

**REPORT of the Meeting of the Playing Fields and
Cemetery Committee held 13th October 2016**

Present: Cllr: Clive Parkinson (Chairman)

Cllrs: Angela Symonds
Martin Trueman
Lesley Tuck

Jack Hainsworth (St. Mary's Church)
Ed Cole (Thornbury in Bloom)
Clare Nelmes (Town Clerk)
Sandra Richardson (Deputy Town Clerk)

Please note : This meeting was not quorate so no decisions were made.

1. **To receive any apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Bob Griffin (out of Thornbury), Cllr Helen Harrison (Mayoral Commitment),
Cllr Pam Shipp (Another meeting) and Lesley Tuck (Family Commitment)

2. **To receive any members declarations of interest**

Martin Trueman as a member of Thornbury Town Football Club

3. **To receive any Chairman's announcements**

None

4. **To receive any representations from the public**

Ed Cole, Chairman of Thornbury in Bloom provided an update on Thornbury in Blooms efforts and their achievements this year. He gave particular thanks to the support and work of the Town Council and its staff.

The office staff (Mary, Sue & Lesley) were thanked for their efforts in providing sponsor information labels and certificates and for the co-operation and attention to detail.

The deputy Clerk was thanked for organising the hanging basket scheme which was particularly spectacular this year.

The watering team were thanked for their continued work and early mornings and Shaun Butler on behalf of the team received the Gold award for the Town Hall as the best commercial premises.

Paul LeRiche was thanked for his elaborate and detailed statement about the playing fields management and maintenance and for answering the judges questions as part of the tour and was presented with a Special Award for the Mundy Playing Fields.

Chris Davey on behalf of the staff team was presented with the special award for

the Town's Team as recognition for their contribution to Thornbury in Bloom throughout the year.

Ed reconfirmed his thanks to the Town Council and stated that he looked forward to working with us again for the forthcoming year, which was hoped to be even bigger and better.

The Chairman thanked Ed for attending and fully endorsed his sentiments about the hard work and dedication of both the town council staff team but also of the whole Thornbury in Bloom committee and the work of the many volunteers throughout the year who all contribute to Thornbury looking so spectacular.

5. **To receive a general report on St. Mary's Closed Churchyard**

Mr Hainsworth asked about progress on the works to the war memorial. The Clerk provided an outline of the cost and has instructed the works to be completed ASAP and before Remembrance Sunday.

He also requested that the removal of low hanging branches blocking access at the school house end to the east side of the church and maintenance between the wall should be undertaken and the Clerk confirmed that this has been added to the winter works programme. Mr Hainsworth also reported that they were hoping to get a working party together to undertake bramble clearance works.

6. **To receive an update from the Clerk on the progress of developing pitches at Poulterbrook and any associated actions arising from the proposed handover of the site from the contractor.**

The pitches are due to be handed over from the contractor this weekend and they would therefore become town council responsibility to maintain to the agreed specification for two years as part of the grant condition. The clerk had also authorised new vehicle access and pedestrian gates to secure the field to prevent dog fouling and these would be installed shortly.

7. **To receive an update from the clerk about weekend monitoring of council outdoor sites**

The clerk informed the committee that staff are now working a rota to ensure that all outdoor sites are checked for litter and safety at weekends which has been working well. This also includes opening up for matches at Mundy Playing Fields and Chantry Field

8. **To consider the draft council plan and items relevant to Playing Fields and Cemetery**

The draft council plan was considered and the timescales for delivery of some items revised accordingly.

9. **To receive an update on any other operational issues or matters arising from report of meeting of 8.9.16**

Following the last meeting the clerk provided the following update on matters arising:

A meeting about future skatepark developments is due to take place on 17 Oct
The defibrillator has now been installed and community training session run
The renewal of the pavilion roof has been completed ahead of schedule
Applications for P/T playing fields operative are still open
Athletics use of the Chantry Field is due to start in the Spring

Staff are booked onto play area inspection training

Staff uniforms are in the process of being ordered

The request by the Tennis Club concerning discharge of treated water has been approved

The agreed fees and charges have been implemented

The Clerk has informed SGC about our request to explore leasing the whole of the Vilner Lane site

The extension to the cremated remains garden has been added to the winter works programme

The field and brush mower has now arrived and is proving invaluable.

10. **To receive any urgent correspondence**

None