



MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Parks Committee of Kingsmead Parish Council
held on Monday 13th February 2023

Present: Cllr Jewitt, Cllr Reed, Cllr Van Gordon, Cllr Weltman (Chair)

Also Present: Mrs W Maddock (Clerk to Council)

The meeting started at 7.30pm.

192	Apologies Cllr Bannister (medical)
193	Declarations of Interest Cllr Van Gordon declared a non-pecuniary interest for agenda items relating to play equipment.
194	Public Forum There were no members of public present.
195	Minutes The minutes of a Parks Committee meeting held on Monday 21st November 2022 were circulated prior to the meeting and assumed to be read. It was requested that an amendment should be made to agenda item 110.2, to formally record that the committee agreed that play areas would not be edged off prior to the bark topping up. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a correct record once this amendment has been made.
196	Budget To confirm the budget and expenditure on park equipment for the last three to five years (requested at the last committee meeting). It was noted that a total of £82k had been invested in the play parks over the last 5-years, with a significant investment being made in new play equipment in 2019/20 and 2021/22. A budget of £39k has been set for the next financial year.
197	Kensington Way Park 197.1. To receive an update regarding advice and quotes to improve the drainage problem at Kensington Way park. To approve next actions. Three quotes had been received regarding the drainage problem, but the committee agreed to carry out further investigations before a decision was made about the best course of action. Caddis would be asked to investigate the pipe under Kensington Way to see if this could facilitate a better drainage system. 197.2. To receive an update regarding a project to refurbish the slide equipment. There was a discussion about the lifespan of the slide, and it was agreed to review this when the latest play inspection reports were received. It was agreed that the cost of removing the concrete would be investigated instead of looking to replace the whole installation.
198	Kingslawn Close 198.1. To consider and approve alternative proposals for the installation of new equipment at Kingslawn Close. To approve next actions.

	<p>The committee considered quotes from three play companies, and it was resolved to approve a quote from Play & Leisure to install a Velocity Basket Swing at a cost of £16.5k. This would include the installation of equipment and a refurbishment of the play area (removal of the small barked area and improvements to the large play area).</p> <p>198.2. To consider and approve a plan for the refurbishment of the bark area.</p> <p>Three quotes had been received for the stand-alone refurbishment of the bark area at Kingslawn Close. However, it was resolved that this work would not be carried out, but that the refurbishment would be done as a complete project with the installation of new equipment.</p>		
199	<p>Monarch Drive Play Area</p> <p>To consider and approve actions to be taken regarding an ash tree and its roots at Monarch Drive play area.</p> <p>It has been confirmed by Caddis that the tree in question is an ash tree, and it was resolved to approve it being felled as part of the Parish Council's ash dieback project. It was further approved that the roots should be removed from the play area by Countrywide at a cost of £95 plus VAT.</p>		
200	<p>Actions from Previous Meetings</p> <p>To confirm completed and outstanding actions from previous meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations regarding the gym trail reports. It was noted in the report from Pentagon Play that no remedial actions were required. Topping up of play area bark. It was confirmed that Northwich Town Council would top up the bark in all the play areas (except Kingslawn Close) at a cost of £7500. Kingslawn Close would be refurbished as part of the new equipment installation project. Minor remedial works identified in play inspection reports. The minor remedial works are to be undertaken by Northwich Town Council. Play area signs. The play area signs are to be put up by Cllr Jewitt. It was confirmed that an additional sign has been ordered for Capesthorpe Close and that 2x additional signs are to be installed at Kensington Way. 		
201	<p>Strategy</p> <p>To consider and approve a 3 to 5-year plan for the management and refurbishment of the Kingsmead play parks.</p> <p>It was agreed that a holistic approach should be considered as part of the council's strategy, taking into account its ambitions to improve the park areas and to ensure sustainability. The committee agreed that a walk-round would be helpful to consider all relevant issues.</p>		
202	<p>AOB - Items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boulders – how/where to use the remaining boulders (x15) from Fisherman's Wharf (FC). Merging the Parks and Environment Committee (FC). 		
203	Next Meetings	Kingsmead Parish Council	Monday 20 th February at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School
		Kingsmead Parish Council	Monday 20 th March at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.