

**MEETING OF PORTISHEAD & NORTH WESTON TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE
27 OCTOBER 2010 7.30PM**

PRESENT Councillor Walters – In The Chair

Councillors - Cameron, Mrs Knight, Hazelton, Howells, Mrs Lord, Mrs Mason, Miers, Pasley, Miss Stanley and Terry.

Mr M Dolton - Town Clerk

(Clerk's Note : Due to the absence of the Chairman of the committee, it was proposed, duly seconded and unanimously agreed that Councillor Walters would chair the meeting)

APOLOGIES Councillors Cruse, Mrs Cruse, McMurray, Parker and Mrs Way.

RW 984 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mrs Knight and Pasley stated that any views they 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 rights to reconsider the matter afresh when the matter went before North Somerset Council.

- Councillor Mrs Lord : Personal Interest in Minute No. RW 979 (Play Equipment Lake Grounds)
Reason – proximity of residence
- Councillor Mrs Mason : Personal Interest in Minute No. RW989 (Halls Management Review Working Party Report)
Reason – Town Council representative on Redcliffe Bay Hall Management Committee.
- Councillor Miers : Personal Interest in Minute No. RW989 (Halls Management Review Working Party Report)
Reason – Town Council representative on Redcliffe Bay Hall Management Committee.

RW 985 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public or press present.

RW 986 ACQUISITION OF ALLOTMENT LAND : UPDATE

The Clerk informed members that the planning consent decision notice had now been received, with consent granted subject to minor landscaping matters which are of no specific consequence or implication.

In accordance with previous resolutions the Clerk had now instructed the Council's solicitor to proceed the purchase of the land to completion. As agreed at the last meeting of the Town Council, the implementation project will then commence.

The Clerk expressed that the implementation project was at this stage timed in order to enable tenants to be allocated plots in the spring of 2011.

Members expressed their pleasure that the matter had now progressed to this stage, and looked forward to further updates in future.

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead and North Weston Town Council note that the planning consent for the proposed further allotment site at Clevedon Road had now been obtained, and that the purchase of the land will now be completed by the Clerk.

RW 987 TELEPHONE KIOSK : CLEVEDON ROAD : FUTURE USE

Members had received the circulated written report of the Clerk which outlined that the Town Council were now the lawful owners of the telephone kiosk situated in Clevedon Road North Weston and the Clerk had arranged the required insurance. The Clerk also suggested that until a suitable use had been agreed by members the kiosk be sealed to avoid misuse of any kind.

Members briefly discussed the matter expressing various views and suggestions as to future uses. Some felt that the kiosk should remain in its current location, whereas others felt it could be better used and situated in a prominent location within the High Street or new library areas of the town.

It was agreed that all members should consider suggestions for future use and location of the kiosk, and forward such suggestions to the Clerk prior to the next meeting of this committee, for full discussion and consideration to take place.

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead and North Weston Town Council note that the Council has now taken ownership of the telephone kiosk in Clevedon Road. The Clerk is to arrange that the door is sealed for the interim. Members will consider suggestions for future use and location of the kiosk, and forward such suggestions to the Clerk prior to the next meeting of this committee, for full discussion and consideration to take place.

RW 988 PROVISION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT : THE LAKE GROUNDS

Councillor Miss Stanley updated members on the progress in the consultation process that was taking place with young residents. Herself and Councillor Mrs Cruse had conducted work at the Youth Club, and displays of various play equipment options were now in place with the schools. The current week being half term week had caused a slight delay and Councillor Miss Stanley anticipated that she will be able to present definitive results of the consultation process at the next meeting of this committee.

Members were unanimous in thanking Councillor Miss Stanley for the time and effort afforded by her on this matter, and looked forward to her report at the next meeting of the committee.

RECOMMENDED that.

Portishead and North Weston Town Council note the progress made in the consultation process with young residents to indicate suitable play equipment for installation at the Lake Grounds. Members thank Councillor Miss Stanley in particular for the effort she has afforded on this process to date, and look forward to her further report on the results of the process at the next meeting of this committee.

RW 989 HALLS MANAGEMENT REVIEW WORKING PARTY : REPORT

Members had received the circulated written report of Councillor Mrs Lord, the Chairman of the working party. Councillor Mrs Lord spoke to the report explaining the rationale behind the report and its recommendations which had been submitted to members to ensure that the Council now had a plan in place to ensure the continued improvement and decoration of the Folk Hall on a four yearly basis, and that strategic plans were in place to ensure that future major expenditure requirements of all the Council's halls would be met in a planned and logical manner.

Members briefly discussed the report, agreeing that such plans were essential to current and future financial management and that the recommendations of the report would be recommended to full Council for resolution and adoption.

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead and North Weston Town Council :-

- (1) Recommend to the budget working party that a sum of £3,000 be included in the budget for 2011-12 to cover the first year of a 4-year re-decoration programme for the Folk Hall. This includes £500 for any unforeseen extras like loose plaster.
- (2) Recommend to the budget working party, that a Halls Major Works Reserve be created, with a sum of £20,000 in the 2011-12 budget. The Town Council agrees an intention that a similar sum be added to this reserve in future years. The reserve is to be used for a new floor in Redcliffe Bay Hall, refurbishing the Folk Hall main hall and replacing the windows in Redcliffe Bay Hall. If other major needs in the halls become apparent, this money may be diverted to these.

RW 990 HALLS : REVIEW OF HIRE CHARGES

Members had received the circulated written report of the Clerk. The report set out that hall hire charges for the Folk Hall and North Weston Village Hall had not been increased for three years. There were clearly inflationary increases in costs which amounted to some 9% over this period.

The Clerk recommended in his report that members consider a small increase of 50 pence per hour to the various room and hall charges.

Having considered the report members discussed the matter and generally agreed that an increase was necessary. It was proposed, duly seconded and agreed by majority vote that the charges for full use of the kitchen at the Folk Hall, and the commercial rate for the hiring of the Folk Hall be increased by one pound rather than the 50 pence recommended.

It was also proposed, duly seconded and agreed by vote that the Feddon Room charge not be increased but remain at £3.50 per hour, to reflect the size of the room and the nature of groups, mainly very small, that hire this room.

It was also agreed by members that the Clerk should present an annual report in October of each year to the Recreation and Works Committee, reviewing the hire charges for the following financial year.

The remainder of the recommended increases in charges were agreed by vote.

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead and North Weston Town Council

- (i) implement the following hire charges for the Folk Hall and North Weston Village Hall with effect from the 1st of April 2011 :-

FACILITY	CURRENT	01 APRIL 2011
FOLK HALL		
Main Hall – up to 6pm 6pm until 10pm 10pm until midnight	£8.50 per hour £12.50 per hour £17.00 per hour	£9.00 per hour £13.00 per hour £17.50 per hour
Fedden Room	£3.50 per hour 2 hr min.charge	£3.50 per hour 2hr min.charge
Reynolds Room (Members Room when charged)	£3.50 per hour 2 hr min charge	£4.00 per hour 2 hr min charge
Eve Wigan Room	£5.50 per hour	£6.00 per hour
Light use of kitchen (tea/coffee only)	No charge	No charge
Full use of kitchen	£25.00 per session	£26.00 per session
Commercial Rate (Hall)	£25.00 per hour	£26.00 per hour
NORTH WESTON VILLAGE HALL		
Regular Hirers	£7.00 per hour	£7.50 per hour
Casual Hirers	£8.00 per hour	£8.50 per hour
Fri & Sat eve (after 6pm)	£10.00 per hour	£10.50 per hour

- (ii) The Clerk to report to the Recreation and Works committee in October of each year, reviewing the hall hire charges for the following financial year.

RW 991 TREES : FOLK HALL CAR PARK

Members had received the circulated report of the Clerk which brought to the attention of members advice that had been obtained from a specialist tree surgeon relating to the three Plane trees in the Folk Hall Car Park.

The trees had now become overgrown and would cause difficulty in the new growing season next year in encroaching onto the footpaths, road,

and the walkway into the car park. Considerable difficulty was also being experienced in operating, and the visibility of, the Council's flagpole. The report offered options to members of either hard pruning the existing trees, or removing those trees and replacing with a more upright and slower growing species.

Members discussed the matter expressing a wide variety of views. A proposal to remove the trees altogether was duly seconded but failed by majority on vote.

It was then proposed, duly seconded and agreed by majority vote that the trees should remain and the Clerk should arrange for them to be hard pruned this winter, and the Clerk to take annual advice on the maintenance requirements for each winter.

RECOMMENDED that

The Portishead and North Weston Town Council instruct the Clerk to have the existing Plane trees at the Folk Hall car park hard pruned and cut back this winter, at an estimated cost of £450 (Incl VAT). The Clerk is then to take specialist advice on an annual basis of the maintenance requirements of the trees and report to members.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.