

QUESTIONS – JANET MARTON

Questions for Alice Park Trust Sub-Committee, Wednesday, Monday 29 March 2021

I submitted a series of questions to the sub-committee's last meeting on 3 February 2021. Some of the responses lacked detail and were incomplete.

Skate Park

1. Age of skate park users in Alice Park.

- a) When the scope of this project was decided, it was intended for young people 14 years old and under. It was referred to by one councillor / sub-committee member in the February edition of the "Local Look" magazine as a new play opportunity.

What precise reasons do the committee have for not limiting the age of users in accordance with the original scope to ensure that this is a safe play opportunity for young people

- b) I have been unable to find in any minutes any decision by a quorate committee regarding allowing access to the skate park to those over 14 years of age.

If the sub-committee decided not to accept the original scope, where and when was this decision taken and recorded in the minutes?

- c) There is a risk of young children being prevented from using the skate park by adults and older teenagers if there is no control over access. As an absolute minimum, to help protect and safeguard young children, a sign board should be erected to say priority **must** be given to younger children.

Will the subcommittee implement this very basic safeguarding measure?

Response

There was a desire for some to restrict the use of the facility to 14 years and under, this is not practical to enforce, and the facility will be used by older children and based on ability. We will encourage inclusion and awareness to younger users

Follow up Question for 29 March

- If it is not practical to enforce under 14 use, what precise steps will you take to encourage inclusion and awareness and who will do this?
- How will this be monitored?

Response

The trust has no intention of restricting to any age the use of the new skatepark, although we recognise the facility is built with the younger user in mind we recognise that older users with lesser ability may feel comfortable using this facility as opposed to somewhere such as Royal Victoria Park. We will take up any opportunity to work with available user groups so as to ensure inclusion for all users.

2. Risk Assessment for skate park

Response

The sub-committee would not have conducted a separate risk assessment, and this would be undertaken by the Council whose project this is.

Follow up questions for 29 March

The Trustees have a duty to consider the risks **to the trust** from any projects it undertakes, whether carried out by the trust or third parties. These include inter alia financial risk to the trust, environmental risk, impact on the ability of the trust to carry out the objects of the charity, risks of third parties not having funds to pay for damage incurred during the projects etc.

- Did the trust carry out such an assessment for each of the projects currently underway ie the skatepark and the tennis courts?
- Were these risks minuted or documented formally?
- May we have a copy of this document, in accordance with your commitment to openness and transparency?

Response

The council covers the risk for the facility and any claim, for whatever reason, on the council will be covered by its processes and it does have liability insurance. We now feel are not able to provide additional comment on this matter.