

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 16th July 2014 at
8.00 p.m. in the Town Hall**

PRESENT:

Cllr Anstey - Chairman
Cllrs. Connolly, Paton & Fulford

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr Adams
Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Cllrs Lewendon, Price & Perkins

2. To receive any declarations of interest

None received

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st May 2014 & 18th June 2014 and report on any matters arising

It was proposed by Cllr Connolly and seconded by Cllr Anstey and **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st May 2014 be signed as a true record.

No Matters Arising

It was proposed by Cllr Connolly and seconded by Cllr Paton and **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th June 2014 be signed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

Minute No. 4, Concession Building – All Items actioned and Concession Lease for the refreshment kiosk went out to Tender on 3rd July with a return date of 18th July 2014.

Minute No. 5, Recreation Ground Play Area Enhancement – See Agenda Item 6

Minute No. 7, Replacement Goalposts – See Agenda Item 5

4. To receive any matters raised by members of the public

Cllr Adams raised concern over the specification for the toilets, in particular, the paint, wall surfaces and locks. Cllr Fulford responded by requesting that an email raising issues & concerns should be sent to the Architect, Michael Weakley – Town Clerk to write.

5. To report on matters relating to the Recreation Ground

Pitch Maintenance – Cllr Anstey reported that the quotation from WWCS Environmental Services Ltd for Sports Field Improvement Plans had been accepted and the Clerk confirmed that a meeting is scheduled for 25th July 2014 with the company to discuss the programme of works.

Paddling Pool – The Clerk confirmed that a new water supply had been installed today and that works were due for completion on 18th July 2014 – this would enable the pool to be re-opened for the start of the School Holidays. Sembcorp are due to

visit site on 30th July 2014 to monitor progress on providing the new supply to the pool.

Replacement Play Equipment – Revised design received from NFDC and circulated to Members. Following discussion, Members AGREED that all play equipment should be located to the north of the Gravel Driveway to the front of the new kiosk. Town Clerk to write New Forest DC for further revision. Members discussed removal of the existing fence between the former Rose Garden and Play Area and AGREED that an area for dogs should be provided to enable dog-owners to leave their dog and make use of the new facilities at the kiosk building.

Cllr Anstey reported that the recent ROSPA report had highlighted the need to replace the swing seats and also the scramble net on the climbing frame. It was AGREED that the Clerk would investigate if grants are available.

Events held at Recreation Ground – Cllr Anstey reported that this concerns events held at the Sports Club which also use part of the recreation ground and particularly erection of marquees (annual sports events etc). Members AGREED that no charge would be made for the use however a booking form must be completed and a charge may be made for excessive litter/rubbish clearance. Town Clerk to check booking form/conditions of hire to ensure that this is highlighted. Advise Sports Club of requirements.

Replacement Goalposts – Cllr Anstey reported that last year agreement had been made to purchase a new set of football goal posts and money had been allocated – this purchase was not actioned. Following discussion with both the Turks FC and the Finance Officer it has been agreed that the Council would purchase one pair of Park Standard Posts for £900.00. The Turks have negotiated with one supplier to purchase Elite Posts, netting and sockets for a discounted price of £1021.20 (instead of £1,600). Members AGREED to purchase the Elite Package with the following conditions:

1. The Posts and Nets will remain the ownership of the Town Council
2. The Posts must be as sturdy as Park Standard

Members also AGREED that new sleeves/sockets will be purchased (may need to be made) for the existing goal posts to enable the pitches to be moved to reduce goal-mouth wear.

Rugby Pitch Flood Lights – Members considered a request from the Rugby Club to replace the cabling to the Flood lights as despite investigation, the old cabling could not be located. It was AGREED that the Club could provide the new cabling on condition that and surfaces disturbed during the works would be reinstated.

The Rugby Club had also requested whether the Council would play a part in the future maintenance of the flood lights - Members AGREED that no contribution would be made by the Council.

Concession Kiosk – Tenders for the concession due to be returned by 12 noon on Friday 18th July 2014. It was agreed that Cllrs Connolly and Fulford together with Debbie Vine, The Assistant Clerk would open tenders at 2.00pm on Friday 18th July 2014 and that an extraordinary meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 23rd July 2014 (time tba) to assess and agree acceptance of Tenders.

6. To consider the revised Design for the Play Area Enhancement

Discussed under Agenda Item 5 – Replacement Play Equipment

7. To consider a request from the Game Angling group for use of the river for an event in September.

The Clerk reported that a verbal request had been received from Mr Doyle, Game Anglers for use of the river and grassed areas for an instructional/assessment event during September. As further details had not been received, Members deferred consideration until full details received.

Cllr Fulford reported that the new discounted charge introduced for fishing (monthly ticket £30) was excessive for regular local users and not viable for visitors.

Suggested that consideration be given to a weekly pass. Members AGREED that this should be referred to General Council on 6th August 2014.

8. To report on any matter concerning Open Spaces

Cllr Paton – Reported that Sweatsford Meadows are in a poor state – clerk confirmed meeting to be arranged with Steve Jones to discuss.

Cllr Connolly – The Council should consider purchasing land at Puddleslosh Lane for a cycle track - formal approach required. Cllr Connolly to investigate ownership/situation with area of wooded land.

Whitsbury Road - The Clerk requested that following investigation, the Council do not own the equipment required to carry out Weed Cutting in the area normally maintained by the Conservation Volunteers. Members AGREED that equipment and or contractors should be hired.

Cllr Fulford – Raised concern over the area at the corner of Pickets Close and parking – Clerk to liaise with District Councillors.

9. To report on Tree Works

Nothing to report

10. To note any items of correspondence

Cllr Anstey reported on correspondence received from Mike Buchanan regarding fly tipping at Sweatsford Water Meadow. It was AGREED that no action would be taken until a response had been received from NFDC Environmental Health.

11. To receive a report from the Clerk or any other relevant business

The Clerk had nothing to report.

Cllr Connolly reported that Hampshire Youth Group are interested in the old toilet block , once de-commissioned. Cllr Fulford suggested that the building could be offered to the Kiosk Concession holder for storage. It was AGREED that Cllr Connolly would arrange a meeting with the Youth Group to ascertain what their requirements are and intentions for the building.

To note the date of the next meeting as 17th September 2014

The meeting ended at 09.15 pm