



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

B194

Cabinet 15 September 2010

Report of the Policy Development Committee: Park Byelaws

- 1.1 Park Byelaws currently exist for the Abbey Gardens (since 1947), Haverhill Recreation Ground (since 1959) and West Stow Country Park (since 1993), but it was acknowledged that the current Park Byelaws were antiquated. It had therefore been agreed that new byelaws should be drafted for these sites, and a number of other sites in the Borough, and the Committee had set up a Member/officer working group to review the existing Park Byelaws and assist in the production of new byelaws.
- 1.2 The working group agreed that the model byelaws created by the Department of Communities and Local Government should be used as the template for creating the Borough's own byelaws, and those which the group felt should be adopted were set out in Appendix 1 to Report B167.
- 1.3 These byelaws were not intended to be used to stop people having fun and enjoying the Borough's parks to the full, but were tools which would enable the Council to deal with those whose activities annoyed or upset other park users. The byelaws, once adopted, will allow both the Police and Council officers to take appropriate action, should antisocial behaviour issues arise, to ensure the parks remain beautiful and enjoyable places to visit.
- 1.4 Should the recommendations below be agreed, an extensive consultation exercise will be commenced prior to the process to adopt the new byelaws.

RECOMMENDED that:-

1. **the introduction of new byelaws for the Borough's parks and open spaces, as outlined in Appendix 1 to report B167, be supported, and that the existing byelaws for the Abbey Gardens, Haverhill Recreation Ground and West Stow Country Park be revoked; and**
2. **the necessary consultations be progressed prior to full Council being asked to approve the adoption of the new byelaws, and the affixing of the Council's seal thereto.**

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