

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Ilminster on Tuesday 21st May 2013 at 19:30hrs

Present

Chairman: Cllr C Goodall

Councillors: Cllr P Burton, Cllr A Lawson, Cllr D Miller, Cllr J Pallister, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr S Storey, Cllr R Swann, Cllr E J Taylor and Cllr L Vjeh

In Attendance

Officers: Mrs M Clayton (Senior Administrator), Mr A Jones (Senior Warden), Miss J Norris (Town Clerk)

Members of the Public

Five members of the public attended this meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Austin and J Sothern

2. Declarations of Interest

The declarations of Interest given in the table below were made.

Name	Minute No	Agenda Item	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest
Cllr J Pallister	21.05.13	6	Personal	Member of Cricket Club
Cllr S Shepherd	21.05.13	6	Personal	Member of Cricket Club

3. Minutes of the previous Open Spaces Committee Meeting

RESOLVED

- a) To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April 2013 as a correct record
- b) To update action list relating to the Open Spaces committee.

The Town Clerk informed members that the work to remove the football stand is due to start on 10th June 2013, after the Ilminster Midsummer Experience. The Senior Open Spaces Warden informed the Committee that the contractor who will be carrying out the drainage work on the recreation ground, will also be starting after 10th June 2013

4. Wardens Report.

As a result of the Senior Open Spaces Warden's report, the Committee discussed the need for work to be carried out to the muddy area on the pathway at Herne Hill. It was decided that Councillors could have a look at the area in

Chair's initials

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MINUTES

question whilst on the Open Spaces walkabout on 11th June 2013 and then discuss this matter further at the next Open Spaces Committee meeting.

5. Topographical Surveys

The Committee was asked to consider the quotations received to carry out a topographical survey of Ilminster.

The Committee was happy to go ahead with the survey as it would be useful for the Recreation Review.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that the Town Clerk has delegated authority, after consultations with the Chair of Open Spaces and the appropriate Officers at SSDC, to accept the best value quotation for the topographical survey, subject to references being obtained.

6. Football Pitches

Members were asked to consider the Football Club's request to move the cricket square in Brittens Field, to allow the football pitches for the youth and the senior teams to fit in.

The Committee agreed that until the results of the topographical survey and the consultations for the recreation review have been carried out, the Council cannot make a decision.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk informs the Football Club that the Town Council cannot make a decision until the topographical survey and the consultations for the Recreation Review have been carried out.

7. Rebuilding of cemetery wall

The Committee was asked to consider what action needs to be taken to rebuild the cemetery wall, once the old wall has been removed.

Discussions on this topic included the following:

- The work to remove the cemetery wall is due to start on 1st July 2013. Temporary fencing will be put in place once the wall has been removed along with stakes and sprayed markers to show the boundary.
- the Committee proposed that the Council will no longer ask for contributions, towards the costs of removing the cemetery wall, from the neighbours of the cemetery.
- The Council needs to seek legal advice regarding the covenant.
- Negotiation between parties will need to be carried out with at least three people present. It was suggested that these people should be the Town Clerk, an independent skilled individual that can work at the different levels of negotiations and the neighbours of the cemetery or their representative.

Chair's initials

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MINUTES

- Suggestions were made for alternative boundary structures, but the covenant needs to be sorted out first.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that the Town Council no longer asks for a contribution from the neighbours of the cemetery, towards the costs of removing the cemetery wall.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk seeks legal advice regarding the covenant for the cemetery

8. Remove metal balance beam from recreation ground

The members were asked to consider the removal of the metal balance beam in the Children's play area, on the recreation ground, due to safety reasons.

The metal beam has started to rust which has caused sharp holes in the metal to appear.

After discussing this matter the following was proposed:

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that

- i) the metal balance beam at the Children's play area is removed due to health and safety reasons.
- ii) the Open Spaces Wardens replace the metal balance beam with a wooden balance beam to be designed and constructed by the Wardens.

Meeting closed at 20:49hrs

Chair's signature and date