

MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Leisure and Youth Committee Meeting held at Malmesbury Town Hall on Thursday 6 November 2008 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs S Cox, S Killane, P Dove

Absent: Cllrs J Lawton, M Thomas

35. Apologies Cllr Sanderson

36. Resolved that the Minutes of the Leisure & Youth Committee meeting, held on 4th September 2008, be received and adopted.

37. Declarations of Interest None

38. Reeds Farm – Update

Cllr Killane confirmed that the design brief had now been submitted to North Wiltshire District Council and approved by Action for Children on Reeds Farm. The tender documents have been prepared by NWDC and sent out to 6 play equipment companies. The land chosen for the play equipment site is still owned by Persimmon Homes and the transfer of this land is proving problematic. The adjacent piece of land which had been considered earlier was considered too wet and too close to housing. After having indicated initially that the land would be available for transfer, Persimmon have now indicated that this might not be possible, citing problems within the house building industry and the impact this has had on their business. Cllr V Vines of NWDC (whose portfolio includes play areas) has written to Persimmon asking if leasing the land would be a possibility, however to date no reply has been received. A meeting took place at the end of September with NWDC and it was agreed that Action for Children on Reeds Farm should try to persuade Persimmon to reconsider their position with the help of Cllr John Thomson, Cllr Ray Sanderson and the press. Cllr Thomson has had some discussions with Persimmon, the outcome of which is still not apparent. Cllr Sanderson has been tasked by the Executive committee of NWDC to assist and has offered to help if required.

Cllr Killane stated that he would require the further assistance of Cllr Sanderson
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39. NWDC All Inclusive Play Equipment Grant St Aldhelm's Mead

The Committee Clerk explained that MTC had been successful and would be receiving a grant from NWDC for £8,000 to fund a birds nest swing and inclusive orbit roundabout. The total cost of the work totals however totals £10,545.

Cllr Killane proposed that the balance is transferred from earmarked funds

40. Newnton Play Area

41. Cloister Gardens/St Aldhelm's Mead Sub Committee Report

42. Allotments

43. Committee Clerk's Report on play areas and open spaces

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

Cllr Cox expressed concerns regarding the Malmesbury Youth Centre and skate park which appeared to have reduced its opening hours.

Action Committee Clerk to write to Wiltshire County Council requesting details of current opening hours, the feedback from the skate park trial and overall future plans for the centre.

44. Correspondence

The following letters of correspondence have been received and can be inspected in the Council Offices:

- Copy letter received from Mrs Fabray a local resident living on Reeds Farm expressing concerns about the proposal for a play area at Reeds Farm.
- Copy letter received from Mr D Tilney and addressed to Westlea Housing Association expressing concerns about the condition of the Newton Grove play area.

Action Committee clerk to write to Mr Tilney expressing thanks for his community spirit and neighbourly concern.

The meeting closed at 8:35pm