

Minutes of a meeting of the **Recreational & Cemetery Committee** of **Bingham Town Council** held in **The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham**, on **Tuesday, 28th July, 2015**, at **7.00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Stockwood - Chairman
 J. Ferguson
 " Mrs. S. Orr
 " F. Purdue-Horan

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor A. Shelton
 1 Press

1.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE:

Apologies for Absence and Acceptance were received from Councillors A. Harvey and Mrs. T. Kerry.

2.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

3.00 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th June, 2015, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4.00 MATTERS ARISING (FOR INFORMATION ONLY):

01 Shrubbery

A quotation had been accepted for trimming back of the shrubbery at the Town Pavilion due to the fact that it was too costly to remove at the present time

5.00 CLERK'S UPDATE:

Refer to Appendix 'A'.

6.00 MATTERS RELATING TO ALLOTMENTS:

There were no matters to report relating to allotments.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of the **Recreational & Cemetery Committee** of **Bingham Town Council** held in **The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham**, on **Tuesday, 28th July, 2015**, at **7.00 p.m.** continued.....

7.00 **MATTERS RELATING TO PLAYINGFIELDS, PLAY AREAS AND OPEN SPACES:**

01 Summary of Play Inspection Reports

Refer to report (Appendix 'B') attached. The Clerk confirmed that the cushion fall had been raked over and that additional cushion fall was being investigated.

02 Repainting of Play Equipment – Update

The Community Payback Scheme had confirmed it was still considering this matter but that, due to staffing issues, had not been able to address to date.

03 Carnarvon Play Area – Fence Damage

The Clerk reported that a resident had complained about damage to his fence at 34, Nottingham Road through anti-social behaviour by young people climbing the fence at Carnarvon Play Area, and he requested the Town Council to either replace his fence or erect a taller chain link fence along the existing one on an adjacent boundary. This was the first report of anti-social behaviour in that specific area, and the Clerk had checked with the police who confirmed no other reports. The Clerk had had (after obtaining permission from the resident) 'No Unauthorised Access' signs on the fence. The situation was being monitored and Councillors agreed to note the incident as none of them were aware of any previous problems.

04 Linear Park

(a) Trees on Residential Boundaries

A resident had complained to the Friends of Linear Park about the height of the trees on his boundary which were on Linear Park. Councillor Shelton provided photographic evidence. The Clerk confirmed the tree surgeon had included Linear Park when doing the survey but he would only respond to dangerous/dead trees. Clerk to request tree surgeon to assess and recommend if any work was required.

(b) BioBlitz - Event - Update

The formal outcome of the event would be made available at a later date but the number of attendees was low in relation to the actual work. Moths had been collected.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of the **Recreational & Cemetery Committee** of **Bingham Town Council** held in **The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham**, on **Tuesday, 28th July, 2015**, at **7.00 p.m.** continued.....

7.00 **MATTERS RELATING TO PLAYINGFIELDS, PLAY AREAS AND OPEN SPACES**
continued.....

05 Suggestion re. Future Use of Nottinghamshire County Council-Owned Land as a Nature Reserve

Report attached Appendix 'C'.

Councillor Ferguson reported on this matter and the Chairman confirmed that Nottinghamshire County Council had responded that, at the current time, it was undertaking a feasibility study into the future use of this land. It was agreed that the Clerk ensures the attached report is forwarded to Nottinghamshire County Council and County Councillor Martin Suthers.

8.00 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

01 Friends of Linear Park

Receipt of Minutes dated 13th July, 2015, from Friends of Linear Park was noted.

02 Rugby Club

The Rugby Club had confirmed it was applying under a government scheme to install Virgin Broadband at the Town Pavilion and hope the Town Council would not object. If this was available at no cost, then it would go ahead. However, if the survey identified major work and costs then it may not go ahead.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

.....

CHAIRMAN.

Date

Minutes of a meeting of the **Recreational & Cemetery Committee** of **Bingham Town Council** held in **The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham**, on **Tuesday, 28th July, 2015**, at **7.00 p.m.** continued.....

