



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION, LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Wednesday 14 June 2017

The Harlington

PRESENT

Councillors:

Paul Einchcomb (Chairman)
Denis Gotel
Bob Schofield
Jonathan Wright

Also Present

Janet Stanton-Town Clerk
Alex Robins-Harlington General Manager
Ben Crane-Facilities and Open Spaces Manager
Sheila Rayner-Committee Clerk

Mike Bye-Friends of Oakley Park

RLA June 2017 ITEM 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Einchcomb was elected Chairman of the Committee for the local government year 2017-2018

RLA June 2017 ITEM 2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Oliver was elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the local government year 2017/2018

RLA June 2017 ITEM 3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Jasper and Oliver

RLA June 2017 ITEM 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

RLA June 2017 ITEM 5 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public

RLA June 2017 ITEM 6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

With the correction to item 10 para 3 to read The Club was experiencing financial difficulties and their survival was taking the club's attention..... The minutes of the meeting of the RLA committee held on 15 March 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

RLA June 2017 ITEM 7 THE HARLINGTON AND ANCELLS FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE

The report of the General Manager of the Harlington for the period March-May 2017 was presented and the following matters were discussed:

- The concerns regarding the future of the Ancells pre-school which appeared to be attracting too few pupils
- Issues regarding the blues/rock genre and the need to not experiment too early and to book tried and tested bands within the genre
- An explanation of show riders and the occasional need to hire in equipment to meet contract requirements
- Expenditure on codes 4120 (Gas) 4170 (maintenance) and 4280 (car park) at Ancells Community centre
- Request to add a note to future reports on the potential re-booking of an act/band
- Update on staff recruitment –Food and Beverage Manager and Duty Manager
- Flexibility of staff in covering vacancies
- Good feedback on band bookings

RESOLVED

To note the report

RLA June 2017 ITEM 8 FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACES MANAGER'S REPORT

Members received the report of the FOSM for the last quarter

The report was discussed and in particular:

- The foul sewage manhole cover at Calthorpe Park Green
- Liability regarding fallen FTC trees on private property
- Site visit to view bridge in Oakley Woods carried out by members

RESOLVED

To note the report of the FOSM

RLA June 2017 ITEM 9 CEMETERY OFFICER'S REPORT

The members considered the report of the Cemetery Officer which provided an update on the following matters:

- Central shelter planting and central pathway
- Garden of Remembrance
- Damaged graves
- South and South East in Bloom
- Action Plan

The members noted the pleasing appearance of the cemetery.

RESOLVED

To note the report of the Cemetery Officer

RLA June 2017 ITEM 10 EVENTS- FLEET CHILLI FI ESTA 23 SEPTEMBER 2017

Members considered a request from Fleet Chilli Fiesta for an event in the Views on Saturday 23 September 2017. Members discussed the application, particularly the constitution of the organising group, stall holder vehicle arrival times, use of toilets, fairground rides, licensing requirements and use of electricity

After careful consideration, it was

RESOLVED

To grant permission for the use of the Views on Saturday 23 September 2017 by the Fleet Chilli Fiesta with the following conditions:

- a) The event organisers makes their own licensing arrangements
- b) The organisers make adequate toilet arrangements as the Harlington toilets are let on that day and cannot be used
- c) No fairground rides to be installed
- d) The requirement for a Bond

RLA June 2017 ITEM 11 RUNNING FREE –CONSULTATION ON PRESERVING THE FREE USE OF PUBLIC PARKS

Members were informed that the Department for Communities and Local Government was consulting on proposals to legislate to prohibit local authorities including local councils, from charging Parkrun for the use of public parks.

Members were of the view that Parkrun did not apply to FTC (in the way that it did at Frimley Lodge Park and Aldershot)

However the members were aware that some 'commercial' users such as dog walkers, made use of the Council assets without charge. There could be implications for grounds maintenance and car park maintenance costs

In response to the questions within the consultation :

- 1) FTC agrees that local authorities should be able to charge commercial organisations for the use of public parks
- 2) FTC considers that commercial activities in parks should not be included in provisions to prevent local authorities from charging
- 3) FTC believes there are no activities that should be considered for inclusion to prevent local authorities from charging
- 4) FTC believes that each application for use of a park should be considered on its merits , at the local level, and should be linked to cost implications on reasonable wear and tear

RESOLVED

To submit the above comments to the Department for Communities and Local Government

RLA June 2017 ITEM 11 (a) S106 FUNDING

The members were informed that a sum of £301,981 had accrued to FTC as a result of Developers payments through S106 contributions

The members discussed the possibility of seeking matched grant funding but came to the view that the priority projects should not be delayed with a view to completion of projects by the end of the current financial year.

Following discussion about any tendering process linked to playground provision and investigation of any requirements regarding play equipment for disabled children, it was

RESOLVED

To immediately proceed with the following priority projects within the cost guidelines shown

- Calthorpe Park Play Area (£160,000)
- The Garden of Remembrance (an additional £100,000)
- Sensory Garden (£40,000)
- Basingbourne Older Childrens Play Equipment (£20,000-£30,000)

RLA June 2017 ITEM 12 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR –PLAYGROUND REPORTS

The Committee noted the Grounds Maintenance contractor’s reports on playgrounds. It was noted that Edenbrook had not been included but ROSPA reports were expected shortly so that a comparison could be made

RLA June 2017 ITEM 13 REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

There were no last minute matters for report by the Town Clerk

RLA June 2017 ITEM 14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday 27 September 2017 at the Harlington at 7pm (Please note NOT 20 September 2017)

There being no further business to be transacted, the meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Chairman.....Date.....