

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE  
10 DECEMBER 2014**

**Councillors Present:** Cllr. Margaret Allingham, Cllr. Sheila Baynes, Cllr. Derek Pretty, Cllr. Jane Welsh (Chairman), Cllr. Ray Worley

**R45 Apologies**

With effect from the close of business hours today, all communications have been checked for the receipt of apologies.

Cllr. Emma Norman, Cllr. Val Houghton

**R46 Minutes & Matters Arising  
Meeting of 12 November 2014**

In pursuance of Minute R44, the Town Clerk circulated a Shrub Bed and Grass Verge Maintenance Schedule as requested at the November Meeting, which members noted.

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2014 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

**R47 Correspondence Received**

**Cllr. Jane Welsh declared a Non-Prejudicial Interest in the following item**

(a) Hedge End Carnival Committee letter dated 6 December 2014 enquiring as to the potential use of the pond at Dowd's Farm for a model boating event. Members agreed that the Town Clerk write to the Carnival Committee requesting that they contact the local model boat club asking them to attend the February meeting of the Recreation & Amenities Committee so that the request can be considered fully.

**R48 To consider proposed capital spend projects 2015/2016 as per draft budget at £87,000**

*Compact Tractor £16,000, Water fountain £3,000, Table Tennis Table £3,000, Tree Works £5,000, Playground £50,000, Dowd's Farm Green Flag £10,000*

The Town Clerk reported that the draft budget was presented to the December finance committee based on the capital projects as stated. A staff meeting was conducted on 19 November 2014 to ascertain a comprehensive list for the delivery of improved quality and it has been decided that attachments to a compact tractor can be purchased from the 2014/2015 budget and the purchase of a compact tractor to be taken from the 2015/2016 budget. Such a strategy has been discussed in some depth with the Head Groundsman and he is happy to proceed on that basis.

**Resolved: That the capital spend projects as previously discussed in the November meeting (Minute R44) be agreed.**

**RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE  
MEETING 10 DECEMBER 2014 – Cont'd Page 2**

**R49 To consider a suitable font for Cemetery Memorial**

*Further identification of the area 'For All Babies Born Asleep', i.e. chain and post, planting, surface blocks with consideration to the Burial Authority's responsibility to guarantee that grounds are not disturbed under any circumstances.*

The Town Clerk reminded Members that suitable demarcation is necessary for the site. He circulated an example of low level chain linked fencing that could encase the entire area at low cost. In addition, tasteful planting should be considered such as low level flowering shrubs. It was reported that the Chairman had a detailed conversation with the Head Groundsman earlier in the day and that his personal view was to leave the area as it is and that the memorial stone would suffice. In the Spring, bluebells appear in this area coupled with orchids and that chain linked fencing is a trip hazard. To his knowledge, the area is never disturbed. Members agreed with the view expressed by the Head Groundsman and that no planting or chain posts will be necessary for the site in question.

**Resolved: That no demarcation is necessary for the site in question and to leave the area with the cemetery memorial in place.**

The Town Clerk advised members that a suitable font must be chosen for the cemetery memorial and that examples have been obtained from Steve Vine (Botley Stonecraft). The examples were circulated to members for consideration and to aid in making an informed decision.

**Resolved: That 'ZAPF Bold Number 4' font be selected for use on the Cemetery Memorial.**

**R50 To discuss HEWEB proposals for improvements to the Skateboard Park**

*Enhanced improvements to be funded from Developers Contributions; improved access, litter bins, artificial grass, improved drainage and pathway, repairs to surfacing and seating,*

The Chairman reported on a recent meeting at the Woodhouse Lane Skateboard Park, which she attended together with the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Julia Birt, Dave Bowen and Roger Emtage. A discussion took place as to measures to enhance the current facility, which is immensely popular with local young people. Developers contributions have been identified as a potential capital resource to fund and advance the facility. Suggestions were made to improve access to the skateboard facility, litter bin placement, possibility of artificial grass, improved drainage and pathway, repairs to surfacing and seating.

**RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE  
MEETING 10 DECEMBER 2014 – Cont'd Page 3**

It was highlighted that some areas of the skateboard pond and that this needs attention. The points made as a result of the site visit have been noted and will be included on the CIP Priority List for Hedge End. Members noted the report.

**R51 Referred from the Community & Culture Committee**

*To consider a proposal for additional names on the War Memorial, raised by a member of the public.*

Following research by a member of the public, it was noted that in St John's Church, there is a brass plaque inscribing the names of 7 men who had given their lives in World War II. The Community & Culture Committee agreed that the addition of further names of Hedge End serviceman/women on the War Memorial was to be progressed further, with a recommendation to the Recreation & Amenities Committee to look at this proposal in greater depth.

Members considered the matter carefully especially the consideration of cost and the criteria for consideration of inclusion on the War Memorial. Concerns were expressed as to meeting the legally prescribed conditions for appearing on a War Memorial and the significance and connections with Hedge End.

**Resolved: Members agreed to DEFER this agenda item until the February Recreation & Amenities Committee meeting to allow for costings to be obtained and considered and for the criteria and conditions to be fully investigated.**

There being no further business to transact, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.11 hours.