

BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ROCK PARK TRUST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE meeting held on Wednesday 8th July 2020 commencing at 2.00pm by video conference.

Present: Cllr A Rennles (Chairman)
Cllrs V Elkins, R Knight L York, P Leaver, A Shah & V Nel.
Friends of Rock Park: M Kennaugh

In attendance: Mr R Ward (Town Clerk)

RP178 Apologies for absence were received from Friends of Rock Park: L Davies

RP179 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations Granted

Cllr L York as a member of North Devon Council has a dispensation to discuss and vote on all items on the agenda unless the item refers to a financial or legal agreement or dispute between the two authorities.

Cllr York declared an interest in item RP183 and withdrew from the meeting for this item.

RP180 RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th January 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(NC)

RP181 Requests for use/hire of Rock Park

RESOLVED: To note that due to the Coronavirus Pandemic all bookings in the park are currently suspended.

(NC)

RP182 Town Clerk Report

Footpath resurfacing, approved at the last meeting, has been delayed due to the pandemic but is expected to be undertaken within the next few weeks.

The recycling of the water from the water play equipment has been explored and options for capturing the water for reuse seems possible, further work is needed.

The Cherry Trees offered by Barnstaple Lions Club are planned for planting in the autumn, the Town Clerk will follow this up, a decision needs to be taken as to where they will be planted, the Town Clerk also reported that we have had 2 Oak trees donated.

The Pyramid Activity Net still needs to be replaced, this will be added to the work schedule.

Rock Park Lodge has been redecorated and is nearly ready for letting. We have been informed that it cannot be used for residential lettings due to being in a flood plain, but business use should be possible.

RESOLVED: to approve the letting of Rock Park Lodge for commercial use.

(NC)

Rock Park play area and toilets have been closed due to Government guidance during the pandemic.

Guidance allowing for play areas and toilets to reopen has recently been issued and Town Council officers have been preparing the park with a plan to be open this coming weekend, new signage is being installed and directions for the public to access and exit the play area.

Two of the five toilets will be opened initially, the disabled access toilet and one other.

The emphasis is on the public to follow guidance and we will monitor how this goes over the coming weeks.

The Town Clerk reported that a plan is in place to install a water tap and soap dispenser on the outside of the toilets to allow for hand washing and filling of water bottles, a drain will be provided that feeds back into the toilet drains.

RESOLVED: to approve the installation of a tap and soap dispenser on the Rock Park toilets, cost in the region of £500.

(NC)

RESOLVED: to note the Town Clerk report

(NC)

RP183 RESOLVED: To approve the licence with North Devon Council and for the Town Clerk to sign on behalf of the Committee. This is for the new Grounds Maintenance Compound in order to facilitate the self-delivery of landscape services by Town Council staff.

(NC)

RP184 RESOLVED: To consider changes to the Rock Park Trust budget for 2021-2022 in order to facilitate self-delivery of grounds maintenance.

(NC)

Under the arrangement to self-deliver more of the services will be delivered directly through the Town Council staff team and as with the current arrangements all tools and equipment will be owned and maintained through the Town Council.

All current staff are employed by the Town Council and assets are owned and insured through the Town Council.

Councillors requested that measures for monitoring success of self-delivery are considered and that proposals for adoption of Green Flag standards be brought to a future meeting.

(NC)

Meeting closed 2.50pm.

Chairman.

Signed *[Signature]*

Dated 7-10-2020