

**Minutes of Parks' Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday 21st April, 2010 at 7:00pm in Suite B, Council Offices, Holsworthy**

Present: Cllrs Kennedy, Smith, Brown, Latty, Buckingham, and Squire.
Mr Courtney Drew.

24. Apologies: Cllr Johns.

25. Declaration of Interests: To receive Members' declarations of personal and prejudicial interests in respect of items on the Agenda.

26. Minutes of last Meeting:

Minutes of the Parks meeting held on the 17th February were signed as a correct record.

27. Matters arising:

There were no matters to be discussed.

28. Badock Gardens/Stanhope Park.

It was agreed to amend the order of the Agenda to enable Mr Drew to give his report and leave the meeting before the representatives of the Bowling Club arrived. Cllr Buckingham proposed that Standing Orders be suspended. Seconded by Cllr Latty. All in favour.

Signs for Badock Gardens: Quotation received from Jag Signs for £146 and Acting Town Clerk to go ahead and place an order but with the wording changed to "Town Council" and not "Town Clerk" as at present.

29. Stanhope Park:

Sign at the entrance to the park has been defaced. Cllr Kennedy reported some tiles missing/damaged on the roof of the Pavilion. Mr Drew has removed a seat which had been vandalised and understood it was to be replaced by those responsible. He had recently cleared a drain against the Junior School hedge and intended to remove the spoil when it was dry enough to drive his trailer over the grass. This has been pushed back into the drain and he will again clear and remove the debris.

The site of the old Band Stand (in front of Mr Tabar's bungalow) has been trimmed and a quantity of rubbish removed. Gate places have been re-stoned.

The state of the hedge between the football field and the park was considered. Mr Drew felt that it was a waste of time trying to fill in the gaps and wondered about laying the hedge during the winter months to create a better barrier. He will assess the work to be done.

It was agreed to write to the Football Club regarding the new gate into Stanhope Park which was given the go-ahead some months ago.

Discussion about the state of the cricket Pavilion. It was suggested that we should write to the club stating that in 1976 the club ceased to exist and thus invalidated any lease they might have had. At the present time they are not in a good position to obtain grants towards the refurbishment of the pavilion as they have no lease and any monies granted from Catesby would automatically go to TDC or the Town Council.

Badock Gardens: Mr Drew has received a request from the Holsworthy Brownie Pack to plant a tree in Badock Gardens to celebrate their 100 years. He suggested either a Rowan or a Crab Apple. Cllr Latty proposed that we accept and this was seconded by Cllr Buckingham. All in favour.

Mr Drew thanked the Council for giving him the opportunity to care for Badock Gardens. All the rubbish from the tree felling has now been cleared away, a new bed has been created by the Greenhouses, gateposts into Rowland Gardens replaced, sheds have been cleared out and are now tidy, and several hundred daffodil and snowdrop bulbs have been planted. Mr Drew asked for permission to repaint the outside of the sheds.

The piece of land outside Badock Gardens (Parsons Close) was discussed. Mr Drew would like to purchase metal posts to stop people parking vehicles and would appreciate the view of Councillors. It was agreed that the next Parks meeting would be held in the Sun Lounge in Badock Gardens to meet at 6.30pm to discuss the autumn tree planting.

Mr Drew left the meeting and Cllr Brown proposed a return to Standing Orders. Seconded by Cllr Buckingham.

Mr Dennis Veale and Mr Graham Norman joined the meeting at approximately 7.35pm. Cllr Buckingham proposed suspending Standing Orders and this was seconded by Cllr Brown.

30. To Discuss, with Mr. Graham Norton and Mr. Dennis Veale, the Licence held by Holsworthy Bowling Club

The Chairman introduced the Councillors to Mr Veale and Mr Norman. Cllr Brown thanked them for producing a key to the Club. They explained that there were security measures in place and Mrs Dalley had been given a code to allow entry.

Cllr Smith commented that the members of the club appear to be parking in Show Field and generally not in the Vineyards – complaints received spoke of late night disturbance by people leaving the club. Mr Veale assured the meeting that during the winter months the short mat bowling finished at about 9pm and no later. He again emphasised that visitors to the club are advised that they should not park in the Vineyards however during the winter months the field is very wet and there is an added problem of sheep.

Cllr Smith pointed out that the club had a moral obligation not to park in the Vineyards and a letter received from the Secretary in 2001 was shown to Mr Norman.

The Catesby appeal was touched on and Mr Norman said that Mr Acres had visited him in his home.

Cllr Latty referred to paragraph 6.5 of the Agreement between the Club and the Town Council and asked whether the club allowed access by members of the public. Mr Norman replied that the notice board in the Square gave information regarding membership and telephone numbers for people to use. Cllr Latty queried paragraph 6.6 and asked whether a charge was made to members of the public if they wished to use the green. Mr Veale said that the public were able to hire woods and play bowls as long as there were no matches being held. A charge of £2 was made – April to September was the open season and casual players and non-members are required to sign a visitors book. Cllr Latty was concerned that the general public might not realise that they did not have to become members of the club to use the facilities. Mr Norman said that he would re-word the poster in the town to make it clear that people could go along on a casual basis. The minimum age for playing is 14 years.

Mr Veale asked whether anything could be done to repair the light at the top of Jubilee Path – Arthur Stewart to be contacted again.

The Chairman thanked Messrs Veale and Norman for attending the meeting and for the key at which point they left the meeting.

Cllr Latty proposed that the meeting return to Standing Orders. Seconded by Cllr Buckingham.

Further discussion regarding Catesby who have offered £100,000 to provide a football pitch in the Showfield and a dowry of a further £100,000 over ten years for maintenance. It was felt this could be a two edged sword – at the end of 10 years the Council will be left without funding.

It was decided to invite the Cricket Club representatives to the next meeting to discuss the position regarding the pavilion and to make them aware of the situation.

Two applications to use the Sun Lounge have been received:

Mr C Drew for an open air service and barbeque on the 18th July 2010. (Sunday)

Mr Ron Day for Cream Teas on the 25th July 2010 (Sunday).

All present were in favour.

The ROSPA report was discussed and it was agreed to ask Mr Drew to carry out the maintenance work required. Cllr Brown proposed and Cllr Latty seconded the proposition. All in favour.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at approximately 8.14pm.

Signature Date