

**EARL SHILTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES of the LEISURE, PARKS, CEMETERY & OPEN SPACES (LPCOS) COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

Held at 7:30 p.m. on  
**Tuesday 01 November 2016**  
At *The Stute*, Station Rd., Earl Shilton, LE9 7GA.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors: J Brown (Chairman) C Coe, A Greenwood, D Almey and P Statham.

In attendance: Town Clerk – Mr ME Jackson  
Office Clerk - Ms KE Miller.  
Members of public - **None**.

**16/009** *Chairman's welcome, report and remarks.*

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and proceeded to the agenda.

**16/010** *To receive apologies for member absence.*

Cllr M Tebbett – holiday.

**Apology noted and received.**

**16/011** *Declarations of interests. To receive disclosures of member's interests, i.e. the existence and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this agenda.*

Cllr P Statham regarding the hedge alongside Wood St Park and Mountfield Rd.

**Resolved: to note the declaration and allow Cllr Statham to remain in the meeting for agenda item 16/014 to enable fellow Cttee members to ask him questions only, i.e. he may not vote on any pertinent motion.**

**16/012** *To receive and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of LPCOS meeting held on 04 October 2016.*

**Resolved: to accept the minutes as presented as a true record of the meeting of the 04 October 2016.**

The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

**16/013** *To consider correspondence received.*

a) Resident request for a shelter at Mill Lane Cemetery.

Chairman's Initials/Signature  1

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**Resolved: the Town Clerk to write to resident concerned with the undertaking to obtain costings of suitable shelters, (for future consideration by the Cttee), on the understanding that no firm decision has or will be made to install such a shelter.**

16/014 To consider items of business from members of the Cttee through the committee Chairman including Wood Street Park/Mountfield Road hedge.

a. Wood St Park hedgerow adjacent to Mountfield Rd was discussed by members in the context of who 'owned' the hedgerow and therefore was legally responsible for its ongoing maintenance. Members formed the clear opinion that because the hedgerow is fully behind the remains of the dividing ditch line that full ownership rests with the Town Council. N.B. the centre/bottom of a ditch line traditionally denotes the borderline between properties in such cases. The only further issue to be explored by the Cttee and Town Clerk is the possible historical gaps in the hedgerow that may or may not be re-instated.

**Resolved: to acknowledge the hedgerow as Council property and maintain it appropriately ad infinitum.**

b. Mole infestation at Mill Lane Cemetery. The Town Clerk briefed the Cttee on the continuation of the extermination programme that is being carried out by Target Pest Control under contract. The infestation is particularly severe and the contractor is applying the most appropriate stringent measures however moles do actively thrive in warm damp conditions such as have occurred this year.

**Report noted and received.**

16/015 To consider items of business from the Chairman of the Cttee including:

a) Receive verbal quote for levelling a mound and removal of shrubs at Mill Lane Cemetery.

**A written quote extending an existing approved grounds contract was accepted and authorised for payment.**

b) Works to slab areas at Wood Street Park surrounding 3 x Dog bins.

The Cttee were informed that these minor works have already been satisfactorily completed by the Groundstaff from mostly existing resources and at negligible extra cost to the Council. The Town Clerk was asked to investigate similar slabbing schemes for certain entrances to Wood St Park.

**Noted and received.**

c) Meadow at Oakdale Park re wild flowers work to be done.

The Chairman briefed members that the cut had been made and that the drying out and clearing should have taken place but that he would check with the Groundstaff soonest.

***Noted and received.***

d) Wood Street Park Anti-social behaviour (ASB) issues.

The Town Clerk briefed Cttee members on the recent upward trend and spike in ASB on Wood St Park. Two aspects were giving the greatest concern, firstly hard evidence of increasing drug use by young people even in the 10-14 age range. Secondly, a singular violent attack on an accredited locally engaged Youth Worker. Officers of the NPA have been informed and the Town Clerk was directed to contact the ASB Officer at the Borough Council with an included suggestion that the County (Youth) *Impact Team* may be engaged for a period to dampen the rise in ASB on Wood St Park. Additionally, members were informed that the Town and Office Clerks hoped to have the Wood St Park CCTV system operational by Monday 07 November 2016.

***Noted and received.***

e) Late items.

1) Groundstaff winter works programme. Members of the Cttee were, through the Chair, invited to contribute suggestions to the winter works programme as outlined in draft in members' working papers for the meeting.

2) Resident request to re-pollard the Northern boundary Lime trees in QEII Hallfield Park. The Town Clerk was directed to investigate when the trees were last pollarded and report back to the Cttee plus inform the resident that the matter is under active consideration.

**The meeting closed at 8:16 p.m. in good order with the Chairman thanking members and officers for their contributions to proceedings.**