



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION, LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

**Wednesday 15 April 2015
The Harlington**

PRESENT

Councillors:

Alan Oliver (In the Chair)
Steve Cattle
Steve Forster
Bob Schofield
Jonathan Wright

Also Present

Janet Stanton-Town Clerk
Alex Robins-General Manager, The Harlington
Deborah Kirby- Deputy Town Clerk
Sheila Rayner-Committee Clerk
Cllr Jasper
Mike Bye- Friends of Oakley Park
Dave Harrison -Friends of Basingbourne
Brenda Grout –Fleet Bowling Club
Chris Shaverin-Fleet Bowling Club
Dennis Oatley-Fleet Bowling Club
Tony Madden- Fleet Town Football Club

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES

There was an apology for absence from Cllr Chenery, Einchcomb and Gotel

ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Cattle-Item 9 Fleet Town Football Club
Cllr Wright-Item 5 Ancells Farm

ITEM 3 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public

ITEM 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

With the addition of the word 'Farm' to the heading of item 8 to read 'Friends of Ancells Farm Park-Development Plan', the minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2015, were approved and signed by the Chairman

ITEM 5 THE HARLINGTON AND ANCELLS FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT(taken after item 9)

The General Manager of the Harlington presented his report covering the quarter Jan-Mar 2015.

There was a general discussion about the level of capacity of the auditorium in the existing and any proposed new facility and this would be discussed in detail by the Harlington Working Group.

The figures demonstrated that with the exception of 'Sooty', shows for children had not sold enough tickets and would not therefore be repeated.

Members asked for hall lettings that attracted bar takings to be included in the detailed figures(such as Ceroc and Rock Choir) whereas all other hall hirings should be shown separately.

It was also reported that a contract had now been signed for a pantomime at Christmas 2015

RESOLVED

- a) That a date be set for a meeting of the Harlington Working Group to re-examine the requirements within a new Harlington building
- b) That the report of The General Manager of the Harlington be noted

ITEM 6 CEMETERY REPORT

The members considered the progress report of the Cemetery Officer.

The report dealt with a range of issues of progress but required authority to proceed in several areas:

- **Rules and regulations**

The Clerk explained the need to tighten up some of the rules and Cllr Schofield referred to several anomalies and areas where there was lack of clarity. Cllr Schofield had amended the regulation to reflect these.

- **Memorials**

It was noted that in the absence of owners to repair memorials that had toppled, and in view of the Local Government Ombudsman Report on the subject, that to incur the least financial risk and to avoid adverse publicity and possible complaints , the Council should arrange for the fixing of the fallen memorials

- **Action Plan 2015-2016**

The members discussed a suggested action plan for 2015-2016.

RESOLVED

- a) Subject to the matters raised by Cllr Schofield, to approve the updates to the Rules and Regulations
- b) To authorise the repair of the lawn cemetery memorials at a cost to the Council of approx £960 plus VAT
- c) Action Plan
 - To delay the installation of an interpretation board pending a meeting with HCC landscape architect regarding possible funding
 - To approve the installation of a noticeboard and signage with the cost to be met from Earmarked Reserves(park signage and noticeboards)
 - To include the creocoting of gates and fences
 - To increase cuts and 'one-off' tasks by the Grounds Maintenance contractor

- To plan a new Garden of Remembrance
- To encourage a 'Friends' group to tend neglected graves

ITEM 7 EVENTS-SCOUTS 3 DEN CHALLENGE AT CALTHORPE PARK

The members considered an application by the Odiham District Cubs to hold a 3DENS Challenge at Calthorpe Park adjacent to the Scouts HQ and tennis courts on Saturday 27 June 2015

RESOLVED

To approve the application by Odiham District Scouts to hold a 3 DENS Challenge at Calthorpe Park adjacent to the Scouts HQ and tennis courts on Saturday 27 June 2015

ITEM 8 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2015

The members considered the colour scheme for the Christmas lights for 2015. During discussion it was requested that the Town Clerk investigate the possibility of an additional cross street decoration in the vicinity of Travis Perkins

RESOLVED

To approve the colour scheme of green, red and blue, for the cross-street light decorations for Christmas 2015

ITEM 9 FLEET TOWN FOOTBALL (taken after item 4)

The members considered a letter from Fleet Town Football Club with an associated background note, a photograph and site plans of the area in Calthorpe Park currently leased to Fleet Town Football Club

It was explained that the Fleet Bowling Club was potentially looking for a new site due to the possible development of its site and the adjoining Police Station.

To help overcome a range of security issues , the Football Club and Bowls Club had discussed the possible lease of an area known as 'The Patch' at Calthorpe Park which was large enough to accommodate a bowling green.

The Council's view on the principle of this was being sought

A linked issue was that of the length of lease of the Fleet Football Club which currently stood at 10 years. This would need to be extended to attract FA funding to deal with the security issues although it was noted that any potential future occupation of the site by both the Bowling Club and Football Club would require a new lease to be legally crafted to accommodate both parties.

There was a wide ranging discussion covering such matters as;

- Potential loss of trees
- Consultations with the residents of the surrounding roads
- Any restrictive covenants on the existing bowling club site
- Additional car parking
- Overlap of the bowling and football seasons
- Existing car park resurfacing at Calthorpe Park
- Possible shared use of club house facilities
- Probable maximum of 30 years on any future lease granted by FTC

- Integration of existing outdated changing facilities into any new clubhouse for the football club
- Issues of scale of any potential building, noise, lighting and screening

Following detailed careful consideration it was

RESOLVED

- a) That FTC has no objection to the Fleet Town Football Club and the Fleet Bowling Club formulating a joint development at the football site in Calthorpe Park

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

- b) As an interim measure, the existing lease to the football club be extended by 3 years to allow the pursuit of funding to improve security at the football club site

ITEM 10 FACILITIES OFFICER’S REPORT

The members received the Facilities Officer report on progress.

The following matters were discussed;

- The appointment of Ben Crane
- Improved access to the tennis courts
- The tree survey and treatment of trees
- Mike Bye-Friend of Oakley Park referred to the need to log branches cut down and asked for hand drying facilities to be installed in the pavilion at Oakley Park
- Request for One down, Three up policy for trees. The Woodland Trust scheme of free trees was bought to the members’ attention
- A bin had been requested near the new park bench in Basingbourne
- An issue regarding Egyptian geese was mentioned

ITEM 11 REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk gave an oral report on the comments expressed so far on The Views proposals.

Comments included generally a very positive reaction and requests for:

- Water feature
- New playground
- Trampoline
- Maze
- Zip wire
- Flower meadow
- More seating

ITEM 12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 17 June 2015 at **7pm** at The Harlington

There being no further business the meeting closed at pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman