

**FLEET TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE RECREATION, LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday 16 February 2011 7.30pm  
The Harlington**

**Councillors**

Paul Einchcomb, (Chair), Sue Tilley, Sue Fisher, Helen Perthen, Bob Schofield.

**Also Present-**

Shar Roselman – Clerk

8 members of the public

Cllr Appleton, who stayed for public questions

**FEB /2011/RLA ITEM 1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were apologies from Cllr Woods

**FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 2: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 3: PUBLIC SESSION**

The following questions were received from members of the public:

3.1 Councillor Appleton stated that he was in agreement with the public over the concerns regarding the fun fair at Calthorpe Park.

3.2 A resident in Calthorpe Park mentioned that he had noted that the agenda dealt with the relocation of the carnival and the works to turn Calthorpe Park into an events park. He stated that, not many residents would take umbrage to the carnival being held at the park, without the fun fair, but that he would like to know the views of the Town Council on the covenant of the park.

3.3 A resident adjacent to Calthorpe Park agreed with the first speaker and asked council to be mindful of the elevated position of the park and how this caused sound to travel a long way. He mentioned that the loudspeakers at the Lion's Fireworks event were excessively loud, and had caused windows in his home to shake. He also asked Council to consider that there was likely to be difficulty in policing events.

3.4 A resident in Lea Wood Road mentioned that twice a day residents experienced enormous problems with parking caused by Calthorpe Park school, and that these problems had been exacerbated by the building development. Parking for events would create further problems.

3.5 A member of the Friends of Ancells Group's asked who the contact person was for the Council. The chairman agreed to come back to the friends of groups on this matter.

3.6 A member of the public asked what was the projected use of Calthorpe Park and The Views.

Cllr Schofield explained that the Fleet Town Council vision would go out for public consultation at the Annual Parish Meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> March, at 7.30 pm. The vision included the Council supporting four events a year. Calthorpe Park was suggested for three events in the year, the Half-Marathon, the Fireworks event, and the Carnival. A fourth event, the Fleet Festivities and switching on of the lights would be held in Fleet Road. The vision also included the use of the Views as a more formal flower and sensory garden, with potentially a small bandstand and seating for the public.

3.7 A member of the public asked if the development of Hitches Lane came under the auspices of the Fleet Town Council, and what thought had been given to joining with other parishes to ensure adequate facilities for the area.

The chairman of the Recreation, Leisure and Amenities committee explained that the leisure facilities at Hitches Lane will include a Country Park, pitches and an allotment, but that at the present time these assets would belong to Hart District Council.

#### **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 4: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Resolved to receive and approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the RLA meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2011.**

#### **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 5: THE HARLINGTON**

The report on the Harlington was noted. The centre manager was congratulated for bringing in the first live and unplugged session at a small profit. The clerk explained that the quotation received for a new cleaner at Ancells Farm was three times the current rate. Other avenues for cleaning were being investigated because the cleaning standard of the current contractor was not acceptable.

**Action: The clerk and the Establishment sub-committee.**

**Resolved to move onto agenda items 10 and 11 to accommodate members of the public.**

#### **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 10: USE OF FACILITIES AND OTHER PUBLIC REQUESTS**

Several requests for use of park and hall facilities were received. The following resolutions were taken.

**Resolved not to approve the use of the Harlington halls for free by the Carnival Committee but to ask the Carnival Committee instead to apply to the Fleet Town Council for a grant to cover the costs of the hires.**

**Resolved not to approve the use of the Gurhka room halls for free by the Fleet Lions, but to ask the Fleet Lions instead to apply to the Fleet Town Council for a grant to cover the costs of the hire.**

**Resolved to allow the Carnival Committee free use of Calthorpe Park for the Carnival.**

No resolution was taken on the use of the park by the fun fair following on from the Carnival, or on charges for the fair ground usage or deposit required by the fair ground.

A request was received to allow block planting of hedging whips and birch tree whips at Ancells Farm Park.

**Resolved to approve the block planting of hedging whips and birch trees, as per the Ancells Park tree plan, providing the grass is removed from the blocks prior to planting or a water permeable, weed suppressing membrane is placed over the blocks, and the blocks are covered with bark chip. Maintenance of hedges and weeding out of grass to be done by Friends of Ancells Farm.**

## **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 11: WORKS REQUIRED AT CALTHORPE PARK**

The following short term provisions for events will be costed by the clerk:

- Exterior power provision
- Exterior water provision
- Temporary removal of dragon's teeth to allow access.
- Tree Pruning
- Lighting improvement.

It was noted that a strategy for the park development was needed in the longer term.

**Resolved not to allow free parking at the Views during events being staged at Calthorpe Park.**

## **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 6: SPORT'S AND LEISURE REPORT**

The committee received a report from the sport and leisure officer.

**Resolved to spend £305 on a mini sport's festival on 20<sup>th</sup> March, to be held at the Harlington.**

**Action:** The sport and leisure officer will contact Hart District Council to ask for permission to use the parking at the rear of the Harlington for the event.

