

Portishead Town Council Community Matters Committee minutes 8 July 2021



This was a hybrid meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions

1. Attending:

a. Councillors present in person:

- Councillor Ben Aldridge (Chair)
- Councillor Bob Cartwright (Non-Committee)
- Councillor Caroline Goddard (Non-Committee)
- Councillor Patricia Sterndale (Committee)
- Councillor Paul Gardner (Vice Chair)
- Councillor Robert Bull (Non-Committee)
- Councillor Tanya Slatter (Non-Committee)
- Councillor Tina Mason (Committee)

• Julia Stuckey, Town Clerk

b. Councillors present online:

- Councillor Sue Mason (Committee) arrived at 20.00
- Councillor Janet Davey (Committee)
- Councillor Steve Temple (Committee) arrived later

c. 2 Residents attended in person

d. 2 Residents attended online

2. Apologies for Absence:

- Councillor Polly Shepperdson (Committee)

3. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

a. None

4. Public Participation

a. Mr Paul Maltby:

- i. Asked which Councillors can vote

b. Mr Kenneth Smith:

- i. Received North Somerset Council (NSC) magazine. Why does Portishead Town Council (PTC) not have any Executive Members on NSC? (Councillor Goddard: offered to feedback comments to NSC, however, she does speak to Executive Members frequently)
- ii. How many jobs being created in Portishead?
- iii. He then made unacceptable comments about previous and current Councillors and was asked to stop.

c. Councillor Cartwright:

- i. 21st July marks the date that Corporal Paul's life taken by the channel 80 years ago. He asked if a small feature could be included in the Heritage Centre. Councillor Davey offered to speak to him separately.

5. Chair's verbal report

a. Chair:

- i. Merlin Park is almost finished with just a few remaining issues, Chair will be happy for the Office to pay the invoice when work has finished.

b. Councillor Davey:

- i. Thanked the Gordano Society, which lent the boat designs to be displayed in the Heritage Centre.
- ii. 60 entries for the photo competition were with judge. The selected top 5 will be displayed in Folk Hall foyer.
- iii. The metal artwork for Sheep Pen should be in situ soon.

c. The Chair thanked Councillor Davey.

6. Decision: Recommendation to purchase 6 rubbish bins for new locations at The Bramleys (to be emptied by NSC), Lake Grounds (to be emptied NSC) and Merlin Park (emptying to be investigated) and to store the remainder for when needed.

- a. Cost per bin £155 = total cost £930 & VAT (Chair)
- b. Vote: no objections, all approved
- c. Councillor Gardner thanked Nicky Mills in the team.

7. **Decision:** Recommendation to delegate authority to Chair and the Clerk to liaise with North Somerset Council re. the potential terms of sale for part of Merlin Park and to commission a feasibility study including legal advice. (Chair)
 - a. Report will be considered at a future Full Council meeting to extend the Skate Park and consider a Pump Bike Track.
 - b. Maximum cost of feasibility work £5,000.
 - c. Residents have asked for a permanent facility.
 - d. Proposal to consider purchasing the existing area leased by NSC and additional land.
 - e. When the Chair spoke to NSC, in principle, NSC was open to discuss the sale.
 - f. Key questions need to be considered in the feasibility work including independent valuation, legal cost, build costs etc. financial feasibility, neighbouring residents views, etc.
 - g. Comments from Mr Kenneth Smith:
 - i. PTC should canvas all residents in Merlin Park, as the previous consultation did not include everyone.
 - ii. Why should we pay for NSC land? (Chair responded that consultation has not started yet.)
 - iii. What is cost? (Chair responded: no figures have been discussed yet, hence the feasibility)
 - iv. Where will it be? (Chair responded: the feasibility study will show the best site).
 - h. Councillor Sterndale:
 - i. This is an excellent idea and thanked the Chair.
 - ii. Outdoor exercise for young people is always a good idea, but even more important over last 18 months.
 - iii. It is better to purchase land if possible.
 - i. Chair:
 - i. Has been made aware that some people are think he has acted too soon, but brought the item to the March meeting and followed proper procedure.
 - j. Councillor Goddard:
 - i. Do we have the capacity to do this and the skate park. (Chair: we need to find capacity. This will go through the Project Working Group process).
 - k. Mrs Lynn Morrissey:
 - i. This use would be preferable to houses.
 - ii. Is this in addition to the proposed Lake Grounds projects? (Chair: this would be in addition to any Lake Grounds projects.
 - iii. What ages would it cover? (Chair: all ages ideally. The potential users must input into the design.)
 - l. Councillor Cartwright:
 - i. Young people currently have very little to do. The Park needs something as it is 1 of 2 biggest areas in Portishead.
 - ii. What amenities will be included e.g., toilets. (Chair: there are issues in the area inc with parking, utilities, etc. The feasibility would cover these areas)
 - m. Vote: no objections, all approved.
8. **Decision:** Recommendation to increase the monthly fee for the plant watering contract from £1,400 pm to £1,460 pm to cover increased water costs for the remainder of the 5-month contract. (Chair)
 - a. In his opinion this is in addition to contracted fee, but PTC has no choice but to pay.
 - b. Vote: no objections, all approved
 - c. The Chair thanked Keith and Portishead in Bloom
9. **Decision:** Recommendation to approve grant application for £2,000 to the Great Western Air Ambulance charity. (Chair)
 - a. The Grant Working Party recommended to approve.
 - b. Service costs are over £2k per flight, but they are only asking for £2k contributions.
 - c. Vote: no objections, all approved
 - d. The Chair thanked the volunteers.
10. **Verbal update:** Findings from the RoSPA annual play area inspections (Chair)
 - a. Most of equipment is fine, a small amount of work is required e.g., signage, surface, gates, painting.
 - b. The Orderly and contractors will make the improvement.
 - c. Any additional costs will be reported to a future meeting.

- d. Councillor Goddard has not had an update from NSC on missing swings (taken off due to C19), she will chase date for reinstatement.
 - e. We also have a missing swing in Underwood Road the parts arrive this week.
11. **Verbal update:** Managing graffiti (Chair)
- a. He was contacted by a resident. Previously the regular perpetrator was dealt with, but it seems to have started again.
 - b. He has spoken to NSC different depts.
 - c. Councillor Goddard to report to Mike Solomon, NSC Executive Member.
 - d. Chair: proposes to discuss with NSC and the police.
 - e. What is the solution?
 - f. The owners of the site opposite Botellinos was tidied up.
 - g. Councillor Gardner: is it a problem across North Somerset.
 - h. Town Clerk: we can ask other areas what they have tried on the online Clerk's forum.
 - i. Mrs Jenny Parry:
 - i. Solution from previous home, try to get offenders to beautify areas e.g., a competition to paint some walls and utility cabinets. Look at the roots of problem and find an outlet for them.

Non-agenda items:

- Mr Kenneth Smith:
 - There is a gap in the Heritage Centre for Tommy Broom. (Councillor Davey responded: could he provide some text to use?) (Councillor Sterndale: thanked Councillor Davey for very hard work, and reminded people that others have written the history, Councillor Davey has displayed it.)

Councillor Davey left at 20.30

12. **Verbal update:** North Somerset Council Recycling & Waste Strategy consultation (Chair)
- a. Reminded everyone that the NSC Waste & Recycling Consultation is open, and it is vital that residents and businesses respond.
 - b. There is both a long and short survey version.
 - c. PTC has put the links on social media
 - d. Recommendation to set up a working party to respond for PTC, to include Nicky Mills (Officer), Councillor Gardner & Councillor Cartwright. Vote: no objections, all approved.
13. **Decision:** Recommendation to approve last meeting minutes from 10 June 2021 (Chair)
- a. Comment about the Football Club feasibility study, is it for 2 new buildings or 1? All options are on the table to be determined in feasibility.
 - b. Otherwise approved
14. **Date of the next meeting:** 12 August 2021