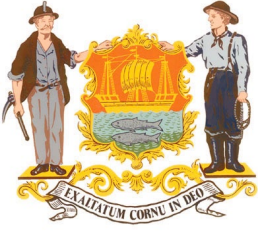


TRURO CITY COUNCIL



CITY OF TRURO
Town Clerk

Town Clerk's Department
Municipal Buildings
Boscawen Street
Truro TR1 2NE
Tel. (01872) 274766
www.truro.gov.uk
email: info@truro.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7.00 PM IN THE LARGE COMMUNITY ROOM, TOP FLOOR, TRURO COMMUNITY LIBRARY, PYDAR STREET, TRURO

- PRESENT:** Councillors Biscoe, Eathorne Gibbons (Chairman), Rabey (Deputy Mayor), Roby, Roden, Southcombe, Swain (Mayor) and Wells (acting as Vice Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee).
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors La Borde, Tamblyn, and Griffiths
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs. Carlyon
- ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Richard Budge, Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer
Amelia Sharp, Administrator Committee Clerk/Zero Carbon Officer

1. **APOLOGIES** **PK/24/448**
The apologies for absence as submitted were accepted.
2. **DISCLOSURES OR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** **PK/24/449**
None.
3. **OPEN SESSION FOR ELECTORS OF TRURO RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA - VERBAL QUESTIONS** **PK/24/450**
None.
4. **MINUTES**
It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the Mayor, and
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parks and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 8 July 2024 were signed as a correct record. **PK/24/451**

[Pursuant to Standing Order 3u, the Deputy Mayor requested that it be recorded that he abstained from voting on this motion.]
5. **LAND AT COMPRIGNEY HILL WORKING GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE**
It was suggested that a clause be added to Section 2 to state an aim to produce a Final Report, and another to section 3 to specify that the group is a Working Group.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by the Mayor, and
RESOLVED to accept the Terms of Reference for the Land at Comprigney Hill Working Group, subject to these amendments. **PK/24/452**

6. TRURO NATURE RECOVERY FORUM – TERMS OF REFERENCE

It was clarified that the Forum is a Subcommittee as opposed to a Working Group due to the absence of a set end date. It was highlighted that members outside Truro City Council should be given access to internal email addresses for data protection purposes. It was also suggested that the Parks and Amenities Committee refresh the mandate of the Forum once per year and a clause be added to enforce this.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by the Mayor, and

RESOLVED to accept the Terms of Reference for the Truro Nature Recovery Forum, subject to these amendments. **PK/24/453**

Councillors Southcombe and Biscoe volunteered to be appointed as members. Councillor La Borde was proposed as the third member by Councillor Southcombe, subject to her consent in due course.

It was proposed by Councillor Roden, seconded by Councillor Rabey, and

RESOLVED to appoint Councillors Southcombe, Biscoe, and La Borde as members of Truro Nature Recovery Forum, subject to the consent of Councillor La Borde. **PK/24/454**

7. HENDRA BASKETBALL COURT IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSAL

The Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer summarised the proposed plan and emphasised clause 2.6 regarding the need to consider wider plans for the future use of the Hendra site.

It was raised that the location of the new court should be carefully considered as the site may pose difficulties with gaining planning permission being at sea level, increasing flood risk. It was also suggested that the strength of the constitution of Truro Titans CIC be assessed and put forward that Tregothnan would need to be consulted as the land is under covenant.

It was queried whether Truro City Council could fund the difference after fundraising is completed. It was further raised that new CIL monies would be received and could be used to fund the development.

The Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer confirmed that, as only a half court was being planned, there would be adequate space and options to develop the 'kickabout' area to accommodate basketball if the court were to be outgrown.

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Biscoe, and

RESOLVED that the Parks and Amenities Committee (i) support the Titans Basketball Club CIC in its grant funding endeavours and (ii) agrees to consider their request for direct financial support in the 2025/26 budget setting process, subject to investigation into the structure of the CIC and consultation with Tregothnan. **PK/24/455**

8. NEWHAM ROAD LAND ACQUISITION REPORT

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Southcombe, and

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that Truro City Council accepts the opportunity to take ownership of this land from Cornwall Council as part of the devolution agenda, subject to a request for section 106 funds, or other funding, to cover the on-going maintenance charges for a period of 25 years being successful.

PK/24/456

9. BIOCHAR FURTHER INFORMATION REPORT

It was proposed by Councillor Swain, seconded by Councillor Southcombe, and

RESOLVED that the Parks department engages in a trial use of biochar on permanent planting projects.

PK/24/457

10. STANDING ITEMS

(i) Boscawen Park – Dredging of the Swanpool – Update

The Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer explained he had met with two contractors who could undertake the work in October-November 2024. As part of the contract, the contractors would have to carry out an ecology survey, to be included in the tender process. By use of this, the contractors would reduce negative environmental impacts to a minimum. It was confirmed that the resident heron was nesting in a tree that would be unaffected by the works. The upcoming Duck Pond policy would include plans for regular maintenance and an annual budget would be included in the Parks and Amenities budget to clear the silt trap regularly so that the need for future large-scale works would be reduced.

PK/24/458

This report was noted.

(ii) Towns Fund Deal Board Boscawen Park Sports Hub Project Update

The Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer reported that contractors are expected to arrive on site in early 2025. In order to speed up delivery, a contract to clear the old site was under development to include processes such as relocating the chemical store. As the 3G pitch was not going ahead, plans for installing new land drainage and an improved playing surface were being developed.

PK/24/459

This report was noted.

(iii) Swing Bridge Project Update

There were no updates to consider.

PK/24/460

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

(i) Idless Nursery

PK/24/461

The Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer reported that a filtration system and a second rainwater storage tank had been installed which had eliminated the problem of over extraction from the borehole. It was suggested that a press release could be distributed to promote the self-sufficiency of the Parks department in this regard.

The report was noted.

(ii) Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer's Report

It was highlighted that both the Chairman and the Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer would be absent from the next Parks and Amenities Committee meeting should it be held on the planned date of Monday 7th October 2024. It was agreed the meeting be moved to Thursday 10th October 2024 so that both could attend.

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Southcombe, and

RESOLVED that the meeting date would be moved to Thursday 10th October 2024.

PK/24/462

The income over expenditure figure of £19,295 was then highlighted as a huge success for the Café in the Park.

It was proposed by Councillor Roden, seconded by Councillor Biscoe, and

RESOLVED to place on record the Committee's thanks to the Café in the Park team for the success of Café in the Park.

PK/24/463

A discussion ensued regarding investment of profit made by the café above the budgeted surplus. It was confirmed that any surplus above that required for resurfacing the tennis courts would be invested in upgrading the appliances in the café before expanding its services.

A complaint was raised on behalf of a member of the public regarding the rockets used at last year's Tremorvah Bonfire Night event. It was suggested that a display without rockets be used in the upcoming event. It was further raised that the purchase of 'quiet' fireworks for future events should be investigated so as to minimise disturbance to war veterans as well as wildlife and pets.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by the Mayor, and

RESOLVED that these options were to be investigated for next year's display, and presented no later than July.

PK/24/464

[Pursuant to Standing Order 3u, Councillor Southcombe requested that it be recorded that she abstained from voting on this motion.]

The report was noted.

(iii) Zero Carbon Officer's report

PK/24/465

It was queried whether Councillors would be able to use the GIS software for their own inquiries about Truro City Council land use and operations. The Zero Carbon Officer responded that they are welcome

to undergo training in order to use the software, but this would be time-consuming. They would be welcome instead to request maps should they need one for Council business.

The update on interactions with the Fal and Helford Special Area of Conservation team at Cornwall Council was also queried, regarding any input that may have been received regarding the managed realignment of the shoreline at Boscawen Park. The Zero Carbon Officer confirmed that the team were aware of this plan but no further conversation on the subject involving her was had. She agreed to follow up with the Town Clerk to see whether the matter had been discussed any further.

The report was noted.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

PK/24/466

Regarding item (i), The Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer expressed his thanks to Biffa Waste Management for their provision of services to clear Tremorvah Playing Field.

Regarding item (iii), the Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer reported that the sale had raised £980 for the restoration of the Trafalgar Roundabout Hedgehogs.

Regarding items (v) to (viii) concerning the car park at Boscawen, Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer restated that Cornwall Council were the only permissible enforcement body and the parking order was still in the process of being applied for. A discussion ensued regarding whether an action meeting ought to be held with Cornwall Council on the subject of the closure of Moorfield car park, as well as the cost of parking in Truro, putting strain on the parking situation at Boscawen.

The remaining items were acknowledged.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

PK/24/467

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 10th October 2024 starting at 7.00pm.

14. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

PK/24/468

The following were noted as items for a future meeting:

- (i) Service Department Report
- (ii) Three Year Costed Capital Maintenance and Five-Year Plan
- (iii) Duck Pond Policy

The meeting closed at 8:28pm.

CHAIRMAN