

<p><u>HUNTINGDON TOWN COUNCIL</u></p> <p><u>LEISURE DEVELOPMENT WORKING PARTY</u></p>

A meeting of the Leisure Development Working Party was held at the Commemoration Hall, High Street, Huntingdon, on Thursday October 27th, 2011.

Present: Councillors A Beevor; A Ellington; C Hyams; and T Sanderson and Mr Richard Meredith, Chairman of Huntingdon & Godmanchester Civic Society.

9. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors S Mulcahy and J Sarabia.

10. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

11. **PUBLIC ADDRESS / ADDRESS FROM OTHER COUNCILLORS**

There was no address.

12. **MINUTES**

Copies of the minutes of the Leisure Development Working Party meeting held on 31st August 2011 (M1) had been circulated following their informal approval by the Chairman, it was therefore

RESOLVED that the minutes were a correct record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

13. **KING GEORGE V FIELD, SAPLEY ROAD, SECTION 106 FUNDING**

Members heard that Section 106 Funding was available for improvements to recreational space resulting from development at Whitney Close and that the King George V Field at Sapley was an area which qualified under the terms of the agreement.

A potential £10,000 was available and members were asked to consider proposals for play equipment for young children, images and costs for which were circulated at the meeting.

Members considered that items available from suppliers Hags, ie:

- An "Orbit" roundabout @ £2750
- A "Lillie" swing @ £1920
- A "Bronco" springy @ £1000

- 2 x Ovis/Spirit/Scooty/Clay @ £1100

would enhance the existing provision at the site and that the cost of these, including delivery costs and surfacing, was estimated at approximately £10,288. Members suggested that the supplier might be asked to reduce the estimate to fit the funding availability.

In the interest of improving safety at the site, it was considered that the installation of a chicane, in the hedge gap on Sapley Road, would prevent the risk of collision between cyclists or pedestrians emerging from the park and pedestrians on Sapley Road. Members noted the cost of equipment to facilitate this as being £108. In conclusion, therefore, it was

RESOLVED to recommend that a Spending Plan be prepared for approval by the Leisure & Community Services Committee as application for funding for enhancements to the play area at Sapley Road, as detailed in these minutes.

14. **GOAL POSTS AT DEVOKE CLOSE, STUKELEY MEADOWS**

The meeting heard that Councillor Sanderson had attended a meeting at the site, accompanied by two Officers of the District Council and that a suitable location had been identified for the installation of a pair of steel white powder coated posts with crossbar, measuring 7.32m x 2.44m (24' x 8'), suitable for five-a-side games, at a cost of £297 for one pair. It was therefore

RESOLVED to recommend that the provision be funded by the Council.

15. **FEEDBACK FROM THE IN BLOOM COMPETITION**

Members had before them a copy of the In Bloom Judges' report, which contained some recommendations for the town's improvement, in order that its Gold Award status might be maintained. Members were pleased to note that Huntingdon was one of just 16 Gold Winners nationally in a category of 71 finalists.

The meeting focussed on potential improvements which were the responsibility of the Council, the first of which was the provision of planters in the Market Hill, in front of the Town Hall. Members

RESOLVED to recommend that the Leisure & Community Services Committee consider proposals and costs at its next meeting.

The report contained a recommendation to encourage biodiversity in closed churchyards and cemeteries and Members heard that the Parks Manager was supportive of some initiatives of this nature at a specific location at the Priors Road Cemetery, identified on a map before Members and at St Mary's Churchyard. It was therefore

RESOLVED to recommend that biodiversity be encouraged by appropriate management in the areas suggested during the 2012/13 season.

16. **HM QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE**

A report before Members asked Members to consider how the Town Council might mark the occasion. Celebrations were in planning for the weekend of 2nd & 3rd June 2012, following which 5th & 6th June had been declared Bank Holidays. Huntingdon was already committed to taking part in a national beacon lighting chain.

A Big Jubilee Lunch was planned to take place at Buckingham Palace on 3rd June and people were being encouraged nationally to lunch at the same time. And a Thames Pageant on 3rd June was to comprise 1000 decorated boats on the river in London.

Members were interested to learn that St Neots, St Ives and Bedford Borough Councils had requested an RAF flypast and were keen to ensure that Huntingdon was included in arrangements for such an event. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED to recommend that some research be carried out for further report to this working party on the initiatives planned by other market towns in the District to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and that Huntingdon's application for a flypast should be lodged at the earliest opportunity.

17. **DATE AND AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Members to be advised.

CHAIRMAN.