

## MINUTES OF MEETING:

**Event:** Public meeting

**Location:** Upcher Community Shop

**Date & time:** Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 6.30pm

### Attendee

Rob Sayles (Chair) – RS  
Caz Sayles (Vice Chair) – CS  
Connor Sayles  
Miles  
Sam Hayter - SH  
Jasper Pegg - JP

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### Youth/U21

### Apologies

Dan Sewell (SNT)  
Brian Hannah (STC)  
Paul Starling  
Clive Hay-Smith

### Welcome and Introduction

RS/CS welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Background Summary

RS summarised briefly the recent developments of the project:

- Reskin & press activity
- Support from SNT, research into links between park closure and town ASB levels
- Need to establish stronger H&S remit, keeping tidy
- Longevity of current park into the winter

## Discussion points

The Committee clarified the position on the current structure, how quickly it will deteriorate again this autumn/winter, and the need for a complete rebuild from the 'ground-up' in 2010. RS reiterated the support from Clive Hay-Smith with insurance, materials, and the Big Fix Weekend – the group discussed the funds left in the account, and how long the park would last if patched up every 3 months. The conclusion was that the park might last until early spring 2010.

CS raised the recent application for Community Justice funding for £20,000, how it works, and when the Committee were due to hear back. CS/RS agreed to update the group in 2 weeks, after the Community Justice Board had finalised results & awards of funds.

The group discussed the options for a park redesign; it was agreed that a complete removal of the current park & replacement with a new concrete park would be the best way forward, for the following key reasons:

- Option to design sympathetically for the area
- Massively reduced maintenance costs moving forward
- Increased visibility on the sports map; highly likely to boost sales within the town stores
- Shows that all supporting agencies are serious about supporting generations of young people

RS confirmed that Russ Holbert (Director and lead designer/consultant for Maverick Industries, a UK-based concrete park manufacture company) would be attending the site as consultant on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm. This would be to discuss (with attending park users) the viability of different layouts, explain how concrete parks work & 'flow', and capture data to allow for further concepts to be developed & delivered back to the Committee. RS also promised to arranging similar sessions with Gravity Parks and Wheelscape (companies offering similar design/engineering/construction facilities for concrete parks). The group agreed to pass word around.

The group discussed the options for designing a park for skate user predominantly; RS/CS queried design for bladers/stunt bikers/BMXers; this to be covered in detail with Russ & other consultants. Issues including peg damage from BMXers was also raised by JP/SH regards concrete; consultants again to be questioned on this in due course.

SH suggested that the best way to engage skaters was to arrange a regular session that could grow over time; the group decided that a weekly meeting for 30 minutes would give anyone a chance to discuss things, and also ensure agencies (including NNDC) would be able to show willing & support. RS to follow up with SNT/NNDC/Upcher Community Partnership. JP suggested discussing the project with Sam at Drift (Norwich) and Ash at Smashskates.com (Beccles) with a view to arranging prizes, support, and sponsorship moving forward. SH would also arrange video and imagery to be uploaded to sheringhamskate.co.uk, to be used for marketing.

## The Way Forward

- Meet at park Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm to meet Russ from Maverick
- RS to follow up on land searches (drainage/sewerage) with Geodesys
- Committee to arrange & confirm weekly meetings
- Committee to update on Community Justice grant award

## Date/time & agenda of next meeting

*tbc (likely October 22<sup>nd</sup>) – will communicate via email/Facebook/website*

- Review consultancy and planning progress
- Committee to update on Community Justice grant award
- Seek new funding routes, professional support
- Enrol new Committee members and create maintenance team(s) – inc H&S & ROSPa