DETAILS	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
Outdoor facilities for all ages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess existing facilities - Consult on usage - Develop improvement plan
Standards of maintenance of Council-maintained land, including the Linear Park	Develop maintenance plan
Toothill School – Proposed footpath diversion	Respond to N.C.C. consultations.
R.B.C. Leisure Strategy	Awaiting R.B.C. progress on the strategy.
Future of the contaminated land	Awaiting Tesco development that may improve access to land.
Future of Warner’s Paddock	Awaiting Crown Estate’s next assessment of the land
N.C.C. Land at Wynhill for allotments and/or Nature Reserve or Scouts’ Base.	N.C.C. confirmed its land at Wynhill was in process of being assessed for sale as development land, i.e. maximum price.
Proposed Scout Base	Awaiting further information from Scouts.
Linear Walk Presentation Board and Twinning Sign, etc.	Awaiting further information from F.L.P.

Minutes of a meeting of the **Recreational & Cemetery Committee** of **Bingham Town Council** held in **The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham**, on **Tuesday, 28th July 2015**, at **7.00 p.m.** continued.....

SUMMARY OF 2015 PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORTS

GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL PLAY AREAS

Some of paintwork on metal play equipment in poor condition.

Woodchip ground surface requires raking & weeding.

CARNARVON PLAY AREA

MEDIUM RISK

The new grass matting in front of goal end screen, slide and wood chip were only items which scored 8 all other items score 7 or less.

The slide met correct standards on installation.

Cradle swings chain links worn.

CROW CLOSE PLAY AREA

MEDIUM RISK

Woodchip scored 8 all other items 7 or less.

The slide met correct standards on installation.

Wood chip requires raking & topping up.

WALLENFELS PLAY AREA

LOW RISK

Swing basket - finger entrapment but conforms to standards.

Gate entrance surface requires attention. This has been addressed.

WYCHWOOD ROAD PLAY AREA

MEDIUM RISK

The matting in front of goal end screen and the wetpour surface scored 8.

VERY LOW RISK	1-3	Monitor
LOW RISK	4-7	Monitor
MEDIUM RISK	8-12	Address as resources allow.
HIGH RISK	13-20	Urgent
UNACCEPTABLY HIGH	21+	Urgent

Minutes of a meeting of the **Recreational & Cemetery Committee** of **Bingham Town Council** held in **The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham**, on **Tuesday, 28th July 2015**, at **7.00 p.m.** continued.....

**Reasons for the creation of a Wildlife Area to the south of
Wynhill Sports Ground**

1. This is the only area of its type left in Bingham, and as such must not be lost to further housing. Although less well known, in a different way, it is as important to conserve this area as it is to retain Warner's Paddock, while clearance and loss of habitat at the nearby Lidl supermarket site, together with the massive urban development shortly to begin north of the railway line, add to the importance of retaining this land as a wildlife area.
2. There is a variety of trees, shrubs (hawthorn etc) and natural open spaces with many types of grasses and wild flowers.
3. The nature of the above provides breeding areas for many types of insect, spiders and caterpillars.
4. Ground cover of this type provides natural homes for small mammals such as hedgehog, weasel, shrew etc.
5. The profusion of insects, seed and berries, together with ground and shrub cover, make this an attractive area for a wide variety of birds. One local resident has recorded 18 species here including bullfinch (red listed) long tailed tit and blackcap.
6. This area compliments the Linear Park as a valuable area in which school children can study nature in a natural setting.
7. The area is adjacent to a medium and high risk flood area, and provides a large natural soak-away to keep these risks within bounds. Development such as housing would increase the flood risk to this area and parts of the adjacent housing estate.
8. It also provides wider ecosystem services such as pollination, soil and air quality regulation, building resistance to climate change etc.
9. Development of this area under the guidance of the Notts. Wildlife Trust would make it even more attractive for wildlife.
10. ANGSt (Accessible Nature Greenspace Standard) recommends that everyone should have a green space of at least 2 hectares no more than 300 metres from home, and people already use this area for walking, jogging, exercising dogs etc.

This area was surveyed by Ben Driver (Southern Conservation Officer – Notts Wildlife Trust), Cllr. John Ferguson and local resident Graham Scrivener on Tuesday 23rd June 2015. Mr. Driver was most positive in his comments and felt this area should be preserved for wildlife.

The area was mentioned in a report "Enhancing Green Space in Bingham" dated 4/9/12.