



Lymington &
Pennington
Town Council

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**Minutes of the Meeting of Lymington & Pennington Town Council's
Amenities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lymington
on Monday 17 July 2023 at 6.00pm**

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillors	Cllr McCarthy (Chairperson) Cllr Davies (Mayor) Cllr Jearrad Cllr King Cllr Phillips Cllr Loveless Cllr Humber Cllr Gray substituted for Cllr Morgan
	Other Councillors	Cllr England Cllr Lewis
	Officers	Louise Young, Town Clerk Lesley Way, Deputy Town Clerk
	Also Present	2 Member of Public 3 NFDC Officers

9. Apologies for Absence

Received and accepted from Cllr Frost and Cllr Morgan.

10. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Davies declared a non-pecuniary interest in Items 5, 6 and 7.

11. Public Participation

None.

12. Minutes of Previous Amenities Meeting held on 5 June 2023.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Amenities meeting held on 5 June 2023 be signed as a correct record.

Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Loveless. All in favour.

13. Pennington Walking Route

An officer from NFDC gave a presentation about proposed improvements to footpaths, signage, and accessibility in Pennington.

Cllr Humber commented that the proposal for kissing gates will work for people with disabilities who have access to a radar key but asked what about people with pushchairs or those who do not have access to a radar key. The NFDC officer said that a kissing gate without a radar key could be offered and will be investigated.

Cllr Humber also asked if there would be directional signs along the route. The NFDC officer responded to say the route will be marked and interpretation boards will be installed at various key locations giving information and showing the route.

Cllr Humber suggested that the footpath could be made into a cycle path. The NFDC officer said this was something that will need to be brought up with Hampshire County Council.

Cllr Jerrad asked if people will be advised when joining the route that they will need a radar key for disability access. The NFDC officer responded that this could be highlighted on the interpretation boards.

Cllr Loveless asked if there will be more bins/dog waste bins along the route and if the police will be consulted about anti-social behaviour if the route is to be made more open. The NFDC officer reported that no new footpaths are being created, it will be an upgrade to the current path to improve the standard. There are no plans for extra bins. By making the route more open to the public this will hopefully deter antisocial behaviour rather than encourage it.

Resolved: Councillors noted report

14. Grove Gardens

An officer from NFDC gave a presentation about the proposed improvements to signage, amenity, and biodiversity at Grove Gardens.

Cllr Gray asked if picnic style benches could be considered. The NFDC representative said this was something that could be looked into.

Cllr Jerrad asked if more bins were part of the improvements. The Town Clerk explained that the bins at Grove Road were being updated under the current replacement bin project.

Cllr Gray asked about the ongoing maintenance cost to Lymington and Pennington Town Council to manage these improvements, once completed. The Town Clerk reported that the cost shouldn't increase as there should be less maintenance. The Town Council would have needed to plan for future investment into the area, including replacing lost trees, so it is actually a gain for us.

Cllr Humber asked if there will be more parking. This Town Clerk responded there would be no change to the current parking.

Questions were raised about plans to leave some uncut grass areas as it will encourage more litter to gather and dog mess to be left, especially in certain corners where the wind causes rubbish to collect. The area is also prone to rats and more litter from extra benches will encourage this. The Town Clerk said this is something that will be monitored.

Cllr Phillips asked if improved lighting was included in the plans. The Town Clerk said there were no proposals for this.

Resolved: That the scheme, presented by New Forest District Council, to make improvements to Grove Gardens is approved.

Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr King. 7 in favour, 1 abstained.

15. Woodside Park

An officer from NFDC gave a presentation about the proposed improvements to Woodside Park.

Cllr Davies commented that it is a fantastic idea but asked about the cost of maintenance for the dog agility area. The NFDC officer said he would look into the maintenance cost of other schemes that had been installed in the district and report back.

Cllr Davies asked if improvements to the car park were included. The NFDC officer answered that there is not sufficient budget to include any changes to the surface of the car park.

It was asked if the public would be informed of the changes as this is crucial. It was reported that the improvements will be included on interpretation boards, on websites and social media.

Cllr Humber asked if kissing gates with radar key access were required, could they not just be kissing gates alone. This is something the officer took on board to take away and to investigate further.

Cllr Humber was concerned about the proposed position of the dog agility area being close to the pond and the environmental impact. The NFDC representative said the ecologist will be consulted about this.

Cllr Gray asked if the scheme would encourage more wildlife or just improve what is there and perhaps nesting and bat boxes could be incorporated into the scheme. The NFDC representative reported that native trees are currently being used to encourage the wildlife. However, wildlife boxes are something that could be used, and he would speak to the ecologist for further advice.

Cllr Loveless raised concerns about the screening of the park by planting more trees and how this will affect the rugby club, and screen anti-social behaviour in the skate park.

Resolved: That the scheme, as presented by New Forest District Council, with minor changes, including further discussions about the gates used and a reduction in the number of trees used as screening along the rugby pitch, is approved.

Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Humber. 6 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstained.

16. Requests For Use of Council Land

Councillors discussed requests received from

1. Request received from St Barbe Museum to hold Summer Holiday activities at Emsworth Road Recreation Ground from 1st – 30th August 2023, 10.30am- 3.15pm. Summer holiday arts and craft activities for children from 1 to 11 years. Mini Gazebo, table and ground sheets being used. Free event all welcome.

Resolved Items

- i. That the request for use of Council land be approved subject to compliance with the Council's Open Spaces Terms & Conditions and Town Clerk agreement, with overseeing of the Events Sub-Committee when appropriate.
- ii. That the Town Clerk has delegated authority to liaise with event organisers to amend dates of the proposed events as appropriate.

Proposed by Cllr Humber, seconded by Cllr Davies. All in favour.

2. Request received from V Wigeley to hold a bootcamp at Woodside Park on Wednesday evenings from 5.30pm – 8.30pm and Saturday mornings 6.30am – 9.00am. Group fitness classes with equipment run by personal trainer with first aider on hand. To run until 14 September 2023.

Resolved Items

- i. That the request for use of Council land be approved subject to compliance with the Council’s Open Spaces Terms & Conditions and Town Clerk agreement, with overseeing of the Events Sub-Committee when appropriate.
- ii. That the Town Clerk has delegated authority to liaise with event organisers to amend dates of the proposed events as appropriate.

Proposed by Cllr King, seconded by Cllr Humber. All in favour.

17. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Amenities Committee will be held on **Monday 4 September 2023 at 6pm** in the Council Chamber

Meeting concluded at 7.04pm.

Date: **Chairperson’s Signature:**