



DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Civic Amenities Committee
held at The Manor House, Dawlish on
Wednesday 15 June 2016 at 7.00 pm

Present

Councillors Terry Lowther, Lisa Mayne, Linda Petherick, Rosalind Prowse.

Officer in attendance

Ann Tipper (Town Clerk)

Items for urgent attention

There were two items for urgent attention the first the reduction in Dawlish Warren bus services and the second the siting of a bench. The meeting Chairman agreed to take these as items 15 and 16 on the agenda.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Public Participation

There were three members of the public present and a representative of the press.

All three members of the public wished to speak on agenda item 4 – ‘Proposed Play Park’

The Town Centre Development Manager said her report had already been circulated and explained the background. She had asked Teignbridge District Council what had started the regeneration in Teignmouth and the answer had been the play park there. She had also looked at the previous consultation about The Lawn and this showed that people wanted to see a play park there. Further consultation was planned.

The second speaker said he was a Dawlish trader and his customers were in favour of a play park on The Lawn. The proposed site between the bandstand and the bowling green was not used and an activity in the town centre was needed to stop the loss of trade to Teignmouth as people travelled to use their play park and spent their money in the shops and cafes there. He pointed out that there were thousands of new family houses being built in Dawlish and the children would need somewhere to play so now was the time to build a play park, which would benefit the town for years to come.

The third speaker agreed with the first two speakers and said the Chamber of Trade had voted unanimously in favour of a play park on The Lawn and were very enthusiastic about it.

The Vice Chairman agreed to chair the meeting in the absence of the Chairman and declared the meeting open at 7.00 pm.

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alison Foden, John Petherick and Martin Wrigley (all with personal commitments), Councillors Angela Fenne and Greg Fenne (both with work commitments) and Councillor Carol Payne (on health grounds).

RESOLVED unanimously to accept these apologies.

2 Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2016 were considered for approval and signature by the Chairman as a correct record of this meeting.

RESOLVED unanimously that the minutes of the Civic Amenities Committee meeting held on 27 April 2016 are approved and adopted and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the meeting.

4 Proposed Play Park

The following report from the Town Centre Development Manager was considered.

“Report on the proposed play park in Dawlish

Background

Many members of the public and traders have asked for a play park in Dawlish on a similar scale to Teignmouth. Currently Dawlish residents travel to Teignmouth to use their play park, which is used extensively all year round to the benefit of families, shops and cafes. If Dawlish had a play park in the town centre families could walk or cycle there and it would encourage them to stay to eat and shop, which would help the local economy.

I compiled a ‘wish list’ after talking to local parents during the past year and then had discussions with Teignbridge District Council. They showed me their plans for the regeneration of the Lawn including a play park designed by Russel Play. I approached this company making it clear that this was subject to approval, funding and tender. We agreed that the scheme needed to be the right size so as to complement the historic ambience of the town. Their design is flexible and the equipment can be changed and costs reduced, if necessary.

Location

The proposed site is on the back lawn behind the bandstand up to the Bowling Green with a path behind so access can be gained by the Bowling Club to their fence etc. The Bowling Club has no objections to this.

