

**MINUTES OF PORTISHEAD TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
26th SEPTEMBER 2018 7.00PM**

- PRESENT:** - Councillor Koops - in the Chair
- Councillors: - *Burden, Cameron, Clark, Cottrell, M. Cruse, R. Cruse, Huffadine-Cooper, Lord, Mason and Mitchell
- Staff: - Jo Duffy – Clerk of the Council
- Public: - There were 9 members of the public in attendance.

The Chairman of the Recreation & Works Committee councillor Koops welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the Town Council will be abiding by Standing Orders adopted at the September Town Council meeting.

RW1859 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda item .1)

There were two declarations of interest recorded in the Declarations of Interest Register.

Councillors M and R Cruse declared personal interests in agenda item .7 as Councillor M. Cruse owns property in the High Street.

APOLOGIES (Agenda item .2)

Apologies were received from Councillors: Terry and Pasley

RW1860 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Agenda item .3)

There were 7 members of the public in attendance who addressed the meeting: -

- Mrs. Ann Golash spoke about the condition of the Lake Grounds. She commented that residents of Portishead would be willing to tidy the site themselves and went on to criticise both North Somerset Council (NSC) and the Town Council about the lack of action.

Cllr. Koops advised the meeting that Ed McKay of NSC had attended the last Recreation & Works Committee and explained that NSC doesn't have the finance to carry out the work on the lake or the disposal of the contaminated waste.

- Mrs. Ann Townsend wished to address the meeting regarding the Portishead Railway.

Cllr. Koops stopped Mrs. Townsend and advised her that the item was not on the agenda and therefore could not be discussed.

Mrs Townsend asked when the changes in Standing Orders were passed? Mrs Townsend went on to speak about Slade Road, and commented that the land is very precious to the community.

- Mrs. Annette Hennessy commented that Portishead Town Council has previously allowed the public to come along to Council meetings and discuss other items not on the agenda. She stated that nothing was said at the last Town Council meeting regarding restricting public speaking to agenda items only. She questioned how a member of the public can submit a question for inclusion on an agenda.

Cllr. Koops explained that she will use discretion when allowing the public to speak on topics not on the agenda. She advised that she can be approached at the end of the meeting to discuss placing an item on an appropriate agenda.

- Mr. Paul Maltby spoke about the “ban” on allowing the public to speak at Town Council meetings, also about Heavens Field continually being an exempt item continually. He urged the Town Council to discuss items openly in public.

Cllr. Cameron clarified that the Standing Orders working party took the NALC Model Standing Orders and made relatively non-controversial changes. Cllr. Koops apologised on behalf of the Council if there was any misunderstanding with regard to the Standing Orders.

- Mrs. Janet Davey asked to speak about S.106 monies, which she stated applies to every single item on the agenda.

Clerk's note: Cllr. Koops tried to stop Mrs. Davey as S.106 was not on the agenda. A disturbance ensued and it was proposed, seconded and the committee voted to suspend the meeting at 7.24pm. The meeting was reconvened at 7.28pm.

- Mrs. Annette Hennessy commented on the Standing Orders. She spoke about the Town Orderly, suggesting he could monitor and report on the campervans at the Lake Grounds. She asked if the Town Council is liaising with NSC about the land at Slade Road and is discussing the sell-off. Is the Council looking at making the land into a play area or conservation land? Finally, she commented on the dangerous condition of the pavement outside Oceans Estate Agents on the High Street.
- Mrs. Parry questioned the start time of the meeting. She spoke about the land at Horatio House and asked why can't the town buy it for a £1? Mrs. Parry commented on the lack of resurfacing work at the Precinct. She also queried the process for NSC seeking planning permission on their own land when they are the Planning Authority.

Cllr. R. Cruse explained that the NSC owned land at Slade Road is the flat field which used to be Slade Road School's playing field and the Town Council's is more towards the woodland and is adjacent to the old Slade Road School site.

- Mr. Geoff Hardman wished to speak about Pill Park and the climbing wall at Parish Wharf. Mr Hardman questioned what the council had in the pipeline for children aged 11 years and older. Mr. Hardman requested that the alley way between Newlands Hill and the junction of Lower Down Road is cleared of felled trees.

These minutes summarise what was said during public participation and were views expressed by the speaker, not the Town Council.

RW1861 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE LAND AT HORATIO HOUSE (Agenda item .4)

The Clerk advised that she has been contacted by the District Valuer with a number of questions that require a response. The meeting briefly discussed the issue and agreed that the matter needs to be treated as an exempt item at a future meeting.

The following recommendation was made:

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| Portishead Town Council defers discussing this matter until the next Town Council meeting, where it will be an exempt item. |
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RW1862 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE TOWN ORDERLY (Agenda item .5)

The meeting noted the report on the Town Orderly.

