

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL

SUB-COMMITTEE SALTHOUSE FIELDS TENNIS COURTS

REPORT TO THE TOWN EVENTS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2014 AT 10.00 AM IN THE COUNCIL HOUSE, 44 OLD STREET.

PRESENT: Cllr G Watkins - Sub-Committee Chairman; Cllrs J Geldart, L Little, A Shopland, Mrs I Johnson - Deputy Town Clerk

STC/14/74 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

STC/14/75 MINUTES

The minutes of the Sub-Committee meeting held on 6th June 2014 were approved and signed by the Sub-Committee Chairman.

STC/14/76 TO REPORT ON USAGE OVER THE SUMMER AND AUTUMN PERIOD

The Sub-Committee Chairman had visited the tennis courts regularly during this period and reported that the courts were well used, particularly since the improvements to the nets.

STC/14/77 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

77.1 INSTALLATION OF LITTER BIN The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the concrete plinth was being erected that morning and the bin should be in place by the end of the week. NOTED.

77.2 NSC TO COMPLETE WORKS TO NETS AND POSTS It had been agreed with NSC to delay the concreting-in of the posts as the recent good weather had allowed people to continue to play tennis and the courts would need to be locked when the concreting work is carried out. NSC would carry this work out as part of the original conditions of the handover of this facility.

The Sub-Committee Chairman emphasised that if all the posts were concreted into position it would not be possible to move them at a future date. The Committee had previously discussed flexible use of the courts should there be a decline in the numbers of people playing tennis on the courts. NSC had therefore been asked to provide a quotation for six new posts, installation of housing to insert the posts and a key release mechanism for each post. Total cost £863 – no formal quotation received. Cllr Little suggested that the release mechanism be fitted to the single court only with the posts in the other courts being concreted into place.

RESOLVED: Committee Chairman to investigate further with NSC and report back to the Sub-Committee. To purchase a padlock to enable the courts to be locked.

STC14/78 TO CONSIDER FUTURE CHARGING POLICIES FOR THE TENNIS COURTS

Previously two charging mechanisms had been considered;

- Coin operated entry system – these would require regular emptying and the practicality of this and the security of the coins on site did not make this a viable proposition.
- Electronic key fobs – there would be substantial set up charges and administrative costs in issuing the key fobs. This system would also exclude

visitors to the town playing tennis. The system is normally installed for a larger number of tennis courts.

Members felt that if either of the above systems were to be introduced then tennis players would expect the courts to be in top condition which is not possible at the present time.

RESOLVED: AGREED Unanimously TO RECOMMEND TO THE TEA Committee that the courts remain open with free entry up to the end of October 2015 when this would be reviewed. The tennis courts to be locked only when required for safety reasons.

STC14/79 TO CONSIDER A BUDGET FOR THE TENNIS COURTS FOR 2015/16

The Sub-committee considered the following items;

Surface: Members discussed the surface of the tennis courts and although the Committee aspire to an all-weather pitch, realistically this is not possible within current budgets.

RESOLVED: To seek s106 funding from appropriate Clevedon developments.

Maintenance: **RESOLVED:** 1. To purchase two outdoor brooms. 2. To pay for a professional clean of the courts not power wash in March 2015. To be funded from the remainder of the 2014/15 maintenance budget for the courts.

Shed: **RESOLVED:** To ask NSC to remove the shed which is in a poor condition.

Budget 2015/16: **RESOLVED:** TO RECOMMEND TO THE TEA COMMITTEE inclusion of the sum of £1,000 for tennis courts maintenance in 2015/16 (this is the same amount as 2014/15).

ACTION: Deputy Town Clerk

STC14/80 TO CONSIDER FUTURE PUBLICITY ARRANGEMENTS

RESOLVED: 1. To leave the advertising banners in situ during the winter months.
2. Cllr Geldart to contact the Clevedon Schools to ask that they remind their pupils that the courts will remain open during the winter months. 3. To publicise free use of the tennis courts in the Spring 2015 using any funds remaining in the 2014/15 budget.

ACTION: Cllrs Watkins and Geldart

STC14/81 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no items.

STC14/82 TO ARRANGE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

No date was arranged. The next meeting may not be until early 2015.

The meeting finished at 10.56 am

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN:.....

DATE:

