



Kington Recreation Ground Trust

Charity No. 520963.

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Minutes of the meeting of the Kington Recreation Ground Trust held at 6.00pm on Monday 3rd September 2018 at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street.

Present: Cllr. M. Fitton (Chair)
Cllr. E. Banks
Cllr. T. Bounds
Cllr. F. Hawkins
Cllr. E. Rolls
Cllr. I. Wood-Johnson

In attendance: Liz Kelso Clerk

087/18 **Apologies**

Apologies were noted from Cllrs. J. Atkinson, R. Banks, J. Dennis, C. Forrester, R. MacCurrach, P. Prior and R. Widdowson

088/18 **Declarations of Interests and requests for dispensation**

There were no Declarations of Interest and no requests for dispensation.

089/18 **Minutes of the Trust meeting held on 6th August 2018**

Following clarification on one item, it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 6th August 2018 as previously circulated be signed by the Chairman as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

090/18 **Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report, as attached to these Minutes, was noted. It was agreed that a User Group meeting be arranged for November.

091/18 **Trees**

091.1 **To consider quotations for work on the Recreation Ground**

The Clerk presented quotations obtained for work on the trees at the Recreation Ground as identified by the tree survey. Three tree surgeons had been invited to quote but it was noted that only two had done so. After due consideration, it was agreed that Contractor A as presented to the meeting be selected for this work. The Clerk confirmed that the contractor selected was Acer Tree Services.

091.2 **Work on the trees on the river bank**

Members noted a report from the Cricket Club regarding the work undertaken on the river bank. It was agreed that the Clerk write to thank the volunteers for their efforts. A decision on the requested move of the site of the bonfire is to be considered by the Management Group.

092/18 **Contract for sanitary waste disposal**

This item was deferred from the last meeting pending clarification of the quotations received. The Clerk presented the revised summary of options and after due consideration it was agreed that disposable bins be purchased on a trial basis, to be reviewed after an initial purchase of ten bins have been used up.

093/18 **Outstanding Items**

Members considered the list of actions arising from the last Management Group meeting, confirming that many have now been completed. A further meeting of the Management Group will be held to review the remaining items on the list. It was noted that some leaves and litter are still evident within the Recreation Ground.

093/18 **Additional Footpaths**

The Clerk reported that she had sought quotations for additional footpaths in the Recreation Ground and Crooked Well but had received no response from two contractors and a note from the third that they were unable to take on any additional work. It was therefore agreed to defer a decision to the next meeting and in the meantime further local contractors would be approached. Those who have not responded would be asked to confirm whether they might wish to quote.

094/18 **Annual Safety Inspection**

Members reviewed the annual safety inspections for the Recreation Ground play area and the skate park noting that overall the report was positive and there were no items requiring immediate attention. It was agreed to refer the report to the Management Committee to draw up a schedule for the minor repairs identified in the report.

095/18 **Play surface repairs**

Repairs to the play surface resulting from the particularly hot dry summer have now been completed.

096/18 **Playing golf in the Recreation Ground**

Following reports of a resident playing golf in the Recreation Ground it was noted that a polite request to not do so on safety grounds has been ignored by the resident. It was agreed that a “no golf” sign be placed in the Recreation Ground.

It was agreed that consideration be given to placing a notice board at the entrance to the Recreation Ground for such notices, to include information about hiring the space for events, who manages the Recreation Ground and other notices. The Clerk will obtain prices and present these to a future meeting for consideration.

097/18 **Update on acquisition of public open spaces**

Members noted that the acquisition of a small parcel of land at the perimeter of Crooked Well is progressing although the donor has been unwell.

098/18 **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 1st October at 6.00pm at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington. There were no items raised for the agenda other than those noted earlier in the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.00pm

Appendix
KINGTON RECREATION GROUND TRUST
Meeting to be held 3rd September 2018
Minute ref: 090/18
Clerk's Report

1. Handwash units

As agreed at the last meeting, a contract for the service of the handwash units has been set up and a proposal to pay the annual charge will be made to the Town Council at the meeting of the Council later. A date for the first visit by the engineer will be agreed for September.

2. Vandalism

Some time over Thursday 30th August offensive graffiti appeared on the equipment at the skate park. The Groundsman has reported this to the police and at the time of writing spent nearly all day attempting to remove the graffiti.

Wire fencing at the back of the skate park has also been damaged and is a hazard. Cllr. Wood Johnson and/or the groundsman have been asked to remove the damaged sections to avoid injury.

When inspecting the fencing the Mayor and Clerk also found some metal poles apparently dumped in the corner by the skate park. Again, the groundsman has been asked to move these out of sight of the skate park to avoid the poles being used as weapons.

3. Land at Crooked Well

As agreed earlier this year, the transfer of the small parcel of land at the Tavern end of Crooked Well is progressing although the current owner has been unwell. Herefordshire Council have provided copies of the original transfer which will help our solicitor with work to transfer the land to the Recreation Ground Trust.

4. Staff Training

The groundsman has now been enrolled on the brushcutter and strimmer course at Holme Lacy College in November.

5. Recreation Ground Users

A revised form to hire the Recreation Ground was approved at the meeting held in July (Minute ref. 073/18) and at the time it was agreed that the

Management Group would review the charges for use of the Recreation Ground. To date that meeting has not taken place but it is clear that some Recreation Ground users are failing to book or register their intent to use the area. Not only does this represent a risk that there is a “double booking” but it is difficult for the groundsman to plan his work schedule and risks groups using the Recreation Ground without appropriate insurance or risk assessments as these are not being checked. There also remains the issue of charging for use of the Recreation Ground. A hockey tournament at the weekend was not booked into the diary although the organisers did mention it to the groundsman.

6. **Broken Tree Branch**

A broken tree branch near to Rec. Cottage has been reported and on investigation appears to be tangled with the electricity cables. The branch is too high for the groundsman to remove and the entanglement with the electricity cables makes this too dangerous. The Mayor has reported this to the electricity company who are dealing with this.