



# Kington Recreation Ground Trust

Charity No. 520963.

Old Police Station, Kington, Herefordshire HR5 3DP: Tel: 01544 239098  
[clerk@kingtontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@kingtontowncouncil.gov.uk)  
[www.kingtontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.kingtontowncouncil.gov.uk)

**Minutes of a meeting of  
Kington Recreation Ground Trust  
held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at the Old Police Station, Market Hall  
Street, Kington**

**Present:** Cllr. E. Banks (in the Chair)  
Cllr. J. Cooke  
Cllr. F. Hawkins  
Cllr. M. Fitton  
Cllr. E. Rolls  
Cllr. I. Spencer  
Cllr. R. Warne

**In attendance:** Liz Kelso, Clerk  
1 member of the public

007/22 **Apologies, Declarations of Interest and requests for  
dispensation**

Apologies were noted from Cllrs. R. Banks, T. Bounds, P. Edwards, R. MacCurrach, B. Macleod-Needs, D. Redmayne and R. Widdowson. There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.

008/22 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were confirmed and the Chairman authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

009/22            **Clerk's Report**

There were no matters to report other than those addressed under separate agenda items.

010/22            **Outdoor Gym Equipment**

The suppliers for this equipment are aiming for an installation starting 25<sup>th</sup> April but the siting of the equipment needs confirmation as it cannot go too close to the zip wire. It was agreed that the Recreation Ground Management Group would meet with the contractor/supplier to confirm the location and layout of the agreed equipment.

Members also noted that instructions on the use of the equipment can be downloaded from the suppliers website so a link will be provided on the Town Council website.

011/22            **Covid Memorial Bench**

Members noted that following the successful completion of the covid bench for the Churchyard, work on the the bench for the Recreation Ground is to begin.

012/22            **Memorial Benches within the Recreation Ground**

There having been an increase in the number of requests for a memorial bench to be installed in the Recreation Ground by local residents, the attached policy on memorial benches was considered and discussed. It was agreed that subject to two minor amendments regarding damaged benches and the right of the Trust/Town Council to remove benches deemed unsafe, that the attached policy document be adopted by the Trust.

013/22            **Cricket Club Correspondence**

Members noted a request from the Cricket Club with regard to proposed internal alterations to the pavilion to facilitate women's cricket and had no objections to the proposals, subject to clarification of the work required. It was agreed that Cllrs. E. Banks, E. Rolls, R. Warne and the Clerk be authorised to meet with the Cricket Club to discuss the matter further with a view to bringing this back to the Trust for discussion at a later date.

A request for consideration of an extension to the cricket club lease was also noted and it was agreed that the group would be authorised to discuss this with the Cricket Club at the same time. In the meantime the Clerk would obtain quotations for the likely work involved in extending the current lease agreement.

014/22            **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022. A request was made for the Crooked Well triangle to be included on the agenda.

015/22            **Exclusion of the Public**

It was resolved that members of the press and public be excluded from the next agenda item on the grounds that the subject under discussion would be likely to include information of a personal nature.

016/22            **Requests for memorial bench consideration**

Members noted the request from two families for a memorial bench for each of their relatives. After due consideration, it was agreed to reluctantly reject both requests in accordance with the agreed policy on memorial benches.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

Chair

## MEMORIAL BENCH POLICY

### **BACKGROUND**

From time-to-time residents have approached the Town Council and Recreation Ground Trust requesting to add a memorial bench or plaque to commemorate a loved one who has enjoyed the Recreation Ground during their lifetime. This policy aims to address how those requests are handled.

### **POLICY**

After considerable thought, the Recreation Ground Trust is not minded to allow memorial benches, trees or plaques in the Recreation Ground. The number of requests is such that there would be a very great number of memorials if all were permitted. Instead, a single bench has been commissioned, in part in response to the Covid pandemic, where everyone can sit in quiet contemplation of those they have lost whether through covid or any other cause or at any time.

The Trust reserves the right to review this in exceptional circumstances and may permit a memorial where the individual concerned has made an exceptional contribution to the Town; such decision to be made by the Recreation Ground Trust at the sole discretion of the Trust.

The following policy is to cover those circumstances where a memorial has been agreed by the Trust.

#### **1. Benches**

- The type, size, structure and location of the bench will be agreed between the family and the Recreation Ground Trust and must be:
  - Appropriate for the setting in terms of materials used, colour, and visual appearance
  - Appropriate for use in a public setting, i.e. robust and safe for public use
  - Placed in a suitable location which does not impact on other users or uses of the Recreation Ground and will not hinder routine maintenance such as grass cutting or potentially increase the risk of anti social behaviour from those using the bench.
- All costs associated with the purchase and installation of the bench will be agreed with the family and must be paid before any orders are placed.
- The Town Council/Recreation Ground Trust will purchase and arrange for the installation of the bench to ensure appropriate health and safety measures are followed and that the bench can be included in the relevant insurances of the Town Council/Recreation Ground Trust.
- Any memorial plaque must be agreed by the Town Council/Recreation Ground Trust, including any wording, materials used and size.
- Families are reminded that the Recreation Ground is a well-used facility by people of all ages and for a number of events and activities. Occasionally this may result in

damage to the bench and the Town Council/Recreation Ground Trust cannot be held responsible for any damage to or loss of the bench howsoever caused. Wherever possible repairs will be made from time to time but it may not be possible to repair or replace the bench if damaged or lost. The Town Council/Recreation Ground Trust reserves the right to remove any bench or other memorial, without notice to the donor family, if at any time the bench or memorial is deemed to be unsafe.

## 2. Trees

- If a tree is agreed by the Recreation Ground Trust, the species, size and location will be agreed between the family and the Recreation Ground Trust.
- The purchase and planting of the tree will be made by the Recreation Ground Trust in consultation with the family, in particular to take into account appropriate time for planting and any health and safety issues
- The full cost of purchase and planting of the tree must be met by the family and paid in full before any orders are placed.
- As with benches, any memorial plaque must be agreed by the Town Council/Recreation Ground Trust, including any wording, materials used and size.
- Families are reminded that the Recreation Ground is a well-used facility by people of all ages and for a number of events and activities. Occasionally this may result in damage to the memorial and the Town Council/Recreation Ground Trust cannot be held responsible for any damage to or loss howsoever caused.