**Resolved to approve the Easter Holiday children's activities programme.**

**Resolved also to spend up to £900 on the provision of sporting equipment to be used for the Easter Holiday programme and other sporting events.**

### Leisure Strategy

A preliminary Leisure Strategy was received by the committee from the sport and leisure officer. The committee was pleased that a start had been made on this important document, which could be used for a variety of aspects in the future, including application for SI06 funding, and a Neighbourhood Plan.

The committee asked that the following items be included in the report:

- The inclusion of various users of parks, such as the cricket club, the guides and the scouts.
- The potential of the Views to be outdoor theatre.
- The vision for parks and how that complemented the strategy
- Green ways, walks and cycle tracks
- Consideration of Fleet as a unique place with specific demographic needs, such as a high commuter population.
- Consideration of Fleet within the larger geographical area of other parishes, Hitches Lane, the Leisure Park, QEB, the Canal and Fleet Pond.
- The quality of the assets of Fleet Town Council, such as the state of the pitches at Calthorpe Park and the playgrounds.
- The Hart District Council strategy on PPG 17
- Various open spaces that were not mentioned
- A reference to the need for flowers
- Allotments
- The dog walking community

A concern was raised about the report in that several references, particularly to clubs, was too specific, and needed to become more generic.

**Action: The sport and leisure officer**

Royal Events, the Olympics and the market in Fleet were discussed.

**Resolved to buy some bunting, and to request Hart District Council's permission to place it around the Gurkha square car park and the Harlington on royal events.**

**Action: The Clerk to request permission.**

**Resolved to form a working group comprising of Cllr Schofield, Cllr Perthen, Cllr Tilley, the Sport's Officer and the centre manager to consider events. The Fleet Festivities organisation and members of the Carnival Committee will also be invited to attend meetings of the working group.**

**Action: The members of the Working Group.**

**Action: The clerk to speak to Odiham Parish regarding their handling of the Odiham market.**

## **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 8: ANCELLS FARM TODDLER PLAYGROUND**

The committee received a report on the relocation and enhancement of the Ancells Farm Toddler Playground.

**Resolved to write to Hart District Council to apply for S106 funding to the value of £14000 for the demolition of the old playground, equipment, fencing and a path for the playground.**

**Action: The clerk**

## **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 7: RLA CAPITAL BUDGETING PROGRAMME**

The committee received a preliminary outline of a 15 year capital programme. The report was noted for further development, linking into the Leisure Strategy and the Fleet Vision.

## **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 9: CEMETERY**

The committee received a new procedure for handling of interments and the rules and regulations of the cemetery inherited from Hart District Council.

**Action: The cemeteries clerk to simplify the rules and regulations for further consideration by the committee.**

**Resolved at 10.30 pm to set down standing orders.**

The committee received an application from Church Crookham Parish regarding a contribution towards expenses for the cemetery.

**Resolved to not accept the offer from Church Crookham, and to recommend to the parish that they pay half the costs of their resident's interment instead.**

**Resolved also to charge Church Crookham, Crookham Village and Elvetham Heath the same rate as other parishes are charged for interments.**

## **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 12: PREMISES LICENCE THE VIEWS/HIGH STREET**

The clerk explained that as from 1<sup>st</sup> April, Hart District Council will no longer meet the conditions to hold the premises licence for the Views/High Street.

**Resolved to transfer the licence from Hart District Council to Fleet Town Council.**

**Action: The clerk to complete the appropriate paperwork.**

## **FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 13: LANDSCAPING OF THE VIEWS**

Hampshire County Council has offered to work with Fleet Town Council on a landscaping plan for the Views, as part of the FTAP cycle route proposals. This presents an opportunity for residents to consult on the plan.

Action: The deputy clerk will feature in the next newsletter a request to interested members of the public to join with the Town Council in the development of this plan.

Action: This will also be mentioned at the Annual Parish Meeting.

**FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 14: THE BIG LUNCH**

Fleet Town Council has been requested to investigate avenues for bringing the Big Lunch concept to Fleet. At this point in time it was felt that the best approach was to invite Fleet Festivities and the Friends of Groups at Oakley Park and Ancells to consider ideas for practical activities.

Action: The clerk

**FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 15: SURE START CHILDREN'S CENTRE**

A report was received from Cllr Fisher on the Sure Start Children's Centre in Fleet. It was established that this is the one Sure Start in the area that is currently run and funded by Hampshire County Council and therefore, although it was likely to continue, a new service provider would be found. It was unclear as to whether the new provider had to manage a cluster of Sure Starts, or if the Fleet Sure Start could be run by an isolated group. The report was noted, and the committee awaits further developments.

**FEB/2011/RLA ITEM 16: CLERK'S REPORT**

The committee received a clerk's report showing emergency repairs and other items authorised during the month. The actions taken by the clerk to reduce the costs of building maintenance and to increase the level of service provision at the Harlington were noted.

The response from Hart District Council on the new Service Level Agreement for Ground Maintenance was received. As the increased charges had previously been agreed to, the committee noted that the invoice from Hart District Council will have to be paid.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 23h27

**The date and time of the next meeting is 7.30 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011, at the Harlington.**

Signed.....

Date:.....