

**REPORT of the Meeting of the Playing Fields and
Cemetery Committee held 16 February 2017**

Present: Cllr: Clive Parkinson (Chairman)

Cllrs: Angela Symonds
Lesley Tuck
Bob Griffin
Pam Shipp
Jayne Stansfield

Jack Hainsworth (St. Mary's Church)

Clare Nelmes (Town Clerk)

1. **TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Gail Whitehead (out of Thornbury)

Cllr Helen Harrison (out of Thornbury)

2. **TO RECEIVE ANY MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

3. **TO RECEIVE ANY REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

4. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ANY OPERATIONAL ISSUES OR
MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORT OF MEETING OF 19.1.17 NOT
CONSIDERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

Staff had now received training on chainsaw use and have the necessary equipment and PPE to undertake works with chainsaws safely.

5. **TO RECEIVE A GENERAL REPORT ON ST. MARY'S CLOSED
CHURCHYARD AND TO CONSIDER A LETTER FROM ST MARY'S
CHURCH RELATING TO CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE.**

Jack Hainsworth spoke notifying Council that a bulb on the floodlights illuminating the church had blown and needed repair (middle of south side). He also requested that council considers repainting the railings.

A meeting had been held on site with the stone mason to discuss repairs to the war memorial where it was agreed that it would be repaired at no cost to the Town Council.

The Clerk reported that a letter from the Church had been received concerning their quintennial inspection which raised a number of issues concerning the condition of the churchyard, maintenance and memorial inspections. The clerk has requested a copy of the report so that it can be considered. The inspection process for memorials and tombs in the churchyard were being reviewed and it was hoped that records held by Thornbury Roots could be used as the basis for mapping and recording condition of memorials.

6. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK ON FOOTBALL FACILITIES AT THE MUNDY PLAYING FIELDS**

Toni Watola and Richard Shorey from Thornbury Town Football Club were in attendance and spoke to outline the latest position. The Club are still awaiting a decision on the outcome of their application and they have been advised that further information is necessary before it can be decided. This includes a bat survey that cannot be undertaken until mid April and further information and an assessment of the impact of the floodlights on the landscape and historic setting. Path works cannot start until planning permission has been granted and orders for works and grant applications also cannot be submitted without planning permission. This makes it highly unlikely that planning permission will be granted in time to meet the league timetable and for the works to be completed. The club are looking at quicker interim measures that maybe possible to do by league deadline, but some elements will still require planning permission. The committee agreed that it would allow the interim and path works to be undertaken if the planning officer approved this alternative approach.
7. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON APPLYING FOR A PREMISES LICENCE FOR THE MUNDY PLAYING FIELDS**

The Clerk has met with event organisers and the premises licence for the Mundy Playing Fields is currently being drafted before being submitted.
8. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE MAINTENANCE OF PLAY FACILITIES AND FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS**

The Clerk and Chairman outlined the current position regarding maintenance and repairs to play equipment. The rocket and slide at the Mundy Playing Fields are being removed due to safety issues. It was agreed that a working party would be formed to look at play provision in general and to consider as a priority the replacement of the rocket and slide as soon as possible. The Clerk would seek to obtain quotes in order that this could be considered at the next available opportunity at Finance & Policy.
9. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE SKATEPARK PROJECT**

New bins, signage and seats will be installed shortly and permission is being sought from South Gloucestershire Council to undertake works to the site boundary to improve visibility and security of the site.
10. **TO CONSIDER A REQUEST TO PLANT TREES ON THE CHANTRY FIELD AND OAKLEAZE DRIVE**

The Clerk is awaiting an updated plan of the proposed tree planting at Oakleaze Drive in order that residents can be consulted.

The Clerk outlined a new proposal put forward by the tree warden to plant two replacement trees at Chantry Field along the boundary of Church Road, to replace a dead tree. The committee agreed to support this subject to consultation with neighbouring residents.
11. **TO RECEIVE ANY URGENT CORRESPONDENCE**

None