

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2024 AT 4.30 p.m.**

Present: - Councillor Bowden (Chair)
Councillors Bates, Jenkins, Knight and Needham.
M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public – None

20. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Lofthouse

21. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

22. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

There were no issues raised.

23. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS

The Chair stated that inspection reports should only bullet point issues that needed to be addressed.

Burial Ground

The following issues had been raised:

- Councillor Jenkins highlighted an issue with a blockage at the entrance to the gully pipe in the car park at the Burial Ground
- Councillor Knight reported that a brick was missing in the pillar at the entrance to the burial ground
- That clarification be sought regarding the hedge cutting around the perimeter of the site
- That the provision of a Noticeboard to be considered at the next Committee meeting

Tower View

The following issues had been raised:

- Overhanging hedges from a number of properties backing onto the Park

It was agreed that a letter be sent to all the concerned owners/occupier's/landlords

- That the Grounds Maintenance Contractor trim the hedge bank and any overhanging hedges on the left hand side as you come into the Park from the top end as per the contract.

Tudor Park. Councillor Knight agreed to put a NO Dogs signs on the gate.

24. TOWER VIEW AND TUDOR PARKS – BROWN SIGNS

The Clerk reported that the Council's request for the provision of Brown directional signs for the two parks did not meet DCC criteria for brown directional signs.

It was agreed to defer further consideration to a future meeting.

25. TOWER VIEW RECREATION AREA

- a) Schedule and layout of the central bank tree planting and Digging out bank.
Councillor Jenkins reported that he had had no success regarding a quote to dig out the bank.
It was agreed that the Grounds Maintenance Contractor clear the central bank of weeds and plant grass and wildflower seeds in the spring.
- b) Vandalism.
- i) The Chair updated the Committee on recent incidents in the park. Council had agreed to request an informal meeting with Principal of PETROC to outline the problems.
Councillor Knight agreed to purchase cleaning materials to clean off the graffiti on the benches at approx. £13.00
- ii) Provision of Solar powered lights, signs and cameras
The Committee considered information and quote provided by Councillor Knight for solar lights. The solar street lanterns were being discontinued and only 3 remained. The lights came with a 6 metre post that could be used to put CCTV cameras on. The cost was £384.90 + VAT (£461.88 each)
It was RECOMMENDED that 3 be purchased at a total cost of £1,154.70 excl. VAT

Councillor Jenkins agreed to research the specification and cost for the provision of CCTV cameras.

- iii) To consider an offer from NDC CCTV senior operator to visit the park to give advice regarding a deployable camera.
It was agreed that advice be sought from the NDC CCTV senior operator regarding the required signage.
- iv) Publication of information/pictures of the ongoing work in Tower View on the Park Noticeboard.
The Committee noted the suggested information provided by Councillor Lofthouse.

It was agreed that the Chair liaise with Councillor Lofthouse on the content and consider at the next Committee meeting.

- v) Consideration of a quote from Lewis Evely regarding the installation of the gate at the bottom wildflower area.

It was agreed that the quote of £240 to install the gate and provide the concrete be accepted.

26. TUDOR PARK

- a) Purpose of the gate.
It was agreed that no action be taken regarding the gate and that the existing notices be reviewed at the next Committee meeting.
- b) Purchase of a water container to clean the equipment/seating in Tudor Park.

Councillor Needham stated that he would be willing to clean the equipment and seating in Tudor Park if he was provided with a water container.

It was considered that Councillors should not be cleaning play equipment.
Councillor Knight agreed to look at the provision of bird deterrent strips for the play equipment.

It was agreed that consideration of the cleaning of the equipment by the Town Council be considered at the next meeting.

c) Overgrown hedges/shrubbery.

The Committee considered the photos provided by Councillor Needham (previously circulated) regarding overgrown hedges/shrubbery.

It was agreed that Councillors Knight and Needham hold a site visit and report to the next Committee meeting.

27. THE HOLYWELL, TAWSTOCK

The Chair reported the receipt of an email (previously circulated) from the Chair of Holywell School PTA regarding the condition of The Holywell.

It was agreed that the Council would support and assist with the search for volunteers to clear the weeds and plant bulbs but that the culvert goes under the road that was the responsibility of Devon County Council.

It was also agreed to undertake a Land Registry search of the Holywell, Village Hall and adjacent fields to ascertain ownership.

28. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS AND RESTRICTION OF DOCUMENTS

RESOLVED:

- a) That under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended from time to time) namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding the information).
- (b) That all documents and reports relating to the item be confirmed as 'Not for Publication'

29. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT REVIEW.

It was agreed to defer consideration to the next meeting.

Chair the meeting ended at 6.30 p.m.