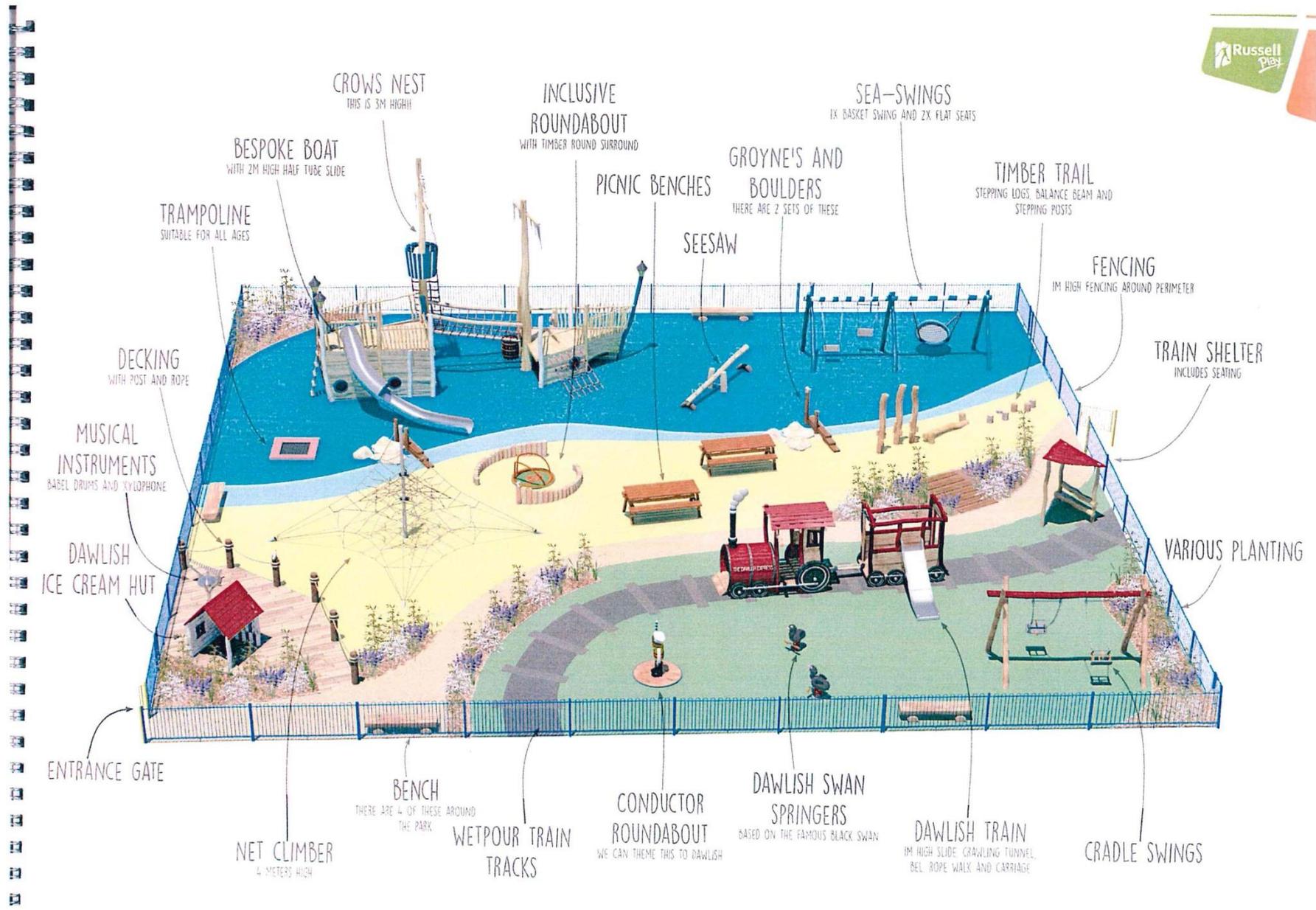
Funding

There is some funding available from Teignbridge District Council and they will assist with accessing other funding as it is their land and they will take on the responsibility of the maintenance etc.

Recommendation

That a play park is provided on The Lawn.

Tracy Scranage
Town Centre Development Manager”



Members agreed that something was needed for youngsters and acknowledged that Dawlish traders were losing out as families travelled to use the play park in Teignmouth and spent their money in the shops and cafes there. They wanted to ensure that the views of older residents were taken into consideration. It was agreed that up-to-date consultation by the Town Centre Development Manager was needed. The recommendation in her report for a play park to be provided on The Lawn should be approved and recommended to the town council.

Councillors Rosalind Prowse requested a recorded vote.

RESOLVED To recommend to the town council that a play park be provided on The Lawn.

Councillors Linda Petherick and Lisa Mayne voted in favour.

Councillors Terry Lowther and Rosalind Prowse voted against.

Councillor Linda Petherick used her casting vote in favour.

5 Finger Posts

It was agreed that a finger post giving directions to the play park in The Manor Gardens would not be needed if there was a new play park in the town centre so this item was deferred until after a decision had been made on a play park on The Lawn.

RESOLVED unanimously to defer a decision on whether a finger post giving directions to the play park in The Manor Gardens should be erected in the town centre until a decision had been made on a play park on The Lawn.

6 The Brook Dawlish

A Brunel Trail Board

It was noted that the Brunel Trail Board would be fitted to the wall of the Tourist Information building the following week.

B Outstanding Work

It was noted that Teignbridge District Council were intending to repair the weir above the boating lake and the failed wall in the Autumn and the middle gate on the first weir would be replaced with a light-weight gate at Tucks Plot at the same time. Members pointed out that this work had been outstanding for a year and now it had to be postponed until the Autumn and asked the Town Clerk to pass on their disappointment to the district council.

C Decoration of Aviary

Consideration was given to a request from the Outside Services Operative that the rear wall of the aviary should be decorated with images of waterfowl.

