

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held at 8.20pm on Wednesday 20th
March 2019 in the Town Hall**

(Minutes draft until approved at the next meeting of the Committee)

Present: Cllr Anstey – Chairman
Cllrs Hale, Lewendon, Moulard, Paton & Perkins

In Attendance: Mr P. Goddard, Town Clerk
Cllr Adams (Public Gallery)
Cllr Earth (Public Gallery)

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr White.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

No declarations were made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2019 and report any matters arising

Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Hale and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2019 be signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Minute No. 3 (matter arising no. 6) – Whitsbury Road - Cllr Lewendon advised that the pavement by the new development at Whitsbury Road was covered in mud.

Minute No. 3 (matter arising no. 4) – Church Street Planters - The Town Clerk advised that the Conservation Officer had looked at the Church Street Planters and they did not constitute operational development as defined in section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act and therefore there is no enforcement action that can be taken whether they are appropriate for the character of the area or not.

Minute No. 5 – The Skate Park - The Town Clerk advised that construction of the skate park was several weeks ahead of schedule.

Minute No. 6 – Rabbit Control – Cllr Perkins advised that he had spoken to the individual that was going to address the rabbit issue on the Brownsey field and that this was in hand.

Minute No. 6 – Willow Tree at Recreation Ground – The Town Clerk advised that the tree surgeon had inspected the willow tree on the bank of the Recreation Ground and that there was no work required at this time.

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

No matters raised.

5. To approve the laying of a sewerage pipe at Sweatford Waters, adjacent to Whitsbury Road, and to agree a reinstatement plan

The Town Clerk reported that as part of a larger scheme in Whitsbury Road, Wessex Water required to lay a sewerage pipe under land adjacent to Whitsbury Road as it was not possible to close that section of road because a suitable traffic diversion was not possible. The proposed work would involve the removal of two ash trees and some hedge.

Cllrs discussed whether it would be possible to lay the pipe under the amenity land without removing the ash trees and, given the length of the project whether the tree work could be delayed until after the bird nesting season. Cllrs also discussed potential reinstatement

requirements. The Chairman advised that in principle it was agreed that the tree work could take place but a suitable reinstatement plan needed to be agreed with Wessex Water, The Chairman suggested that more detail was required and that a vote would not be taken on the matter at this meeting.

Action: The Town Clerk is to liaise with Wessex Water regarding the location of the pipe, the timing of the tree work and reinstatement options.

6. Matters relating to the Recreation Ground

- **To consider quotes for replacement play equipment**

Cllrs reviewed the quotes obtained for a replacement playhouse and the discussed the options for surfacing. The Town Clerk advised that he and the RFO were meeting with the New Forest District Council on 2nd April 2019 to discuss the Town Councils use of s106 funds and that it might be possible to use those funds for the replacement of play equipment. Cllrs agreed that clarification should be obtained regarding the use of s106 funds before a decision is made.

Action: The Town Clerk and the RFO to clarify the permitted use of s106 funds

Cllr Paton had identified second hand play equipment for sale. The owner had indicated that they would fund the cost of its relocating and reinstallation and Cllr Paton had been liaising with the original supplier regarding its reinstallation. Cllrs discussed the merits of acquiring the second hand equipment and agreed that a decision should be deferred until after the meeting with the New Forest District Council on 2nd April 2019.

- **To approve an application for a pet show**

The Town Clerk provided details of a proposal by a member of the public for a pet show to be held at the Recreation Ground. Cllrs discussed the merits of the proposed events and the Town Council's requirements regarding risk assessment and insurance.

Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lewendon and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the application for a pet show be approved. All in favour.

- **To approve the plumbing work at the kiosk**

The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council's buildings manager recommended that rectification work be undertaken to the drains at the kiosk in the Recreation Ground. Cllrs discussed the need for and the timing of the works. Cllr Paton suggested that the work should not take place in the school holidays.

Cllr Lewendon proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Paton and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the proposed plumbing work be undertaken with an agreed cap on costs. All in favour. Cllr Paton requested that the Town Council should write to the original architect and contractor.

Action: The Town Clerk to write to the original architect and contractor

- **To approve the repair of the paving slabs at the paddling pool**

Cllrs considered the need to repair the paving slabs at the paddling pool and considered a proposal for a contractor to repair the slabs at a day rate.

Cllr Lewendon proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Perkins and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the proposed work to repair the paving slabs be undertaken. All in favour

- **To agree the charges for the hire of the Recreation Ground**

Cllrs considered the RFO's proposal for hire charges of the Recreation Ground.

Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lewendon and therefore **RESOLVED**: to agree the charges for the hire of the Recreation Ground. All in favour.

- **To agree a proposal to manage fishing at the Recreation Ground**

The Town Clerk presented proposals submitted by a member of the public to manage fishing at the Recreation Ground. Cllrs discussed the proposed income, the bailiffing and

maintenance of the fishing banks and the potential for a disabled swim at the Recreation Ground.

Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Perkins and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the proposal to manage fishing at the Recreation Ground be accepted. All in favour

7. To report any matters concerning Open Spaces

- Wild flowers for bees

The Town Clerk informed Cllrs that the Town Council had seeds for wild flowers, that April would be a suitable time to plant them and the Lengthsman could plant them. Cllrs considered suitable areas for planting and suggested the SANG areas, Sweatford Waters and open areas at the Whitsbury Road development.

- Trees from the Woodland Trust

The Town Clerk referred to information previously sent to Cllrs regarding the provision of free trees by the Woodland Trust. Cllrs agreed that the information should be sent to local schools and the Normandy way Residents Association and put on the Town Council facebook page. Cllr Hale reported that the Bishops Pond Group had already applied. Cllr Lewendon suggested a row of trees on the boundary of the Brownsey Field and the road with the necessary permission.

Action: Town Clerk to post on the internet details of the scheme

- Lengthsman visit – 18th March 2019

The Town Clerk reported that the Lengthsman had removed the electrical cable hanging from a tree at the Recreation Ground and had cleared the drains between Tinker's Cross and the Arch Farm Industrial Estate. The Lengthsman had also completed clearing the mud and looked at the drainage on the footpath that leads from Burgate Fields to the Burgate School and Fordingbridge Infant School.

8. To note any items of correspondence

The Town Clerk referred to email correspondence from Fordingbridge Rugby Club. The rugby club were seeking confirmation from the Town Council before 29th March 2019 that it would weed treat and vertidrain the pitches to support a grant application by the rugby club. The chairman advised that this formed part of our annual pitch maintenance and that the confirmation sought by the rugby club could be provided.

Action: Town Clerk to confirm prior to 29th March 2019 that the Town Council would weed treat and vertidrain the pitches.

The Town Clerk read correspondence received from a member of the public regarding improvement of the Flaxfield play area. Cllr Hale suggested that this could be considered further following the Town Clerk and RFO's meeting with the New Forest District Council on 2nd April 2019. Cllr Paton suggested that some of the second hand play equipment that the Town Council was considering acquiring would be suitable for the Flaxfield Play area.

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

The Town Clerk reported that a contractor had measured and was preparing a quote to repair the broken window at the Pavilion and the contractor would be repairing the broken guttering.

Cllr Paton suggested that dog bins cleared by the New Forest District Council could be removed to save costs to the Town Council.

Cllr Perkins commented on the good condition of the memorial gardens and on the conditions of the Recreation Ground generally.

10. To note the date of the next meeting as 15th May 2019

The meeting closed at 9:25 pm