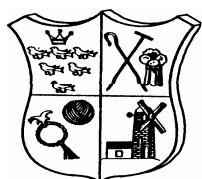


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL STRATEGIC PROJECTS COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Strategic Projects Committee held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Street, Hailsham, on Wednesday 27th April 2016 at 7.30 pm.

Prior to commencement of formal business, a period of not more than 15 minutes was assigned for the purpose of permitting members of the public to address the Committee or ask questions (on matters relevant to the responsibilities under direction of this Committee) at the invitation and discretion of the presiding Chairman.

There were no public present but the Town Clerk read out an email received from Mrs C. Smith regarding the Town Councils newsletter.

SPC/11/15/76 Mrs Smith expressed concern that the Town Council's newsletter had not been delivered to her house, but after viewing the newsletter through a friend she considered the font to be too small and suggested that the newsletter should show the Council's achievements and projects completed rather than a whole page being taken up by an advert for the Youth Club.

The Town Clerk advised that it would be possible to send a text only large version print of the newsletter to anyone who requested this and a copy of the newsletter with an option to magnify the text is on the Council's website. The Town Clerk advised he would investigate why Mrs Smith had not had a newsletter delivered to her house.

The Town Clerk stated that the Council had agreed that the newsletter would be forward looking and would concentrate on up and coming events and projects, not look back on past achievements, as the press releases put out by the Council cover the Council's ongoing projects and achievements.

SPC/11/15/77 **Committee members present**

Councillors: B. Beckett, L. Collinson, N. Coltman (substituting for A. O'Rawe), B. Holbrook P. Holbrook, M. Pinkney, P. Soane (Chairman) Mrs S. Van der Geyten

Officers in attendance: J. Harrison (Town Clerk), K. Giddings (Planning and Environment Officer)

78 **Apologies For Absence:**

Councillor Mrs M. Laxton and Ms A. O'Rawe

79 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor P. Holbrook declared a personal interest in agenda item 5, Allotment request, as his daughter has an allotment at Battle Road.

Councillor P. Soane declared a personal interest in agenda item 8, Parking Awareness Campaign, as his son had received a letter from the Police for parking on the pavement and blocking the access.

80 **Confirmation of Minutes**

RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Strategic Projects Committee meeting held on Wednesday 24th February 2016

81 **Matters Arising**

P. Holbrook asked for an update on the work at the Common Pond. K. Giddings advised that work would commence when the weather was drier.

82 **Allotments Request**

A request had been received from the Allotment Society to place two strips of hardcore to form a pathway at the entrance to the allotment site as the area becomes very muddy in the winter. The pathway would allow allotment holders easier access here and also allow for vehicles to deliver manure/compost etc.

82.1 **RESOLVED** to recommend to grant the Allotment Societies request to place two strips of hardcore at the entrance to the allotment site

83 **Additional Lighting at Grovelands**

Members were advised that the Deputy Town Clerk had written to all residents in the surrounding area at Grovelands to ask their opinion on lighting in Orchard Park. Only three responses had been received and they were all in favour of the lighting here. Members were advised the overall cost to purchase and install the light would be £1600.00

83.1 **RESOLVED** to recommend to place a street light at Orchard Park, at a total cost of £1600.00

84 **Dog Bins**

At the last meeting it had been agreed to provide extra funding for three dog bins. K. Giddings advised the suggested locations were Marshfoot Lane (near to White House School), South Road (near to Arlington Road East) and Battle Road (Amberstone end). The Committee discussed ways to make the public more aware that dog waste does not have to be placed solely in a dog bin; it can be placed in the litter bins in the Town. Members considered placing signs on the bins in the Town Centre advising of this, and also putting this information in the Town Councils newsletter, press releases and on the Town Council website and facebook.

85 **Parking Awareness Campaign**

L. Collinson stated that parking on the pavement and blocking access for pedestrians, particularly blind or disabled residents, was a cause of concern in the Town and suggested a parking awareness campaign is started, to combat the problem. L. Collinson stated she had spoken to many residents and the police regarding this problem and suggested the Town Council organise a series of press releases, internet posts and A5 leaflets to begin an awareness campaign to try and educate people to park considerately. Members were informed that it is not illegal to park on a pavement, but it is illegal to block a pavement.

N. Coltman reported he had recently met with the Mayors from local Towns to discuss decriminalisation and advised they could allow for one person to patrol the Town in relation to parking awareness.

Members discussed the parking problem caused by Wetherspoons delivery lorries unloading in George Street and blocking the pathway. It was agreed to write to Wetherspoons to ask whether they can unload from The Mews, rather than from George Street.

Members agreed to bring to the next meeting a list of suggested distribution areas for leaflets, an idea of costs and suggestions for the design of a leaflet

85.1 **RESOLVED** to recommend to

- i) write a letter to Wetherspoons regarding the blocking of George Street by their delivery lorries
- ii) to bring information on the distribution, design and costs of a leaflet to the next meeting

86 **Grass Cutting**

Members discussed the current grass cutting scheme. Much discussion ensued and it was agreed to no longer fund East Sussex County Council's urban grass cutting contract and to hand this back to East Sussex County Council.

Members were advised that the horticultural and cemetery contracts are due for renewal next year and will go out to tender later this year. It was agreed to put this item back on the next agenda in June for further discussion and to organise a site visit beforehand

Members suggested having less cuts in the horticultural contract next year.

86.1 **RESOLVED** to recommend to hand back the Urban Grass Cutting Contract to East Sussex County Council

87 **Welbury Farm Community Centre**

The Town Clerk advised that negotiations are still on going with Taylor Wimpey and that although discussions had taken place with the developer regarding the installation of a hearing loop and pa system in the hall, this had not been implemented, as agreed by Taylor Wimpey. Members were advised that Wealden District Council had written to Taylor Wimpey reminding them of their Section 106 obligations in relation to the installation of this equipment. Much discussion ensued and it was agreed to ask Wealden District Council to contact Taylor Wimpey again. Members decided against ring fencing any money for this equipment, as they agreed this should not be funded by the Town Council.

87.1 **RESOLVED** to recommend Wealden District Council are requested to contact Taylor Wimpey a second time regarding the installation of a hearing loop and pa system in the Community Hall

Police Support

88 Members discussed their priorities for the police, in supporting the Town. It was agreed to contact Inspector Wakefield to ask if the Police can support the campaign for considerate parking in various ways, such as giving a statement of support, allowing the Council to use the police logo on the parking campaign flyer and possibly backing the campaign by a providing a patrol in the Town.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45 pm. The next meeting will be

held on 22ND June at 7.30 pm

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities