

ALICE PARK TRUST SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held

Thursday, 8th December, 2022, 2.30 pm

Councillor Rob Appleyard Chair - Bath and North East Somerset Council

Councillor Sally Davis - Bath and North East Somerset Council

Councillor Mark Roper - Bath and North East Somerset Council

35 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

36 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

37 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTION

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Joanna Wright.

38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

39 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

Alice Park Tennis Courts

The Chair reported that:

1. The Council's Property Services officers were putting in place an agreement for West of England Sports Centre (Wesport) to run several tennis courts within the area, namely Alice Park, Sydney Gardens and Keynsham Memorial Park.
2. Wesport would promote the tennis facilities, ensuring they were well maintained and would also provide a sinking fund for the replacement of the courts in the years ahead.
3. There was a requirement in the Tennis Courts lease to the Council that any occupations granted to a third party should be by way of a lease.
4. Council officers were requesting the authority of the Sub-Committee to give Bath and North East Somerset Council authorisation to grant Wesport the right to manage the tennis courts up until 31st March 2026 by way of a Concession Agreement.

It was noted that Wesport were currently running the tennis courts. Marie LaTrobe-Bateman provided positive feedback on the quality of the tennis court provision.

RESOLVED – that Bath and North East Somerset Council be given authorisation to grant Wesport the right to manage Alice Park tennis courts up until 31st March 2026 by way of a Concession Agreement.

40 **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS**

There were no items from the public.

41 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 20 OCTOBER 2022**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2022 be confirmed and signed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

42 **CHAIR'S UPDATE**

Larkhall Festival

The Chair reported that there had been a more concerted move to make Alice Park a formal part of Larkhall Festival and the café proprietor, Tony Hicks was now a member of the Festival Committee. He undertook to observe the arrangements to ensure that any commercial activity at Alice Park would result in a contribution towards the upkeep of the park.

Community Garden

The Sub-Committee was informed that following the decision at the previous meeting, the Council's Property Services and Legal officers were working towards finalising an agreement with the Community Garden. The Chair advised that officers were currently investigating whether there could be a direct agreement with the Community Garden or if it had to be via Larkhall Transition.

Noticeboard

The Chair reported that the noticeboard had now been installed by volunteers at no cost to the Trust.

43 **ALICE PARK TRUST SUB-COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2021-MARCH 2022**

The Senior Finance Manager introduced the report and advised the Sub-Committee that the accounts and annual report would need to be submitted to the Charity Commission by the end of January 2023. The Chair undertook to draft some wording about the achievements of the Trust during 2021-2022 to circulate to members for agreement prior to the report being submitted.

The Sub-Committee **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree and sign the financial statements of Alice Park Trust for year ending 31 March 2022 and their submission to the Charity Commission.
2. Agree and sign the annual report for Alice Park Trust year ending 31 March 2022 and submission to the Charity Commission.

44 **UPDATE FROM THE APPA (PLAY AREA) PROJECT STRANDS**

(1) Procurement

Cllr Sally Davis updated that she and Cllr Joanna Wright had been in contact with the Council’s procurement officers and were working through a list of Council providers. She reported that once the costs of the project were known, the Sub-Committee would be in a position to seek appropriate funding to move the project forward, although it may be necessary to install the play area in phases if all the money could not be secured in one go.

It was noted that the plan for the play area had been drawn up following consultation with park users and the Sub-Committee was looking at 60% adventure play and 40% traditional play with a range to suit different age groups. It was further noted that the options of water and sand play would not be pursued due to the maintenance difficulties.

The Parks Manager confirmed that he had been in contact with the Council’s Procurement and Commissioning Manager who would be emailing recommendations for procurement routes. He confirmed that the procurement framework would limit the number of companies that could be approached and that he had met with a play provider who had suggested the figure of £3-400k for the preferred scheme including the cost of groundworks, supplying, installing and servicing of equipment. In response to questioning, the Parks Manager confirmed that the Council could not take on the groundworks, this work would need to be commissioned and it was better if the company installing the equipment could do this as the works were dependent on the design.

(2) Finance

The Chair reported that he had spoken to a local resident with fundraising experience about supporting the project. He had hoped that this would be a cost neutral exercise but had been advised that this was not best practice and therefore he was looking at alternative options such as paying for a few days of initial work to kickstart the fundraising activity. It was agreed that community engagement was an important part of the process.

The meeting ended at 2.54 pm

Chair

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services