, an SMP Horizon St Andrews multi-play unit be installed at the Heavens Field Play Area at a maximum cost of £7,600.
2. The Clerk to arrange for the Town Council's grounds maintenance contractors to cut back the overgrown hedges and brambles surrounding the play area.

**RW511 PORTISHEAD AFC**

The Committee considered a request from Portishead AFC for a grant towards essential and urgent repairs to the changing facilities at the Bristol Road playing field. The Committee noted that the changing facilities had become virtually unusable due to problems with a leaking roof and the boilers supplying the hot water to the showers being condemned.

Councillor Terry provided the Committee with background information about the Football Club and the management of the Bristol Road playing field. He confirmed that he would be arranging to visit the site, along with Councillor A McMurray, shortly and they would report back to members at the 9<sup>th</sup> July meeting of the Town Council.

RECOMMENDED that

Subject to a satisfactory report being received from Councillor Terry and Councillor A McMurray at the 9<sup>th</sup> July meeting, the Town Council are minded to award Portishead AFC a grant of £1,000 towards the repairs to the changing facilities at the Bristol Road playing field.

**RW512 PORTISHEAD AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PANEL**

The Committee received a request for permission to erect a new Community Notice Board on the Folk Hall car park from Portishead Area Neighbourhood Watch Panel.

The Committee welcomed the installation of an additional Community Notice Board in the High Street and noted that the management of the board and all costs would be met by the Neighbourhood Watch Panel.

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead Area Neighbourhood Watch Panel be granted permission to erect a new Community Notice Board on the Folk Hall car park, between the far right-hand pedestrian entrance and the boundary wall.

**RW513                    COMMUNITY SAFETY LOCAL ACTION TEAM – SPEEDWATCH INITIATIVE**

This matter was referred to the Committee following the presentation made to the Town Council at their meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2003. In addition, the Committee considered a letter from the Chairman of the Portishead Community Safety Local Action Team, requesting the Town Council's support for the Speedwatch Initiative and a grant towards the initial setting up costs.

A majority of members expressed their "in-principle" support for the Speedwatch Initiative, but commented that for the scheme to be effective it needed to be well publicised. Other members considered that alternative speed reducing initiatives, eg mobile speed indicator signs, would be more effective. A question about whether enough volunteers could be found to run the scheme was also raised.

RECOMMENDED that

1. In principle, the Town Council support the setting up of a Speedwatch Scheme in Portishead.
2. The Community Safety Local Action Team be awarded a grant of £300 towards the setting up cost, subject to enough volunteers being found to run the scheme.

**RW514                    TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

This matter was referred to the Committee following the concerns raised by Councillor A McMurray at the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2003 meeting of the Town Council.

Councillor A McMurray informed the Committee that following his statement to the Town Council, the Portishead South and North Weston Ward councillors had decided to organise a public meeting to hear the residents concerns about the traffic problems on Clevedon Road, through North Weston village. The meeting was being held in the North Weston Village Hall on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July and it was hoped that a representative of North Somerset Council would be in attendance, despite the Clerk being informed that no representative would be available.

Other areas of the Town where traffic and highways problems had been reported were highlighted. It was noted that the Local Action Team had also taken up some of these matters. Of particular concern, in addition to Clevedon Road, were –

Speeding traffic	Nore Road, Down Road, Avon Way, Slade Road, Bristol Road, Wyndham Way, Woodhill Road, Wetlands Lane, Hillcrest Road, Brampton Way
Traffic management	Station Road, South Road, Slade Road and Lake Grounds (it was noted that roads around the Lake Grounds were managed by the marketing and leisure department, not the highway department).

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead South and North Weston Ward Councillors report back to the 23<sup>rd</sup> July meeting of the Recreation and Works Committee, following which a working party be established to consider all traffic and highways issues.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm