

BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ROCK PARK TRUST Committee meeting held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 commencing at 7.00 pm in The Guildhall, Butchers Row, Barnstaple.

Present: Cllrs V Elkins, I Roome, R Knight, P Leaver and J Coates.

In attendance:

R Ward, Town Clerk
G Maynard, SAS Football Club
J Kemish Mills, Parkrun

Apologies: L York.

228 Election of the Committee Chairperson for the Municipal Year 2022-2023

Cllr L York was nominated by Cllr P Leaver 2nd by Cllr V Elkins, duly elected (NC)

229 Election of the Committee Vice-Chairperson for the Municipal Year 2022-2023

Cllr J Coates was nominated by Cllr P Leaver 2nd by Cllr R Knight, duly elected (NC)

230 Apologies for absence.

Apologies and reasons for absence were received and approved (NC)

231 To receive any dispensations and disclosable pecuniary or other interests.

Cllr I Roome as a member of North Devon Council, has a dispensation under SO66 to discuss and vote on any item on the agenda unless the item refers to a financial or legal agreement or a dispute between the two authorities.

Cllr I Roome as a member of Devon County Council, has a dispensation under SO66 to discuss and vote on any item on the agenda unless the item refers to a financial or legal agreement or a dispute between the two authorities.

232 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12th January 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman (NC).

233 Budget Variance Report

The committee received the Budget Variance Report to the end of May 2022 and the Year End Budget Variance Report to March 2022. It was noted that there had been a significant surplus £31,099 on the year end report which is partly due to works that had been requested but not delivered in that financial year, including path resurfacing and a new surface around the fitness equipment. Also, significantly greater park hire income.

Cllr Leaver asked if it had been possible to assess the difference between the cost of contract maintenance verses direct delivery. This work has not yet been undertaken.

Agreed to note the finance reports (NC)

234 Requests for use/hire of Rock Park

A request had been received from Next Steps Development to use the park for an event on 20th to 22nd August 2022, agreed to delegate to the Town Clerk to negotiate (NC)

235 Update on Projects, Works and Activities in the Park

The Town Clerk gave an update on:

- New safety surface around the fitness equipment, following a request from a resident.
- New planting in the formal beds around the War Memorial, the new plants are perennial in a move away from bedding plants and includes Roses, agapanthus and lavender.
- Repairs were needed following the recent illegal encampment in the Park.

236 Rock Park User Groups Update

Parkrun reported that their numbers have been down a bit recently, their 10th anniversary is on 7th January 2023 and they are planning to make an event of the occasion.

SAS Football reported that they have been very impressed with the standard of the pitch care. The recent management of the encampment went well and the clear up dealt with efficiently. They currently have around 400 children between the two football clubs.

A discussion was had about dog control measures and whether there was a need for more action to be taken. It was felt that there is a need for more publicity about encouraging owners to pick up after their dogs and to review the locations of dog waste bins.

Parkrun asked about the opening hours of the kiosk as it is rarely open when they are there, Town Clerk to get this information for the next meeting.

237 Requests for Memorial Benches and Trees

The following two new Memorial Bench requests were approved (NC)

Applicant	on behalf of
Roger Sowerby	Margaret Sowerby
Rachael Lemon	Daniel Wallis

Meeting closed 7.52 pm.

Chairman.

Signed:

Dated:

