

## **FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held at 8.35pm on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 in the Town Hall** (Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)

**Present:** Cllr Anstey – Chairman  
Cllrs Paton, Price, Lewendon, Perkins and Fulford

**In Attendance:** Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk  
Cllrs Hale and Adams

#### **1. To receive any apologies for absence**

No apologies for absence received.

#### **2. To receive any declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest received.

#### **3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and report on any matters arising**

Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lewendon and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015 be signed as a true record.

#### **Matters Arising**

Minute No. 5 – Replacement Tree – The Clerk reported that the cost for the replacement “Twinning” memorial tree in the Memorial Gardens would be approximately £40, with the optimum time for planting in October – November. Twinning Association to confirm location for planting of new tree.

Minute No 8 – Play Area Enhancement – This item would be placed on the Agenda for the Finance & Policy Committee on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2015 for a final selection of the supplier. The Chairman advised that due to problems with flooding in the park, no more sand features should be included.

Cllr Fulford stressed that the provision of play space should be included in a Neighbourhood Plan as Fordingbridge is currently under-allocated for this facility – and would be Supplementary Planning Guidance designation.

Cllr Perkins raised a query over a recent press article for new play facility in Wimborne and who had supplied the equipment – the Chairman advised that no new supplier could be introduced at this point.

The Clerk reported that following attendance at the SLCC Road show details had been obtained of an independent play facility provider who designs scheme and sources equipment from various suppliers. This service may be useful for future schemes.

#### **4. To receive any matters raised by Members of the public.**

No matters raised by members of the public.

#### **5. To report on matters relating to the Recreation Ground**

- Car Park repairs – no progress

- Kiosk – Shutter repairs carried out following attempted break in and now secure
- Park Fishing Proposal – Nigel Davis has been given letter of authority to obtain feedback on fishing in the Recreation Ground from angling clubs and other interested parties and will present findings to the Council
- Replacement Play Equipment/Skate park Lights – Quotes received from STN Solutions for replacement of the 3 units currently working or for replacing all 6 units. Members agreed that 3 units should be replaced Awaiting visit to repair roundabout.

The Chairman requested that members of the Committee taken note of the condition of equipment if visiting play areas and report any defects found to the Clerk.

- Paddling Pool Refurbishment – Complete and pool open
- Pitch maintenance – Drainage works and weed and feed completed.
- Old toilet Block Refurbishment – Grounds men to move entrance doors forward to prevent misuse of doorways. The Chair confirmed that if grant funding is not available for the refurbishment of the toilets to enable change of use, no money is available from within existing Council budgets. Members discussed the future of the block and considered whether it should be demolished although this would also attract a (unknown) cost. Refurbishment of the toilet block and retention as spare toilet facilities was also discussed. Cllr Paton reported that the youth group assumed that the building would be refurbished for their use although it is unclear if District Cllr Roxy Bellows is aware of the costs involved.
- Pest Control, Brownseys Field – Cllr Perkins reported that he had obtained details of 2 people who would undertake pest control (rabbits) on Brownseys Field and would investigate if members of BASC or similar, whether they had insurance and details of costs.

## **6. To report on any matters concerning Open Spaces**

- ROSPA reports – the Chairman reported that any repairs required by the reports will be undertaken either by the Council's staff or by a contractor. Town Clerk to discuss with Assistant Town Clerk, Finance Officer and Groundsman.

Members discussed the former inspections of Whitsbury Road play area – this had ceased as the group responsible has been dis-banded.

Additional Football pitch - The Chairman reported that following a request from the Turks FC for an additional pitch, this had been investigated with no options being found for locating an additional (smaller) pitch. The Football Club had suggested that this could be situated across the 2 existing pitches (football) or within the rugby pitch – both options raise concern however as permanent goalpost sleeves would be placed within the playing area of the existing pitches creating a hazard. The Chairman had invited the Club to present their ideas to the Amenities Committee – no follow up from the club.

- Sweatsford Water Meadow – The Clerk reported that this area would be meadow-cut in October.

**7. To report any Tree Works**

All tree works on current year's programme now complete.

**8. To note any items of correspondence**

The Clerk reported on a response from New Forest DC regarding Japanese Knotweed at Brownseys Field including the cost for treatment. Town Clerk to establish responsibility for cost.

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

Nothing to report from the Clerk and no other business.

**10. To note the date of the next meeting as 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015.**

The meeting closed at 9.15pm