



Minutes of the meeting of the Sport & Leisure Committee held via Zoom on Wednesday 9th September 2020 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Percival – Chairman
Councillor L. Brandon
Councillor R. Brisbin
Councillor M. Eames-Petersen (substitute for Cllr L. Newman)
Councillor R. Griffiths
Councillor L. Mendez

OFFICERS:

C. Lloyd (Town Clerk)
S. Frake (Head of Operations)
A. Ogilvie (Head of Estates)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Percival was elected Chairman for the Municipal Year

Councillor Mackay was elected Vice Chairman for the Municipal Year

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C. Juggins (Borough Council meeting), Councillor L. Newman and Councillor A. Mackay

3. QUESTION TIME

There were none.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

5. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd January 2020 were approved as an accurate record and will be signed by the Chairman in due course.

6. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Members noted the updates as circulated. They were please to note that more plans had been drawn up for the garden at Roe Hill Hall and this would be progressed subject to CoVid restrictions.

7. REQUEST FOR STORAGE AT BIRCHWOOD LEISURE CENTRE–SARACENS WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

Members noted the report that advised that Wheelchair Rugby were requesting land for a storage container at Birchwood Leisure Centre.

Members RESOLVED nem con that a rolling licence at peppercorn rent with an un-demanded deposit be given to the Rugby Club for an area 6.1m x 2.5m adjacent to the Town Council Offices on the following proviso;

- Licence to include break clause
- Saracens to agree to bear all costs involved including our (reasonable) legal fees
- Internal cupboard in Sports Hall to be emptied

Action: Town Clerk, Health and Well Being Manager, Head of Estates

8. ELLENBROOK PLAY AREA

Members noted the anti-social behaviour and problems with the basketball hoop installed on site.

Concern was expressed that the Anti-social Behaviour Team were not as effective as hoped and the public should be encouraged to phone 101 every time.

With regards to the problem of balls entering the play area, Members considered this a design flaw. Cllr Brisbin, expressed his dissatisfaction with the court surface and edging finish.

Members considered the quotations received for water and electricity provision on site. In the current climate they considered the cost too high but were keen to understand the cost of more environmentally sustainable ideas.

RESOLVED that

- (i) The Town Clerk contact Groundwork East regarding the apparent design and build flaws in the basketball area;
- (ii) The Town Clerk seek costs of provision of solar LED lighting on site, particularly to light the outdoor gym equipment.

Action: Town Clerk

9. LICENCE FOR BON APPETITE AND INCURSION BY TRAVELLERS AT BIRCHWOOD PLAYING FIELDS

Members noted the recent problems encountered at Birchwood Playing Fields and the costs incurred.

The Head of Estates advised that he had installed 40 tonnes of rubble as a temporary measure at a cost of £200.

Quotations had been sought on means of enclosing the entrance. Wooden bollards would cost £3,500, a digger and driver would cost about £1,000, temporary concrete blocks would cost £1,000 delivery and £196 per week hire.

Members were of the opinion that the most secure option would be a trench and mound and if the head of Estates was concerned about mowing it, he could grow wild flowers like the Borough Council had at Southway.

RESOLVED nem con, that the Head of Estates find quotations for the hire of a digger and driver to get trench and mounds at the entrance.

Action: Head of Estates

9. REQUEST FOR DUGOUTS BY HATFIELD TOWN FC

Members noted the request and that the Football Club would liaise with the head of estates to build the Dugouts themselves and transfer ownership (and subsequent maintenance) to the Town Council.

RESOLVED, nem con that permission be granted to the Football Club to build breezeblock and wooden roof dugouts at Pitch 4, Birchwood Playing Fields, subject to Birchwood and deHavilland Playing Fields Trust approval.

Action: Head of Estates, Town Clerk

10. BENCH AT THE RYDE

Members noted the request from the Residents' Association to re-install a bench on land leased to the Town Council.

Concern was expressed that the bench had been removed because of anti-social behaviour and may cause it in the future if reinstalled.

RESOLVED that the request be refused.

Action: Head of Estates

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted that the next meeting would be on 25th November 2020 at 7.30pm.

Closure: 9.15pm

Chairman