



Minutes of the Leisure and Community Policy Development & Review Panel

*Minutes of a meeting held on 5 September 2012
at the Civic Offices, Fareham*

PRESENT:

Councillor Miss S M Bell
(Chairman)

Councillor M J Ford, JP
(Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs P M Bryant, Mrs M E Ellerton, T G Knight, Mrs S Pankhurst and R H Price, JP.

Also Present Councillor Mrs C L A Hockley, Executive Member for Leisure and Community, (minute 3) and Councillor Mrs K K Trott (minute 10).

1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence made at this meeting.

2. MINUTES

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting of the Leisure and Community Policy Development & Review Panel held on 16 May 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record ([l&c-120516-m](#)).

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the invitation of the Chairman, the Executive Member for Leisure and Community made the following announcements:-

- (i) The South and South East in Bloom Regional Presentations will take place at Ferneham Hall on Thursday 13 September 2012; and

- (ii) The Fareham in Bloom Presentations, to which members of the Panel have been invited, will take place on the evening of Friday 14 September 2012.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTION

In accordance with Standing Orders and the Councils Code of Conduct, a declaration of interest was made by Councillor R H Price, JP (see minute 8 below).

5. DEPUTATIONS

The Panel received a deputation from Mr D Glading, on behalf of Limesdown Pétanque Club, concerning agenda item 7 - Park Lane Vision Consultation and he was thanked accordingly (see minute 6 below).

(With the Panel's approval the Chairman agreed to bring forward Item 7 on the agenda).

6. PARK LANE VISION CONSULTATION

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community and Streetscene, accompanied by a presentation, detailing the outcomes of the Park Lane Vision Consultation and the proposed future development programme for Park Lane Recreation Ground (copy of report [I&c-120905-r02-ewa](#) circulated with the agenda). Members also took account of the comments made by the depute in respect of this matter (see minute 5 above).

The Panel considered the consultation results and other outcomes from the consultation exercise which included:-

- Delay to the installation of the children's play area to 2014/15, to enable the majority of site improvements to be carried out at the same time to help reduce contractor costs;
- Need to identify future funding opportunities with the operators of Fareham Leisure Centre to provide a multi-use sports facility;
- Environmental improvements including landscaping and tree planting; and
- Future car parking arrangements at Fareham Leisure Centre.

It was reported that a number of issues have emerged relating to the use of both Leigh Road car park and the Park Lane car park. It was noted that officers will undertake a survey to obtain further information about the types of use and capacity of the Park Lane car park. Members were in agreement that they would not wish to see the allocation of any more parking spaces in the open space area.

On behalf of local residents Councillor Mrs Bryant provided the following additional comments/observations:-

- Whilst supportive of the outdoor multi sports facility, local residents were concerned about the effects of the floodlighting;
- Concern that the upgrading of the present children's play area would not take place until 2014/15;
- A request that more seating be provided in the parkland area;
- There was support from all ages for provision of the outdoor gym equipment; and
- The tennis courts should be sited nearer to the Leisure Centre

Members also received an update from officers regarding the current situation concerning the Limesdown Pétanque Club and noted that dialogue with both the Pétanque Club and Fareham Bowls Club is currently ongoing. It was proposed and seconded that the Panel support, in principle, the provision of a public pétanque terrain within the local community, if possible at the Park Lane site.

It was AGREED that in the Panel's view:-

- (a) The upgrading of the children's play area should be undertaken earlier than the proposed date of 2014/15, if possible;
- (b) More seating be provided in the parkland area;
- (c) The installation of outdoor gym equipment be supported;
- (d) The tennis courts be re-located nearer to the Leisure Centre;
- (e) Officers progress the car parking survey; and
- (f) The provision of a public pétanque terrain at Park Lane Recreation Ground be agreed in principle (Voting: unanimous).

7. REVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2012/13)

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community and Streetscene which reviewed the Panel's work programme for 2012/13 (copy of report [I&c-120905-r01-mqe](#) circulated with the agenda).

It was AGREED that the work programme for 2012/13, attached as Appendix A to the report, be approved.

8. OPEN SPACES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community and Streetscene which reviewed progress against the existing five year open spaces and play spaces and other recreational spaces improvement programmes and proposals for a combined programme up to 2024-25 (copy of report [I&c-120905-r03-swo](#) circulated with the agenda).

Councillor Price declared a personal interest in this matter in connection with the reference in the report to Roman Grove allotments (he rents an allotment at Roman Grove and is also a member of the Allotment Association).

Councillor Price requested clarification regarding the information in paragraph 18 of the report concerning deferment, to 2014/15, of the proposed project for provision of a multi-use games area at the Portchester Community Centre site. It was confirmed that the proposed consultation on the project would still take place, as agreed, once the existing community centre had been demolished and that there would be no deferment of the consultation process.

The Panel noted that whereas under the current system of developer contributions, funds are ring fenced to either open space or play space improvements, the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will necessitate the need to "bid" for funding to fund all or part of the schemes in the open spaces improvement programme. Concern was expressed that the CIL may not provide sufficient funding available to achieve all the proposed new improvement projects and that other external sources of funding may have to be explored.

It was AGREED that the existing five year open spaces and play spaces and other recreational spaces improvement programmes and proposed combined programme up to the year 2024/25, as detailed in Appendices, A, B and C, be endorsed and recommended to the Executive.

9. 2012 PLAYING PITCH STUDY

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community and Streetscene which provided a summary of the key issues arising from the 2012 Playing Pitch Study and considered the impact of the Football Association's recent review of youth football (copy of report [I&c-120905-r05-gsa](#) circulated with the agenda).

Members were informed that the two main issues concerned:-

- (i) the ongoing difficulties relating to dual use sites for both football and cricket; and
- (ii) outcomes from the Football Association Youth Review into the development of youth football, which will require the provision of specific pitch and goal sizes for different age groups.

Reference was made to the summary of key action points detailed in Appendix A to the report, arising from the study.

It was AGREED that the information contained in the report be noted.

10. SALTERNS PROMENADE

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community and Streetscene which detailed the outcome of a feasibility study into the options for a long-term

solution to the deterioration of Salterns Promenade (copy of report [I&c-120905-r04-gsa](#) circulated with the agenda).

At the invitation of the Chairman Councillor Mrs Trott addressed the Panel on this matter.

Members were advised that, following consultation with Ward Councillors, the preferred option was Option 3. Whilst members of the Panel were in agreement with that view, a member expressed concern about whether the new hard wood obtained would be of sufficient quality to last at least the expected 50 years. The Panel was advised that Greenheart timber was considered to be the most appropriate wood to use in a marine environment and had been recommended by the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership. It was proposed that when negotiating the tender/contract for the works, officers endeavour to secure a long term guarantee for the life expectancy of the hard timber obtained.

It was AGREED that the Panel recommend to the Executive that:-

- (a) the preferred option for the long term solution to the deterioration of the Salterns promenade is Option3, using new timber planks and piles; and
- (b) as part of the negotiations for the tender/contract for the works, officers be requested to try and secure a long term guarantee for the life expectancy of the hard timber to be used.

(The meeting started at 6:00pm and
ended at 7:15pm)