

RECREATION & WORKS COMMITTEE

REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON 30TH MARCH 2005

PRESENT Councillor Mrs Cruse – in the Chair

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

Mrs P Rendle – Clerk of the Council

APOLOGIES Councillors Fowles, Johnston, Pasley

RW609 Declaration by members who serve on both the Town and District Council

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

RW610 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS

(a) North Somerset Mencap – Cool Summer Club 2005 Summer Playscheme

The Committee were very supportive of this application and

RECOMMENDED that North Somerset Mencap be awarded a grant of £150 towards the Cool Summer Club 2005 Summer Playscheme. The grant to be paid from the balance remaining in the 2004/2005 Youth Support budget.

(b) Cludo Club – 2005 Summer Playscheme

Whilst the Committee were generally supportive of this application members expressed their disappointment that a nominal financial contribution towards the playscheme is not requested from parents. Other members pointed out that the playscheme was not just beneficial to the children attending as the young people who volunteered to help gained valuable experience and developed a variety of skills.

RECOMMENDED that the Cludo Club be awarded a grant of £400 towards the cost of hire of Gordano School for the 2005 Summer Playscheme. The organisers to be informed that the Town Council understand their wish not to exclude anyone because of financial circumstances but are disappointed that a nominal charge is not requested (the nominal charge to be waived in individual circumstances at the discretion of the organisers). The grant to be paid from the balance remaining in the 2004/2005 Youth Support budget.

(c) Clowns International Festival School Workshops

Whilst the Committee acknowledged that the Clowns Festival intended visiting all local primary schools, comments were made about the focus of the Festival being at Weston-super-Mare. Other members commented that it was unclear from the application if local schools would definitely be holding workshops and it was also possible that schools would have alternative means of funding ie from school funds and parent/teacher associations.

RECOMMENDED that the applicants be informed that the Town Council do not have funding available for this type of activity at the present time.

(d) North Somerset Council – Ranger Service 2005 Summer Activities

The Committee expressed their surprise and disappointment that North Somerset Council had ignored the Committee's previous request for this application to be submitted by September 2004.

RECOMMENDED that the Ranger Service be informed that the application for funding towards the 2005 Summer Activities has been received too late to be considered.

RW611

EASTWOOD DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Committee received a report on the Eastwood Draft Management Plan from Councillor Gething. Arising from the report it was noted that the Plan was aimed at improving the wildlife value of the wood while enhancing the enjoyment of visitors. This would be achieved by selectively thinning certain trees to encourage the establishment and development of rarer native trees, removing invasive garden species and opening up the views by selective removal and pruning of trees. It was intended that the Management Plan would be reviewed after 5 years.

RECOMMENDED that

Portishead and North Weston Town Council welcomes the management plan for Eastwood Local Nature Reserve and gives its full support for the programme of works contained in the plan.

In addition, the Town Council would like to see dog-bins installed at the Royal Hotel and Battery Point entrances to the wood and the installation of a fence along Pier Road to protect the wood from traffic.

RW612**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU – DRAFT SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT**

Further to Minute No. 601 the Committee now received a copy of the Draft Service Level Agreement and further information in respect of the portion of the North Somerset Grant attributed to Portishead.

Following clarification on a number of points and amendment to certain clerical errors it was

RECOMMENDED that the draft Service Level Agreement attached to and forming part of these minutes be APPROVED.

RW613**PORTISHEAD CEMETERY**

Councillor A McMurray informed the Committee that a number of residents had complained to him about poor grounds management at Portishead Cemetery. He had subsequently taken this matter up with the North Somerset Council's Cemetery Manager but despite assurances, matters had not improved. He was particularly concerned about reports of graves being dug by a mechanical digger which was invariably driven over adjoining plots, soil from dug graves not being disposed of correctly and grave boards being left in the hedges.

During the ensuing discussion members also questioned when the cemetery extension was likely to be brought into use.

RECOMMENDED that

1. The Clerk bring this matter to the attention of the Director of Development and Environment.
2. NSC be asked to provide a copy of the Cemetery grounds management programme and an update on the provision of the cemetery extension.

RW614**MEMORIAL SEAT FOR THE LATE COUNCILLOR JOHN DAWS**

Councillor Miers informed the Committee that he had been approached by a number of residents who had suggested that a seat be provided in memory of the late Councillor John Daws, to be sited in Redcliffe Bay. It was understood that Mrs Daws was in full agreement with the suggested site at the Ship public house and had indicated to Councillor Miers that the family may also wish to purchase a seat which could be sited at Redcliffe Bay Hall. Councillor Miers indicated that Portishead in Bloom Committee would provide suitable planting near the seat.

The Committee unanimously agreed with this suggestion and

RECOMMENDED that the Town Council purchase a seat to be dedicated to the memory of the late Councillor John Daws, to be sited near the Ship public house.

RW615 NORTH WESTON VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

Councillor A McMurray reported that the demolition of the Hall was practically complete. It was still uncertain as to whether planning permission was required for the new car park on the cemetery extension site; meanwhile, the contractors were using the lay-by opposite for storage purposes. The Clerk reported that Mr Cook had signed the lease for his use of the garden area at the rear of the hall, to become effective when the new hall is complete.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm