
Minutes

9 September 2003 6.00 pm
Alamein Suite,
City Hall
Salisbury

These minutes should be kept for use by District Councillors at the next Council meeting

Present

Chairman: Councillor S J Howarth,

Vice Chairman: Councillor K A Cardy

Councillors: Councillors Mrs P Brown, Mrs E A Chettleburgh, J M Collier D A Culver, B E Dalton, Mrs I M Evans, S R Fear, D J McCarthy, J R L Nettle, M J Osment, P V H Paisey, I R Tomes, Miss M A Tomlinson, and Mrs S A Warrander

Apologies

Councillors: Ms S C Mallory, P W L Sample, J M Walsh and C R Vincent (County Councillor)

MINUTES NOT REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL

19. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements by Chairman.

20. PUBLIC STATEMENT/QUESTION TIME

There were no statements by or questions from members of the public.

21. COUNCILLOR STATEMENT/QUESTION TIME

Councillor Dalton queried why so many of the bus shelters in the City were missing sections of their glass panelling (which had been replaced by wooden boarding) and asked when the glass would be replaced.

Reg Williams, Parks Manager, informed the Committee, on the behalf of the Chairman, that it had been discovered that some of the fixing bolts holding certain glass panels had been partially or fully removed and, for safety reasons, the decision had been taken to remove the glass, for safekeeping, from any shelter found to have been tampered with. Once a method of securing the bolts had been agreed, the panels would be replaced.

Councillor Nettle requested that the Committee receive an update of progress on the bus shelter refurbishment programme within the City.

Reg Williams, Parks Manager, informed the Committee, on the behalf of the Chairman and on the behalf of the Transportation Team (not represented at the meeting), that the refurbishment programme had slipped owing to problems arising from shipping the shelters from Turkey, where they are manufactured.

Councillor Fear stated his concern regarding the poor condition of the paving leading up to and beneath Fisherton railway bridge. Councillor Fear informed the Committee that the paving was hazardous to pedestrians for two reasons: the hazard caused by broken and uneven slabs caused by large vehicles turning tightly under the bridge across the paving; and the hazard (especially in wet conditions) caused by pigeon guano dropping onto the paving.

Councillor Fear queried whether the street cleansing schedule for the bridge area had been increased, as had been requested, and suggested that a daily street cleanse of the paving in this area be adopted as well as a scheme to control the number of pigeons congregating under and on the bridge.

Reg Williams, Parks Manager, informed the Committee, on the behalf of the Chairman, that the matter would be investigated.

Councillor Culver, speaking as a member of the Cabinet (and in follow up to a reminder by Helen Collar, City Area Co-ordinator, that Councillor questions/statements should, most properly, be tabled at least 7 working days in advance of a meeting), informed the Committee that questions/statements could always be addressed to the relevant Portfolio-Holder; particularly when the matter was immediate or required an urgent response.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

23. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Special meeting held on 21 August 2003 (previously circulated) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

24. FLOODING IN THE DISTRICT – FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FLOODING WORKING GROUP

The Committee consider the report (previously circulated) of the Head of Environmental Services together with three maps (circulated at the meeting).

RESOLVED – that :-

- (1) the current and planned future work programme (as detailed in the report, see Appendix 1) be noted;
- (2) that the Flooding Working Group be informed of the following :-
 - i/ that some of the underpasses in the City (particularly at St Pauls roundabout and the Castle Road roundabout) become impassable by pedestrians due to flooding after heavy rain.

[Rick Wells, Senior Environmental Health Officer, informed the Committee that the Working Group had been required to consider the areas of major (those that had the potential to posed a threat to life and/or property) flooding across the District (and beyond) and that strategic and joint working initiatives that would be required to alleviate the problem. The flooding in the areas mentioned above, although inconvenient, was local and specific and, for that reason, had not been included in the report. However, the matter would be reported to WCC Highways Department].

- ii/ that some parts of Mill Road flood during periods of heavy rain.

[Rick Wells, Senior Environmental Health Officer, informed the Committee that, since the last round of floods, a non-return valve had been installed in the highways drainage system where it entered the Nadder River in this area and that the problems

experienced by owners of properties in Mill road should have been solved. (The Committee noted that should the flooding be of such magnitude that the river level became higher than the road level then the non-return valve would be ineffective).]

iii/ that, since the introduction of the residents parking scheme, the street-sweeping routine had been disrupted in various areas in the city and drain grills were becoming blocked.

[Rick Wells, Senior Environmental Health Officer, informed the Committee that the matter would be referred to the Street Cleansing Team]

25. ASHLEY ROAD OPEN SPACE

The Committee considered the report (previously circulated) of the Parks Manager.

RESOLVED – that

- (1) a physical barrier to prevent unauthorised parking on Ashley Green be erected subject to the following conditions :-
 - i/ The barrier erected should be of a low a height as possible (whilst still remaining effective) and of a design and scale that impacts as little as possible on the open green-landscaped nature of the site;
 - ii/ The precise design of the barrier should be agreed, in writing, by the ward members for St Pauls and St Marks and Stratford wards prior to purchase and erection.
- (2) hot air balloon launches be allowed from the site, subject to the necessary indemnities and dates being obtained.

The Committee also requested that the Parks Manger investigate whether the barrier, which, once erected, would safeguard the green for community and recreational use, could be funded, either in total or in part, from City Area 'R2' funds.

26. PAVILIONS

The Committee considered the report (previously circulated) of the Parks Manager.

RESOLVED – that

- (1) a refurbishment scheme for the pavilion at Fisherton Recreation ground be not proceeded with; and
- (2) the existing pavilion be demolished and the area returned to grass (with the costs to be contained within existing budgets).

27. SPECIAL DELEGATION PROCEDURE

The Committee noted the matter dealt with under the above procedure as set out at agenda item 10.

28. URGENT BUSINESS

Although this matter was not on the previously circulated agenda, the Chairman declared that it be considered as a matter of urgency owing to the need to consider the imbalance of business falling on the City Area (Planning & Licensing) Committee compared to that falling on the City Area (Community) Committee.

City Area Committee (Planning & Licensing and Community) Business

Following discussion on the role, remit and workloads of the two Committees the Committee agreed the following :-

1. that the current two committee (Planning & Licensing and Community) arrangement should obtain;
2. that the Chairman of the City Area (Community) Committee should not refrain from exercising his discretion to cancel a meeting in instances when the agenda would appear to be so small that to hold a meeting would be uneconomic; and
3. that the City Area Co-ordinator be requested to investigate the feasibility of transferring the consideration of SWAG Applications from the business of the City Area (Planning & Licensing) Committee to the business of the City Area (Community) Committee .

(The meeting closed at 1930hrs)