

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 15TH October 2014 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, Fordingbridge

Present:

Cllr P Anstey, Chairman
Cllrs Paton, Lewendon, Perkins & Connolly

In Attendance:

Helen Richards – Town Clerk
Martin Coatham – Finance Officer

1. To accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Fulford

2. To Receive any Declarations of Interest

No declarations of Interest made

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2014 and report on any matters arising

Cllr Lewendon proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Connolly and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2014 be signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Minute No 3

- Events at Recreation Ground – The Rugby Club have confirmed that the sale of Burgers from the Sports Club (or outside marquee) was in relation to their club match days only, with food items being sold to members of the club and visiting teams. Concern was raised that this is not allowed under the lease of the Sports Club and also whether the business complies with Environmental Health requirements. (Environmental Health had inspected the Sports Club recently at a time when the burger enterprise was not present). Town Clerk to check terms of Lease and also whether business registered as Food Business.
- Rugby Pitch Flood Lights - The Rugby Club has requested the Town Council to pay for the light repairs and the Club would reimburse.
- Design for new Play Area Enhancement – Revised plan received from New Forest District Council with all new equipment and associated landscaping provided to the North of the Memorial Driveway. Members reviewed the new design and AGREED that the Clerk should obtain quotes for the project.

Minute No 5 – Matters relating to the Recreation Ground

- Use of Pavilion & changing Facilities – Cllr Anstey reported that emails had been exchanged with the Football and Rugby clubs regarding the use of changing rooms.
- Paddling Pool – The Clerk reported that all works to the paddling pool relating to the new water supply were now completed, including disconnection of the old supply; SembCorp had inspected and would prepare report to sign off previous contraventions.
- Old Toilet Block – The Clerk reported that a survey had recently been carried out to investigate works required to convert the former toilet block into storage or other uses – Report awaited
- Kiosk/New Toilets – Members raised concern over the times that toilets are locked and unlocked – Town Clerk to instruct Grounds man to be responsible for this duty.

- Works to River Avon – Cllr Perkins reported that the Gravel Bank had been redistributed in the River and works completed. Members raised concern that the Deep Water Warning Sign was not visible due to weed growth – Town Clerk to investigate

Minute No. 6 –

- Hedges, Whitsbury Road – the Clerk confirmed that Highways had requested ownership details – Town Council are unable to supply details. Highways to ascertain ownership.

Minute No. 8 – Events at Recreation Ground

- Wheelers Motorcycle Event – The Clerk reported that possible dates are being investigated for an event next summer, limited to 500 bikes.
- Fire Service Charity Music Festival – Further details to be confirmed – need to avoid conflict with end of Football season and pitch maintenance.

4. To receive any matters raised by Members of the Public

No Members of the Public in attendance.

5. To discuss Budget proposals for 2015/16 and make recommendations to be taken to Finance and Policy Committee on 26th November 2014

The Finance Officer reported on items for inclusion in next year's Budgets:

- Pitch Fees – Fixed fees for individual club usage to be set to allow more controlled & projected income levels.
- Income from Fishing Permits – Permits to be sold from Riverside Kiosk, signs to be erected advising anglers. Finance and Policy to agree fee/percentage to be paid to Nigel Davis for sales.
- Reduction in Andy Lane's hours – cost saving. Plan for future – consider apprentice, although Members raised concern over whether suitable mentor available. Consider provision of Uniform/Protective Clothing for Grounds men.
- Replacement vehicle (A Lane) – This cost should be spread across Amenities and General Purposes
- Tree Works - £900.00 spend this year. Town Clerk to obtain quotes for removal of Dead Oak Tree in children's play area at Recreation Ground
- Play Equipment repairs - £7000 quote received from HAGS following ROSPA report including £4,000 for Skate Park. Town Clerk advised members that correspondence had been received from a resident of Aderholt in support of the Skate Park and its retention/refurbishment. Investigate if grant or contributions available for refurbishment. Parallel Bars to be removed in the Play Area.
- Memorial Gates & Stonework – the Clerk reported that a quote had been sought for the cleaning of the Memorial Stonework. Members AGREED that 2 quotes should be obtained, 1 to include repainting of inscriptions.

6. To note any items of correspondence

Milford Conservation Volunteers - The Clerk reported on a request from the group that the Town Council adopt a "no release of balloons" policy, in line with New Forest DC as a result of concerns regarding Environmental Risks involved with the release of both Helium Balloons and Chinese Lanterns. Members AGREED that a policy should be recommended to Finance and Policy Committee on 29th October 2014.

Cllr Anstey reported on correspondence with Chris Garvey, Turks FC following a request from Hampshire Football Association to run training sessions at Fordingbridge Recreation Ground.

Amenities Committee 15.10.14

Further details are awaited on requirements (pitch, changing rooms and timetables). Cllr Anstey proposed that Members consider charging the normal pitch hire rate of £46.00 if requirements are for 1 pitch and changing facilities.

7. To receive a report from the Clerk or any other relevant business
Nothing to report.

8. **To note the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 19th November 2014.**

The Meeting closed at 8.50pm