

**Minutes of the meeting of the
PARKS, OPEN SPACES, CONSERVATION & FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE
held on Monday, 13th April 2015 at 8.32pm
in the Committee Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford.**

Committee Present: Chairman Cllr Mrs P Young, Vice Chairman Cllr L Sampson, Cllr R Gardner, Cllr Mrs L Haskew, Cllr V Leach (ex-officio), Cllr R Patient, Cllr Mrs L Shaw, Cllr J Tutton, and Cllr Mrs M Weir

Standing Order 6n. Resolution `that in view of the new Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations made on 5th August 2014 SO 6n (Photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting the proceedings of a meeting by any means is not permitted without the Council's prior written consent) be suspended`. Accepted.

126. Apologies for non-attendance at meeting:

Cllr D Weir (unwell). Members accepted the apologies tendered.

127. Declarations of any:

a) **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest;**

b) **Other Pecuniary Interest; or**

c) **Non-Pecuniary Interest**

on any matter on the agenda for 13th April 2015:

None were declared.

128. Public Forum:

None Present

129. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2015 and to approve the destruction of the notes in respect of those meetings:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2015 were approved and Members agreed to the destruction of the meeting notes.

130. Action List Update - April 2015:

Members reviewed the Action List and updates were given as follows:-

131.1 Elizabeth Close Play Area refurbishment had commenced and the workmen had queried the fitting of the roundabout due to levels and spacing. Cllr Mrs Young offered to attend the Play Area with a wheelchair should it help to clarify any issues.

131.2 'Wild Wednesday' going ahead from May subject to one meeting.

131.3 Cllr Leach to follow up Brickfield information by end of the week – deadline for completion of the funding bid was given as end of May.

Members **noted** the Action List Update and **agreed** to remove completed items.

131. Financial Report – March 2015/Year End:

There were no further questions and Members **accepted** the Financial Report.

132. E-mail from Patricia James (following Clerk's response to first e-mail) re. horse riders using Hazelwood/barrier request:

Points raised were discussed in detail and whilst the comments were appreciated it was agreed that all of the concerns fell outside of Council's remit. The Clerk

reported she had spoken to the PROW Officer. There appeared to be no evidence of repeated use of the footpath being churned up and no repeat of dumping of rubbish in the ditch. It was suggested that ECC had at one time admitted to responsibility for the ditch but Cllr Mrs Weir reported responsibility lay with Anglian Water. Members agreed that Council would not be writing any letters to residents and the matter of responsibility for the ditch taking into consideration riparian ownership would need to be clarified. The Clerk was asked to respond accordingly.

133. Proposal that Clerk, Groundsman & member of Parks Committee visit Barling Magna Nature Reserve - referred from Personnel Committee:

Cllr Leach advised that it would be for the Clerk as the Groundsman's Line Manager to decide on this matter. **Cllr Patient moved the Proposal that the Clerk, Groundsman and a Member of the Parks Committee visit Barling Magna Nature Reserve and Members were content to carry the motion.**

134. Parish Parks Forum - Email from Helen Galley, Public Open Spaces Officer, RDC:

Cllr Mrs Young felt this exercise made sense in sharing information and saving money by helping each other. Members were urged to go along due to the nature of the forum and it was agreed that Cllrs Mrs Young, Mrs Weir, Mrs Shaw, the Clerk and Groundsman would attend.

135. Summary of Decisions:

- Cllr Leach to follow up brickfield information.
- Clerk to respond to Mrs James as above.
- Proposal approved to visit Barling Magna as set out.
- Cllrs Mrs Young, Mrs Weir, Mrs Shaw, the Clerk and Groundsman to attend Parish Parks Forum.

The meeting was closed at 8.50pm.

Chairman

Please recycle from within Full Council Papers for use at next Standing Committee.