6. NORTH HAGLEY PARK: ARMAGH STREET ENTRANCE IMPROVEMENTS

As a consequence of an on site inspection by Committee members and staff, the Committee acknowledged that for public safety, immediate improvements to access and egress were necessary, and that an overall redesign of the entrance could coincide with the programmed redevelopment of the Botanic Gardens facilities and entrances.

The Committee decided:

- 1. That the Mickle Gates not be resited as recommended in the report but instead, the right-hand (or events area side) of the curved return wrought iron fence section of the gates providing a narrow pedestrian entrance, be made detachable in the sections between the existing pillars.
- 2. That the detachable fence section be provided with flood lighting by way of the existing light standard by the bridge.
- 3. That the small landscape plot of approximately 2m² be sealed to allow pedestrian access/egress through the detachable fence section.
- 4. That the Transport and City Streets Unit be advised that the Armagh Street bridge requires maintenance to protect the heritage value of this asset, particularly the stonework and cast iron ornamental side rails which are deteriorating.
- 5. That an overall redesign of the Armagh Street entrance be undertaken as part of the redevelopment of the Botanic Gardens, its facilities and entrances.