

**SKATE PARK WORKING PARTY MEETING OF THE  
WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL**

**Held on Wednesday, 22 January 2020**

**At 4.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall**

**Present:**

Councillor V Gwatkin (Chair)

Councillors:	T Ashby D Butterfield A D Harvey	A McMahon R Smith
Officers:	Nicky Cayley John Hickman	Democratic Services Officer Operations & Estates Officer
Others:	0 members of the public.	

**SP1 ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Cllr Gwatkin was elected as Chair for the meeting and it was agreed to defer the election of a permanent Chair to the one following.

**SP2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for their absence were received from Cllrs Aitman, Harvey and McMahon.

Cllr Butterfield was a substitute for Cllr Aitman but members wanted him to be co-opted as a permanent member of the Committee. Officer advised that this would need to go through Full Council.

**SP3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting.

**SP4 MINUTES**

The Working Party received and considered the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 October 2017.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2017 be agreed and signed by the Chair.

**SP5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members present for this item.

SP6 **REMIT AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Members considered the remit and terms of reference for the Skate Park Working Party from the previous Council. They were keen to focus on the wheeled sports area at the Destination Play Area at West Witney but the Operations and Estates Officer cautioned that they may be bound to certain constraints depending on the terms of the S106 money. It was decided that the Committee should see the S106 agreement before going too much further with a remit and terms of reference.

The members discussed the name of the working party and the fact that it was focused on the West Witney area and The Leys. There was a strong feeling that this should be widened to include all of the Town's play areas and also that the name of the Working Party should be amended to "Play Areas and Wheeled Sports Working Party". Officers advised that both of these items would need to be approved by Full Council.

**RECOMMENDED:**

1. to request the terms of the S106 agreement for the West Witney destination play area and a scaled map of the area from the Business Manager at WODC;
2. to bring back the remit and the terms of reference to the next meeting;
3. to change the remit of the Working Party to encompass all play areas and rename it as "Play Areas and Wheeled Sports Working Party".

SP7 **SKATE PARK UPDATE AND REQUEST FROM WITNEY SKATE PARK ADVOCATES**

Unfortunately, although invited, the representative from Witney Skate Park Advocates was not present.

Members felt that a consultation was key to getting things right and felt that perhaps an open drop-in session at the Coffee Shed would be beneficial.

Members agreed to work together on questions for an online consultation that could be circulated to schools, colleges, the scouts etc. The views could then be gathered together and be reviewed at the next meeting.

**RECOMMENDED:**

1. that members work together to formulate a survey which could be put onto Survey monkey, online with a link which could be sent to schools, the scouts etc, and put up onto a sign at The Leys;
2. to reply to Bertie Zimmerman and explain that the Council would do its own survey, and that it would invite him to come in at a later date;
3. that members could hold an open consultation at the Coffee Shed to gather views.

SP8 **FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members felt that every 6 weeks would be a good frequency for meetings.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the Working Party meets again in about 6 weeks time.

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The meeting closed at: 5.04 pm

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Chair