

**MINUTES OF PARKS' COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
Wednesday 21st October, 2009 at 7:00pm in Suite B, Council Offices, Holsworthy**

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

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr. Brown sent late apologies.

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. Squire proposed that Cllr. Kennedy sign the Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 23rd September, 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.

Cllr. Buckingham advised the Committee that the broken see-saw was still in the children's play area. The Clerk said she had spoken to Mr Drew who had said he would move it to the rear of the Pavilion and she would chase this up. The Clerk also advised that she would be contacting Fred Stacey to ascertain whether he could fabricate the part that had broken.

5. To Discuss and Agree the Parks' Budget for 2010/2011

A draft copy of the budget had been circulated with the agenda and was discussed in detail by the Committee.

Cllr. Brown arrived at 7.06pm.

The Clerk pointed out to Cllrs. that it may be wise to reduce the Unidentified Expenditure for 2010/2011 to £500 instead of £1500. Any large expenditure that may arise during the financial year to be looked at by Council as a separate project, paid from the funds held above the reserves level. Cllr. Buckingham proposed that the budget be accepted by the Parks' Committee with the Unidentified Expenditure reduced to £500. This was seconded by Cllr. Latty and agreed unanimously. (Vote 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions). A copy of the approved budget forms part of these minutes and is attached as Appendix One.

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

The Clerk explained that she had been contacted by an elderly resident's daughter, regarding shrubs that had become overgrown and out of control in a flower bed in Stanhope Park which bordered her mother's property. This was now becoming a worry for the resident, as children were playing in the bushes, using it as a den and entering the resident's garden. The Clerk said that both she and Mr Drew had examined the area and the shrubs had grown out of control and the area required an overhaul. Cllr. Brown proposed that the Clerk be authorised to instruct Mr Drew to carry out the necessary remedial works to the area as long as the cost does not exceed £100. This was seconded by Cllr. Squire and agreed unanimously. (Vote 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions).

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

The Clerk confirmed that the tree work had commenced at Badock Gardens and a letter had been sent to Midas Homes requesting re-imbusement of all costs. The Committee discussed the need for replanting at the gardens and the Clerk was instructed to:

- Ask Mr Drew to draw up a list of trees that he thought would be appropriate for replanting, together with full costings;
- Invite the Tree Preservation Officer to the November or December Parks' Meeting.

8. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that the Stanhope Park Community Group had submitted an application to TDC under the Councillors' Grant scheme for £1,000 courtesy of Cllr. Richard Brown who is wholeheartedly supporting the application

9. Close

The meeting closed at 7.35pm.

Signature

Dated