

**MINUTES OF PARKS' COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
Wednesday 15th July, 2009 at 7:00pm in Suite B, Council Offices, Holsworthy**

Present: Cllrs. R. Kennedy, R. Brown, L. Latty, P. Johns and R. Buckingham
Town Clerk in attendance

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr. E. Squire

2. Declaration of Interests

The Chairman asked members to declare their interests for items on the Agenda as and when they arose.

3. Minutes of last Meeting

Cllr. Latty proposed that Cllr. Kennedy sign the Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 17th June, 2009 as a true record. Cllr. Johns seconded the proposal which was agreed. (Vote 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions). Cllr. Kennedy, as Chairman, duly signed the Minutes.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. To Discuss a Possible Football Club Event to Take Place in Stanhope Park to Encourage Youngsters to Join the Club, and to Agree a Course of Action.

The Clerk confirmed that this was a request that was made by Mr Steve Lee at the June Parks' Meeting. The proposed event would take place in September. Cllr. Latty proposed that the Parks' Committee agree the request in principal, pending further information from the Football Club. This was seconded by Cllr. Brown and agreed unanimously (Vote 5 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

Cllr. Brown proposed that in view of the special or confidential nature of the following business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw. This was seconded by Cllr. Kennedy and agreed. (Vote 5 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

6. To Open and Discuss the Tenders Received in Relation to the Remedial Tree Works Required in Stanhope Park and Badock and Rowland Gardens, and to Agree a Course of Action

The Tenders were opened and discussed. Cllr. Brown proposed a company to be recommended to full Council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Latty and agreed unanimously. (Vote 5 For, 0 Abstentions, 0 Against) The matter will now be referred to the full Council.

Cllr. Brown proposed that the public and press be allowed to return to the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Kennedy and agreed. (Vote 5 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

7. To Discuss and Agree the Make Up of the Parks' Liaison Committee

The Clerk circulated a list of Organisations that used the Park, together with a draft letter that she proposed to send to each of them and asked the Committee for their views. Cllr. Latty proposed that the Town Clerk be instructed to send the letter prepared to all the organisations on the list. This was seconded by Cllr. Johns and agreed unanimously. (Vote 5 For, 0 Against 0 Abstentions.)

8. Stanhope Park - To discuss matters relating to Stanhope Park

The Clerk advised the Committee that she had received a quotation from the Council's Insurers regarding the proposed Fireworks' Display, the premium of which would be £99.75. She added that if the Fireworks' Display was to go ahead as the Community Event, then she would require official instructions and Council ratification, as well as confirmation of exactly what the Council wanted organising.

She confirmed that to expedite matters she had met with another Pyrotechnic company based in Exeter and received a quotation from them, together with details of their public liability insurance and confirmation that Stanhope Park was an adequate site for the display.

The Clerk also advised the Committee that it would be difficult to follow the Council's tendering process for such an event, as, unless you are trained in Pyrotechnics, it is impossible to put together a works specification. She added that when talking to pyrotechnic companies the first thing they

needed to know was how much you, as a client, wished to spend as they can pack as much or as little into a display.

After discussion, Cllr. Johns proposed that the Parks' Committee recommend to the full Council that the Community Event be a Fireworks' Display in Stanhope Park on Friday 6th November 2009; that the tendering process be waived due to the special circumstances surrounding the costing of the Event, and to use a Pyrotechnics company that has been recommended. This was seconded by Cllr. Latty and agreed (Vote 4 For, 1 Against, 0 Abstentions).

The Clerk advised the Committee that the Pavilion toilet was repeatedly blocking and plumbing costs were being regularly incurred on what is becoming a regular basis. The situation needed to be fully investigated as it is not known where the foul water is going. Mr A Stewart who had attended the site on several occasions believed that it could be a septic system under the building which is causing the problems. Cllr. Johns proposed that the Clerk was a) instructed to obtain quotations to have the drains inspected; b) check with the Council's Insurer to see if any works would be covered under the Council's insurance policy. This was seconded by Cllr. Buckingham and agreed. (Vote 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions.)

Cllr. Buckingham reported that she had attended the Primary School's Big Tidy Up Campaign the previous day. Years 1 to 5 were involved and they collected 24 bags of rubbish in total. One of the areas the children concentrated on was Stanhope Park. Cllr, Buckingham proposed the Clerk be instructed to send a letter to the Primary School thanking them for litter picking in Stanhope Park. This was seconded by Cllr. Kennedy and agreed unanimously (Vote 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions.)

9. Badock and Rowland Gardens - To discuss matters relating to Badock Gardens and Rowland Gardens

The Clerk advised that Committee that Mr Courtney Drew, the Council's Gardener, had expressed concern that a child may still be accessing the gardens by climbing over the boundary walls. Although Mr Drew had not witnessed this happening, the flower bed below the wall had sustained damage.

Mr Courtney Drew had also requested clarification regarding his future prospects with the Council, as he was considering purchasing a new lawn mower at his own expense. After discussion, Cllr. Latty proposed that the Town Clerk wrote to Mr Drew and confirmed that the Council are happy to continue with his services. Cllr. Johns seconded the proposal which was agreed unanimously. (Vote 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions.)

The Clerk reported that she had been approached by Dawn Bewes from Holsworthy Playgroup who had been approached by parents expressing concern about children's safety when approaching Bodmin Street, as children run down the alleyway onto the Street. Ms Bewes had asked if anything could be done. After lengthy discussion, Cllr. Kennedy proposed that the Town Clerk explain that the alleyway is a communal access and any barrier could create issues for other users. This was seconded by Cllr Latty and agreed. (Vote 5 For, 0 against, 0 Abstentions.) Cllr. Johns recommended that the Police visit the Playgroup to teach the children about the Green Cross Code.

10. Clerk's Report

The Clerk advised the Committee that a quotation had now been received from Trewin Design Partnership regarding the Deer Valley Initiative. The fee proposals are as follows:

- a) Carry out a topographical survey of the site (by others) £530.00
- b) TDP to prepare layout plan complete with site sections and basic landscaping proposals £750.00
- c) Prepare Design and Access Statement to accompany planning application and prepare planning application £450.00.
- d) Plan printing expenses to be charged in addition to the above.
- e) Any dealings with the Environment Agency or any surveys Ecological, Geotech etc. have not been included.
- f) VAT will apply to all of the foregoing
- g) The client will be responsible for paying all local authority planning fees.

Before Trewin Design can proceed they will require an instruction from the client. However, it is not known who the client will be.

Cllr. Brown advised the Committee that he believed Ruby Country was trying to carry this project forward; however the project had encountered some difficulties. Cllr. Brown had also spoken to Barry Parsons, as Holsworthy's new County Councillor, regarding it. The Clerk was asked to speak to Mr. Richard Reid to gain a full understanding of the situation and report back to the Committee. The Clerk was also asked to try and obtain copies of the 106 Agreements for Phases 4 and 5 of Rydon Fields.

The Clerk reported that Country Dairy had, that day, donated £30 to the Stanhope Park Project, which was money raised from a swear box during Lent. The Clerk said she would write a letter of thanks.

11. Close

The meeting closed at 8.14 pm.

Signature

Dated