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the Town Centre Development Manager to speak. She suggested that the boards painted during the 'Paint Jam' event could be used.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

It was agreed that the Town Centre Development Manager should liaise with the Town Clerk to arrange for the decoration of the rear wall of the aviary.

D Basket Ball Hoop

It was noted that the hoop on the pole on The Lawn had not been replaced.

RESOLVED unanimously to replace the basket ball hoop on The Lawn.

7 Brown's Brook Allotments

The Chairman reported that the Allotment Working Group had not met and she would ask Councillors Alison Foden, Lisa Mayne, Carol Payne and Martin Wrigley to organize a meeting and report back to the next Civic Amenities Committee. It was noted that despite repeated requests from the office, there had still been no response from the Luscombe Estate Land Agent to the meeting held with Councillor Alison Foden, Martin Wrigley and the Finance Officer & Deputy Town Clerk on 11 March 2016 and the Chairman would ask Councillors Foden and Wrigley to chase this. The Chairman had received a message from Brown's Brook Allotment Association raising issues and requesting a meeting with the Allotment Working Group to deal with them. The Town Clerk was asked to forward the message to members of the Working Group.

8 Cardio Pulmonary exercise benches

The Chairman reported that Councillor Alison Foden had arranged to meet an officer of Teignbridge District Council on 20 June 2016 and following this the Working Party would meet and then report to the next Civic Amenities Committee.

9 Manor House Gardens Rockery

It was noted that the author of a book about FW Meyer, who designed the rockeries in The Manor Gardens, had agreed to meet an officer of Teignbridge District Council to discuss work to the rockeries. She had acknowledged that they could not be returned to their original design because the site is now a public park with limited maintenance, not the private garden it was with a team of gardeners to tend it, so she was suggesting a low cost, low maintenance, planting scheme.

10 Flag Pole

It was agreed to meet the £1,579 cost of supplying and installing a new flag pole and the £280 cost of removing the old flag pole if Teignbridge District Council refused to pay for its removal. Members agreed that the Blue Beach Flag should be flown.

Standing Orders were suspended.

The Town Centre Development Manager was asked why the Union Flag had not been flown for the Queen's Birthday celebration. She reported that the town councillor who had the flag had not arrived in time for it to be hoisted.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

Members expressed their disappointment that the flag had not been flown.

11 Play Areas – Safety Inspection Report

It was reported that The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents had now inspected the skate park. Their report was noted and that it had been passed to the Outside Services Operative to carry out the required works.

12 Swan Lighting

The following report from the Projects Officer was noted and the Projects Officer was asked to ensure the lights were installed as soon as possible.

“Once DCC looked into the connection points that we first identified it became apparent that there would be more work needed than initially thought. The Swan lights arrived and are currently being stored by City Illuminations. DCC advised me that as there were ongoing discussions about the cycle path and depending what was confirmed the alterations to the connection points maybe done as part of these works. After frequent chasing I was advised this would not be happening. I finally managed to have a site meeting with the Street Lighting Officer, DCC and SSE Contracting 2 weeks ago. We went through all the requirements and are now waiting for SSE to bring forward a quote to DCC. However this week additional information has been required by SSE from City Illuminations, I am currently waiting for the reply. SSE have advised that once the specification and quote is agreed with DCC it would take approx 4 weeks to complete the works.”

13 War Memorial

It was noted that Historic England had received an application to add Dawlish War Memorial to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. It was agreed to wait for their report before commenting.

14 Weather Vane

Consideration was given to a request to install a train-themed weather vane in the town centre. It was agreed that further consideration would be given when the person who had made the suggestion had confirmed potential sites and if his employers (the Exeter Meteorology Office) would sponsor a weather vane.

15 Dawlish Warren Bus Services

It was noted that the bus company had decided to reduce the Dawlish Warren service. The previous Number 11 had provided a half-hourly service between Dawlish Warren and Dawlish with alternate hourly buses extending to Teignmouth and Torquay. From 29 May this had been replaced by Number 22 running hourly between Dawlish Warren, Dawlish, Teignmouth, St Marychurch, Torquay and Paignton and the new service finished earlier in the evening although there were rail services to and from Dawlish Warren at these times. It was agreed that this should be referred to the next meeting of the town council.

16 Location of Bench

It was noted that Teignbridge District Council was asking if the town council agreed that the bench that was now available should be installed on the Brunswick side of the boating lake.

RESOLVED unanimously that the bench should be installed on the Brunswick side of the boating lake.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Councillor Alison Foden
CHAIRMAN