

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 18th March 2015 at 7.30pm in the town Hall, Fordingbridge

(Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)

Present:

Cllr Anstey – Chairman
Cllrs Fulford, Price, Paton, Perkins, Price & Connolly

In Attendance:

Helen Richards – Town Clerk

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Lewendon (amendment following Amenities meeting of 20.05.15)

2. To receive any declarations of interest

No declarations received.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st January 2015 and report on any matters arising

Cllr Anstey proposed and Cllr Perkins seconded and it was therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2015 be signed as a true record subject to the following amendment:

Insert “*Cllr Earth*” in attendance.

Matters Arising

Minute No (6) – the Wheelers Motorcycle event planned for 11th/12th July 2015 has been cancelled

Minute No (10) – War Memorials – Cllr Connolly advised that following attendance at a recent event, a list is being compiled of War Memorials with details and photos being collated.

Memorial Tree Damage – The Town Clerk informed the meeting that following an inspection of the tree, this appeared to be old damage which had held. Cllr Fulford disputed this. It was agreed that the Memorial Trees should be guarded from further damage.

Bank Erosion at Recreation Ground – Members have previously been updated regarding the outcome of the Environment Agency visit. Cllr Anstey proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr Perkins for the work put in with the Environment Agency.

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

No members of the public present.

5. To Report any Matters relating to the Recreation Ground

Car Park Repairs – The Chairman reported that the Finance Officer had identified additional funding for the repair works and was seeking 3 quotes for enhanced repairs. It was understood that this was part of the Developer Contributions however concern was expressed that these funds are for new capital works, not refurbishment works. Chairman to discuss with Finance Officer.

Memorial Tree Madame Beugeard – The Twinning Association had queried where the Tree which was located in the Memorial Gardens had gone – this was removed several years ago due to vandalism. Members AGREED that the Council would replace the tree, further discussion was needed to establish the type of tree and to find the right location to position it.

Fishing Proposal – Further discussions with Mr Davis required before progressing.

Replacement Play Equipment & Skatepark Lights – Play equipment further quotes to be obtained. At least 3 of the 6 skatepark lights require replacement having failed - awaiting quote from electrical contractor. Need to check specification on Planning Permission.

Paddling Pool – Finance Officer has requested quotes for refurbishment of the pool and surrounding area.

Pitch Maintenance & FA visit – Andy Gray, Groundsman Southampton FC visited the Recreation Ground with Sasha Nicholls from Hampshire FA are carried out various tests on the Turks Football Pitch. The Council were able to demonstrate that a programme for regular maintenance has now been put in place and advice was given to the Council regarding the most important items to fund. It is hoped that the funds may be available from the FA for pitch improvements.

Cllr Anstey to write to thank Sasha Nicholls for the visit.

Pitch Maintenance

Brownseys Field – leased to Rugby Club for 21 years. End of season maintenance to be carried out by Abbots and paid for by the Rugby Club. The Chairman reported that unspent money from the Amenities budget could be given to the Rugby Club as a contribution towards the maintenance works.

Members discussed making a contribution and the following concerns were raised:

- Would this be a one off or set a precedent for future
- Need to look at works needed not how to spend money
- Report from FA awaited to check other spending required
- Lease needs to be checked with regards to responsibility for maintenance on Brownseys Field

Old Toilet Block

Awaiting response from New Forest DC. Members discussed who would use this facility if refurbished as Its Your Choice have now moved from the Sports Club to the Salvation Army Hall

Recreation Ground Hire Rate Increases

Members consider the increases recommended by the Finance Officer. Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Fulford and therefore **RESOLVED:** to recommend to the Finance & Policy Committee on 25th March 2015 that the following Hire Rates are accepted with effect from 1st April 2015.

Recreation Ground Hire charges w.e.f. 1st April 2015.

(prices include VAT where applicable)

Per session:

Football & Rugby Clubs	£47.00
Juniors	£24.00
Training	£25.00
Whippet Track	£34.00 (day) £18 (evening)
Cricket	£46.00

Tournaments £110 daily rate, £55 half day.

Camping & Caravans – Up to 20 pitches, £100 per day/night. 20 or more £100 per day/night + £5 per pitch. (Price inclusive of use of the pavilion & showers).

Commercial use of the Recreation Ground - £220 per day.

Other events hire costs to be determined by the Finance & Policy Committee.

Fishing Fees

Daily rate:

Adult	£5.00
OAP/Under 16 yrs	£2.50

Weekly Rate:

Adult	£15.00
OAP/Under 16 yrs	£7.50

Residents Annual Permit – **Proof of residency within Fordingbridge required**

Adult	£50.00
OAP/Under 16 yrs	£25.00

6. To report any matters concerning Open Spaces

Nothing to report.

7. To report any Tree Works

The Clerk advised that following an error in the original tree survey new quotes have been sought and one is still awaited.

8. No number 8 on Agenda

9. To note any items of correspondence

No correspondence

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

Members discussed the provision of a bandstand in the Memorial Gardens. This would provide another amenity in addition to the sporting facilities already available. This could be a hard standing with a industrial-type gazebo which could be removed and stored.

The Clerk advised that the problems with the Shutter on the Kiosk had now been resolved. The Tenant has asked for CCTV to be fitted on the Workshop building (at the Tenants

expense) – Members AGREED that this would improve security and provision should go ahead.

Following further correspondence with the Environment Agency, Cllr Perkins advised that the erosion of River Banks at the Recreation Ground and remedial works should be considered as soon as possible.

11. To note the date of the next meeting as 20th May 2015.

The meeting closed at 9.48pm