

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON TUESDAY 25th April 2023 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT Councillors Hamblin, Hodson, Scott, McCarthy and Crouch

POA/01/2023 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Speksnyder

POA/02/2023 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

None

POA/03/2023 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

POA/04/2023 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The committee initially met at East End play area to review the area in which there have been several reports of the anti-social behaviour of a group of youths. During the meeting three residents joined the discussion telling them about the type of incidents that occur in the area. The residents were encouraged to report incidents to the Police; however, they were reluctant to do this as they wanted the Town Council to firstly resolve some quick fixes that are within their remit.

The committee told residents they would investigate:

- Painting the wall with anti-climb paint
- Tightening up the fence as the noise from balls hitting it is causing a nuisance.
- Update the signage to include a closing time of 9pm.
- If Stephen Farish could adapt the zip wire to reduce noise.

The Town council also agreed to investigate the cost of replacing/moving the fence or making it higher.

Further to the above, it was also agreed that councillors would arrange to have an informal get together with the youths in question at East End play area along with their parents. Another meeting would then be arranged with the residents to provide them with an update regarding the issues.

ACTION – Cllr Scott to initially approach the group of youths and arrange with them a date and time to meet. The clerk to provide residents with a note to make them aware of the intended meeting and ask them not to attend but ask them to attend a further meeting to involve them with actions completed so far. The clerk to ask SF to inspect the bench to see if an additional leg could be added to support the sagging and prevent it breaking.

It was suggested that a grant could be sought to purchase new football fences, this will be investigated.

POA/05/2023 SIGNAGE

Signage was discussed across Wigton with the committee reviewing what signage was the priority. It was **AGREED** that the following signage must be updated now:

- Signage at East End play area to include a closing time and a review of the wording which will include having 'no balls allowed' in the play area and no dogs.
- Signage at Wigton Park (play area) to update the wording.

POA/06/2023 ALLOTMENTS

The committee discussed how to deal with allotment holders when they removed the council fences, replacing them with their own fence then removing this fence when they vacated the allotment leaving no fence in place. As this has happened on only a few occasions it was decided that the allotment contract would be updated to make clear that council fences must not be removed or changed unless it has been agreed by the council.

Meeting ended 7.47pm

**Date of next meeting:
Tuesday 20th June 2023**