



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL RECREATION, LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

**Monday 18 November 2013 at 6.00pm
The Harlington**

PRESENT

Paul Einchcomb (Chairman)
Sue Fisher
Alan Oliver
Bob Schofield
Sue Tilley
George Woods

Also Present

James Corrigan Town Clerk
21 members of the Public

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs G Lewis, R Appleton, G Chenery and S Forster

ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest

ITEM 3 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were 21 members of the public in attendance including representatives from the Friends of Ancells, Ancells Residents Association and Hart FC. A number of statements were made as well as questions about the proposed 3G football facility at Ancells Park.

These included how will the light and noise issues be dealt with, what time will the facility be open, why is it planned for Ancells Park and not somewhere else, why is it not being built at Elvetham Heath and Hitches Lane, why can other sports other than football not use the facility, when is the consultation taking place and how will it take place?

ITEM 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

These will be considered at the next scheduled meeting of the Committee on the 15th January 2014.

ITEM 5 PROPOSED 3G FOOTBALL FACILITY AT ANCELL PARK

An updated report and plan showing the footprint of the proposed facility were circulated prior to the meeting as were pictures of a similar facility at Cove.

A general discussion took place between committee members and the members of the public during which many concerns were expressed by residents who have houses bordering Ancells Park.

Ancells Park was selected as it is the only open space within Fleet that could accommodate the facility. Of the other five parks The Views is too small and has no changing facilities, Oakley Park and Basingbourne Park whilst big enough are not when the planning law is applied as a new 3G facility cannot replace an existing football field, Calthorpe Park has a similar problem and also is located on top of a former tip so has land that is not stable enough to accommodate such a facility. All other open spaces suggested were outside of Fleet and therefore the control of Fleet Town Council.

The public were advised that the Town Council does plan on consulting on the proposal. They were also advised that if the facility does go ahead that it will be green artificial grass with green mesh fencing the same as that at Cove so that it blends in with the existing environment, that it would primarily be aimed at the 500 young people in Fleet who travel weekly to places such as Aldershot to train on 3G pitches there. If the smaller option were chosen this would not be as suitable for young people training or for matches so would be more of a facility for adult 5 a side.

Whilst the number of visitors to the site will increase the number of people there at one time would be no more than currently on a Saturday morning. There will be CCTV to provide security cover, that the lights would be the modern style light like Cove which do not throw out light to pollute like old style lights.

The facility will be located as near as possible to the road, as far as possible from the houses, if necessary additional tree screening could be added to the area. There would be no encouragement of users to use on street parking, as this will be a paid for facility the Council could require users to park in the designated car parks at Ancells.

It is not planned to open the facility beyond 9pm.

After considerable debate it was

RESOLVED

- That an exercise is undertaken to consult more widely than just with the residents of Ancells
- That the consultation will include information and will present three options a small and medium sized 3G facility or none at all
- That HDC is advised that the timetable set by HDC cannot be met but that the Town Council will report back as soon as possible

ITEM 6 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 January 2014 at **7.30pm** at The Harlington

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.32 pm

Signed.....

Date.....