

RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE

REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 28th MAY 2003

PRESENT Councillor Johnston – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bickley, J S Clark, Gething, Mrs Mason, A
McMurray, J McMurray, Miers, Walters

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

APOLOGIES Councillors Mrs Cruse, Mrs Lord

RW502 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Walters

- Personal Interest in Minute No. 503(c) - Application for a Grant from Portishead Playgroups
Reason – Personal friend of two of the Trustees

RW503 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS

- (a) Portishead Highlights – Concert Tour to Paris

The Committee noted that as well as singing in Paris, the Highlights had also been invited to sing at Disneyland. Members looked forward to receiving a report back after the Tour.

RECOMMENDED that Portishead Highlights be awarded a grant of £300 towards their Concert Tour to Paris

- (b) Portishead Parochial Church Council – Gate for Millennium Garden

The Committee noted that the installation of the Gate would complete the Millennium Garden Project which had started 4 years ago.

RECOMMENDED that the Portishead PCC be awarded a grant of £250 towards the gate for the Millennium Garden

- (c) Portishead Playgroups – Replacement Building

The Committee were reminded that the Town Council had previously indicated their support for this project and had agreed, in principle, to consider providing financial support for the associated outdoor play area. Unfortunately however rising building costs and a short-fall in funding from sources which had previously indicated support had led to an overall deficit of £5,000 for the main building project.

Members were very supportive of this application and after considering the project in detail –

RECOMMENDED that Portishead Playgroups be awarded a grant of £5,000 towards their replacement building, to be allocated from General Reserves.

It was further noted that the group would be continuing their fund-raising to enable the outdoor play area to be completed.

RW504 ROTARY CLUB OF WESTON-SUPER-MARE – SAFETY ZONE PROJECT

Further to Minute No. RW497(b), the Clerk now reported on additional information received about the project and the views of the Headteachers of Portishead Primary Schools.

Whilst three out of five schools were aware of the project, only one, Portishead Primary, had visited the Safety Zone; the main reason given for not visiting being the cost of transport to Weston-super-Mare. All five schools had visited a similar project for older children at the Life Skills Centre at the Bristol Create Centre.

In view of this additional information it was –

RECOMMENDED that no further action be taken.

RW505 CHAIRMAN’S CONSORT BADGE OF OFFICE

Further to Minute Nos. RW488 and RW495, the Committee were again asked to consider a proposal to provide a badge of office for the Chairman’s Consort.

The Committee considered the options and quotations received in detail, with members commenting in particular that, if the proposal was agreed, the badge of office needed to be of good quality. Some members also commented about the principal of providing such a badge of office and questioned whether there was a requirement for it.

The voting on this matter was recorded as 4/4. On the casting vote of the Chairman it was therefore

RECOMMENDED that the design proposal for a badge of office for the Chairman’s Consort submitted by Fattorini Ltd be accepted, to a maximum cost of £500.

Councillor J McMurray asked that his vote against this recommendation be recorded.

RW506 TOWN COUNCIL PLAY AREAS – ANNUAL INSPECTION AND SAFETY REPORT

The Committee received a report from the Clerk which detailed the results of the annual inspection of the Town Council-owned play areas.

Whilst the majority of play areas and equipment were satisfactory, the report had highlighted particular items that required attention. These were considered individually as follows –

- (a) Safety Surfacing – general maintenance required.

RECOMMENDED that the quotation of £250 to carry out the maintenance of the safety surface at Slade Road, Heavens Field and Underwood Road be accepted.

- (b) Swings at Underwood Road and Slide at Mead Road – chain replacement and remedial work

RECOMMENDED that the quotations of £398 and £375 respectively be accepted.

- (c) Toddler and Junior Swings at Mead Road – badly corroded, should be removed or replaced.

RECOMMENDED that new toddler and junior swings be provided at Mead Road Play Area with new rubber-tile safety surface at a maximum cost of £7,500.

It was noted that it may be possible to provide a 2-bay, 4-seat set of swings at this site, instead of the two individual swings currently on site.

RW507

REPLACEMENT OF NORTH WESTON VILLAGE HALL

The Committee were reminded that the 2003/2004 budget included provision for a feasibility study into the replacement of the North Weston Village Hall. The requirement to progress this project as a matter of urgency was stressed as the hall is badly in need of modernisation and would currently not meet the requirements of Part III of Disability Discrimination Act which comes into effect at the end of 2004.

RECOMMENDED that a small working party be established to carry out preliminary investigations into the replacement of the North Weston Village Hall. The working party to consist of Councillors Johnston, A McMurray and Rigby. Councillor A McMurray to be Chairman.

It was further AGREED that the Terms of Reference of the working party be approved at the 11th June meeting of the Town Council.

The working party were asked to report back to the 23rd July meeting of the Recreation and Works Committee.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm