

**RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE  
REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 29 OCTOBER 2008**

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

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

Mr Lou Hauser - Waste Contracts Officers was present at the site meeting at Wyndham Way only.

Ms R Key (Appointed to Clerk's position)  
Mrs R Tranter - Assistant Clerk

**APOLOGIES** Councillor Knight

**RW 803 SITE VISIT – WYNDHAM WAY PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

Prior to the commencement of the Committee meeting some members of the Committee met with Mr Lou Hauser, North Somerset Council Waste Contracts Officer at the Wyndham Way Public Conveniences for an update on their condition and improvements which had been made.

The meeting reconvened at the Folk Hall at 7.30pm.

**RW 804 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Cruse

- Personal Interest in Minute No. RW 811  
Portishead Nautical Trust Artifacts  
Reason – Trustee and Treasurer of The Portishead Nautical Trust
- Personal interest in Minute No RW 809  
North Weston Allotments Committee  
Reason – North Weston Allotment Holder

Councillor Mrs Cruse

- Personal interest in Minute No RW 809  
North Weston Allotments Committee  
Reason – Wife of North Weston Allotment Holder

Councillor Pasley

- Personal interest in Minute No. RW 810  
Plastic Bag Reduction  
Vice-Chairman of Strategic Planning and Economic Development  
Scrutiny Panel (SPED)

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

Councillors Pasley and McMurray 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.

**RW 805 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

**RW 806 WYNDHAM WAY PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

The Chairman informed the Committee that the condition of the public conveniences was much improved. The outside render had been painted and there was no graffiti. Inside the grout was cleaner, there was hot water and generally they were more welcoming.

Unfortunately, Mr Hauser had informed members at the site meeting that North Somerset Council proposed to shut the public conveniences at The Windmill Car Park at the end of the Financial Year. The reason for this closure was for financial reasons. Mr Hauser had also confirmed that he was going to Afghanistan for 7 months.

The Committee discussed the proposal to shut the toilets at The Windmill Car Park. Members were concerned that other public conveniences in the town could also be jeopardized. The savings by closing these toilets would be minimal since there is no attendant. Members also discussed the following –

- The non opening of the adjacent Approach Golf Course this year and the possible effects of this on the usage of the toilets.
- The toilets use would probably be increased when the link on the pathway from Bower Ashton, through Pill, Portishead and on to Clevedon was completed.
- The assumption that the toilets within The Windmill Public House would continue to be available for members of the public who were not customers.

RECOMMENDED that Portishead and North Weston Town Council

1. Write to Mr Lou Hauser thanking him for all his work on improving the public conveniences in Portishead and wish him well for his tour of duty in Afghanistan.
2. Write to North Somerset Council objecting to their proposal to close the Windmill Car Park Public Conveniences.

**RW 807 PARISH WHARF AGREEMENT/MERLIN SKATEBOARD PARK LEASE – OFFICIAL SEGNATORY**

The Chairman informed the meeting that she had spoken to John Brentnall of Wards' Solicitors concerning the Parish Wharf. Councillor Mrs Cruse added

that she was unhappy with alterations which had been made to the document and which were not signed as alterations. Wards' had also pointed out that the document was probably as good as the Town Council were going to get. Councillor Walters also had concerns that the Town Council would be financially responsible for items which previously had not been the case.

The issue of signing the Merlin Park Lease was more straightforward and a decision needed to be made as to whether the lease should commence when the equipment was installed, some years ago, or should run from the date of signing.

RECOMMENDED that

1. The Chairman and New Clerk sign the Parish Wharf Agreement following a meeting with Councillors Mrs Lord and Mrs Cruse to resolve the items the Town Council were unhappy with.
2. The Chairman and New Clerk sign the Merlin Park Lease. The Lease to run for 10 years from the date of signing.

#### **RW 808 PORTISHEAD FOOTBALL CLUB**

The Chairman informed the Committee that she had spoken to the Chairman of the Portishead Football Club. The Club was proposing to apply for Planning Permission for a low profile covered and seated stand for 160 spectators at the Bristol Road site. The plans were available at the meeting. Prior to submitting the application the Football Club had approached the Town Council as landlords for their permission.

Members discussed the location of the proposed stand and access to the area.

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead and North Weston Town Council write to the Portishead Football Club granting Landlords Permission for the planning application to be submitted for a low profile covered and seated stand for 160 spectators. The Town Council point out to the Portishead Football Club that they will consider the Planning Application in the normal way when it is received from North Somerset Council.

#### **RW 809 NORTH WESTON ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE**

The Chairman reminded the Committee that the rent was to be increased to cover the cost of installing the water troughs at the North Weston Allotments earlier this year. The water troughs had been paid for by Portishead and North Weston Town Council on condition that the cost of £2,300 would be reimbursed to the Town Council over 5 years. Councillor Mrs Cruse added that she had met with The Chairman of the North Weston Allotment Committee and the Assistant Clerk and discussed various rent options.

In addition the North Weston Allotment Committee had asked if the front boundary hedge and visibility splay at the site could be cut back. This work was last carried out by the Town Council 4 years ago.

RECOMMENDED that

1. The Annual Rent 2009/10 for the North Weston Allotment Committee of £500 is approved.
2. In addition to the Annual Rent an amount of £460 per year for five years commencing 2009/10 is approved as reimbursement to Portishead and North Weston Town Council for installing the water troughs (Total £2,300).
3. Portishead & North Weston Town Council arrange for the front boundary hedge and visibility splay to be cut back up to a maximum of £200.

#### **RW 810 PLASTIC BAG REDUCTION**

Members discussed this item briefly. Generally it was felt that cutting back on plastic bags would have little impact on the overall problem of plastic waste.

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead & North Weston Town Council takes no further action on this item as this time.

#### **RW 811 THE PORTISHEAD NAUTICAL TRUST ARTIFACTS**

Members reconvened in the Fedden Room where The Portishead Nautical Trust Artifacts are currently displayed. This enabled the Committee to see the problems which the Health and Safety inspection had highlighted with the storage of the items.

The Committee were reluctant for any of the items to be relocated elsewhere in the town unless there was no other option. The Fedden Room is due to be decorated shortly and alterations are to be made to the exiting, boxed in fireplace. Suggestions were made that the canon may be accommodated in the hearth area, with the bust of Henry Fedden above. The addition of the dress sword would need to be investigated. It would have to be wall mounted and within a case.

RECOMMENDED that Councillor Walters, Rebecca Key the New Clerk, and the Assistant Clerk investigate the best way to display the items as part of the refurbishment of the Fedden Room. The work to be carried out by the end of the Financial Year.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.