RW1863 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PRECINCT RESURFACING (Agenda item .6)

Cllr. Koops explained that the quote NSC has received for the project is over budget and that they are currently seeking a revised quote. NSC has advised that the scheduled date has slipped and the work is now likely to be carried out in the new year (2019).

The meeting discussed NSC's obligation to carry out the works as stipulated in their lease agreement and if they fail to do so the freeholder will carry out the work on their behalf and bill them. It was suggested that the Town Council writes to the Chief Executive of London & Cambridge voicing the Council's dismay at the delays and asking them to apply pressure to NSC.

The following recommendation was made:

Portishead Town Council writes to the Chief Executive of London & Cambridge voicing its dismay that NSC is not meeting its obligation with regard to the Precinct surfacing and ask them to apply pressure to NSC as their landlord.

A vote was taken with all in favour.

RW1864 TO DISCUSS THE STATE OF THE PAVEMENTS OUTSIDE THE SHOPS ON THE HIGH STREET (Agenda item .7)

Cllr. Koops briefed the meeting on the issue of the land outside some of the shops on the High Street. She explained that between a number of the shop fronts and pavements there are sections of unregistered land. These sections of land are not being maintained. Cllr. M. Cruse gave an example of the issue, namely the land between Hunters Estate Agents and the Mind Charity Shop. The Mind shop is privately owned and they duly repaired the section of the land between the shop and the pavement. Hunters Estate Agent acknowledged that their landlord is Bristol City Council and their registered title deeds do not include the land between the building and the pavement. It is Cllr. M. Cruse's belief that this unregistered land belongs to Bristol City Council. The Clerk has written to Bristol City Council requesting the information on the Hunters site and Portishead High Street.

RW1865 TO REVIEW THE ANNUAL RENTAL RATE FOR WESSEX RESERVES FORCES AND CADETS ASSOCIATION (TAVR) ON STATION ROAD (Agenda item .8)

The following recommendation was made:

Portishead Town Council in line with the Retail Price Index increases the annual rent of the Wessex Reserves Forces and Cadets Association (TAVR) to £112.30 per annum. The rent is to be renewed again in 2023.

A vote was taken with all in favour.

RW1866 TO REVIEW THE HIRE FEES FOR THE FOLK HALL, REDCLIFFE BAY HALL AND NORTH WESTON HALL. (Agenda item .9)

The meeting briefly discussed the report on current room hire fees.

The following recommendation was made:

Portishead Town Council leaves the room hire fees unchanged and reviews the fees again in September 2019.

A vote was taken with all in favour.

RW1867 TO DISCUSS SLADE ROAD PLAY AREA. (Agenda item .10)

Cllr. Koops confirmed that the NSC proposed housing is not on Town Council owned land, but on the land owned by NSC.

The meeting discussed the fact that the land is covenanted preventing anything from being built on it, but a new play area could be developed in liaison with NSC. The Town Council land could also accommodate a wildlife/conservation area.

The following recommendation was made:

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| Portishead Town Council holds discussions with NSC over the possible future of the Slade Road land in conjunction with the proposed development. |
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A vote was taken with all in favour.

Clerk's note: The meeting agreed to change the order of the agenda to allow the Portishead Football Club to be discussed as an exempt item.

RW1868 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING (Agenda item .12)

1. To Receive a Report on Green Spaces
2. To Receive an Update on the Lake at the Lake Grounds
3. To Receive an Update on the new climbing frame on land adjacent to the Parish Wharf Leisure Centre.
4. Skate Park & Pump Track (suggested by a member of the public Mrs. Annette Hennessy)
5. S.106 Money (suggested by a member of the public Mrs. Janet Davey)
6. Pill Park update (suggested by a member of the public (Mr. Geoff Hardman)

RW1869 EXEMPT ITEM

The following resolution was passed:

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| Pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s100 of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that its consideration would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1. |
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**Clerk's note: Cllr. Burden joined the meeting 8.28pm*

RW1870 TO DISCUSS PORTISHEAD FOOTBALL CLUB (Agenda item .11)

Clerk's note: The following has been minutes in a non-confidential way.

The following recommendation was made:

Portishead Town Council acknowledges that Portishead Football Club have complied with the information required to receive a 90% reduction in their annual rental fee.

A working party made up of Cllrs. Burden, Terry, R. Cruse and Koops will meet to discuss the lease held by Portishead Town Football Club, prior to arranging a meeting with representatives of the Club.

A vote was taken with a majority in favour.

RW1871 HEAVEN'S FIELD – UPDATE (Agenda .13)

The Clerk advised the meeting that she had nothing to report.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.33pm.