

**Minutes of the Greens and Amenities Committee Meeting  
Held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 Via Zoom**

**Attended:** Cllr David Terry, (Chairman), Cllr Margaret Crompton, Cllr Johnny Denis, Cllr Clare Herbert, Cllr John Kay, Cllr Gavin May, Cllr Gordon Sims, Cllr Richard Turner, Cllr John Whitlock and Cllr Stephen Wilkins

**In attendance:** Karen Crowhurst – Clerk/RFO  
Gail Metcalfe - Administrator

**Members of the public** – Approximately 27

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Richard Booth and Cllr Sarah Phillips.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS & DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

2.1 There were no declarations of Members' interests.

**3. TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE GREENS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

3.1 It was **resolved** to accept the minutes from the Greens and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS** - This item shall last not more than 15 minutes or at Chairman's discretion and no contribution shall last more than 3 minutes.

4.1 At 7.05pm the Chairman invited the Meeting to suspend Standing Orders and asked for questions or comments from members of the public present.

4.2 A concern was raised on behalf of the residents of Delves House who had previously signed a petition requesting that the Skate Park not be near them. Their concerns were regarding aesthetics, noise and light pollution, litter, possible unpleasantness towards elderly residents walking past, protection of the wildlife, namely the birds, and finally their wish for the Green to be kept as an open space for all to enjoy.

4.3 Another comment was made by a Co-opted Member of the Working Group who stated that they had joined the group as they were passionate about the project and they brought enthusiasm, ideas and insight. It was noted that the report is a work-in-progress which had not been signed off by the Working Group and that it contained inconsistencies.

4.4 Another member of the public expressed his concern for what appeared to be the preference of one site i.e. the Village Green. He said that it was necessary to find out who the users would be and the size that would be required before moving forward. He stated that there was insufficient information provided in the report for it to be considered.

4.5 A query was raised regarding Kings Academy's decision not to have it on their site. It was noted that the CEO had been approached but was this sufficient as whose decision should it be? Concern over Fingerpost Field as a site was raised due to flood lighting, demolishing the hedge, trimming the trees, it being near a crossing and county lines and no toilets. The question of the possibility of a Youth Club was mentioned.

4.6 Orders were reinstated at 7.14pm.

5. **TO ACCEPT THE SKATE PARK SITE REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUP WHICH INCLUDES WHY SITES HAVE BEEN DISCOUNTED AND THE SITES RECOMMENDED FOR CONSULTATION**  
(Previously circulated)

5.1 The Chairman of the Working Group wished a speedy recovery to Mrs Amy Prifty and thanked the Working Group for all their hard work. He acknowledged that the site of the Skate Park was a controversial and emotive subject and as such they had been working under very difficult circumstances.

5.2 After hearing all of the Councillors' opinions, the Chairman took it to a named vote as follows:

Crompton	Yes
Denis	Yes
Herbert	Yes
Kay	No
May	Yes
Sims	Yes
Terry	Yes
Turner	Yes
Whitlock	Was not asked for a vote so is neither yes or no
Wilkins	Yes

8 being in favour with 1 against and 1 not being asked - this was carried.

6. **TO ACCEPT THE MEETING NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GREENS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE FROM THE SKATE PARK WORKING GROUP HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

6.1 a) Group to extend the Co-opted Members involvement to the Working Group to assist with consultation and installation of the Skate Park

6.2 This was proposed and seconded. A vote was held by a show of hands, the outcome of which was 9 for the above and 1 against.

6.3 b) To accept and approve the 3 sites below going forward as part of the consultation process

6.4 1) **Anchor Field**

6.5 2) **Fingerpost Field, Broyle Lane**

6.6 3) **Village Green**

6.7 After going round all of the Councillors and hearing their thoughts and with Anchor Field having been discounted, the Chairman proposed that sites 2) and 3) above be accepted and approved as part of the consultation process adding a third option of no Skate Park. This was seconded and taken to a named vote as follows:

Crompton	Yes
Denis	No
Herbert	Yes
Kay	Yes
May	No
Sims	No
Turner	Yes
Whitlock	No
Wilkins	Yes

The vote being 5 for and 4 against this was carried. The Chairman did not vote.

6.8 c) It was agreed a full report including recommendations of sites and reasons why other sites have been discounted should be considered by the Greens and Amenities Committee. The aim of the G&A meeting will be to accept the recommendations of such sites. In order to do this, it was agreed that a catch-up meeting was required – **The report is covered under item 5**

6.9 This was covered in point 5 above.

7. **TO CONSIDER IF A SUITABLE SITE IS NOT AGREED TO REQUEST THAT THE £45,000 PUT ASIDE FOR A SKATEPARK BE USED FOR REPLACEMENT OF NEW EQUIPMENT ON THE VILLAGE GREEN**

7.1 After some discussion, it was decided to take the following 2 options to a named vote:

- i) To defer to another time
- ii) Get the Clerk to explore the release of the money from the developer for other amenities for the park

Crompton	To defer
Denis	To defer
Herbert	To defer
Kay	To defer
May	Ask developer
Sims	To defer
Terry	Ask developer
Turner	Ask developer
Whitlock	Ask developer
Wilkins	Had left the meeting so did not vote

In the meeting, the vote was deemed to be 5 to defer and 5 to ask and the Chairman took the casting vote to ask the developer. **Action: Clerk to contact the developer.**

8. **UPDATE ON PROGRESS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A BARRISTER**

8.1 This is still in the process so nothing to report.

9. **URGENT ITEMS (CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION) OR ITEMS FOR REFERRAL TO NEXT AGENDA OR APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE**

9.1 There were no urgent items. The Chairman did ask that anyone wishing to join a meeting email the Clerk **before** 12pm on the day of the meeting or it could be too late to get the Zoom meeting details.

10. **CLOSE OF THE MEETING**

10.1 There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05pm..