

HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

STRATEGIC PROJECTS COMMITTEE



SPC/18/5/44

REPORT (Minutes) of the Strategic Projects Committee held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Street, Hailsham, on Wednesday 12th December 2018 at 7.30 pm.

Public Forum

Mr R. Newark and Mr R. Squires from Hailsham Town Youth Football Club addressed the Committee regarding Western Road Recreation Ground, requesting the use of the Recreation Ground for to play youth football matches for under 6's and under 8's

45 **Committee members present**

Councillors: F. Berry, Mrs S. Cottingham, P. Holbrook, B. Holbrook (substituting for C. Tasane), Ms A. O'Rawe (substituting for R. Grocock), Mrs B. Pinkney, M. Pinkney (substituting for N. Coltman), S. Potts, S. Van der Geyten (Chairman)

Officers in attendance: J. Harrison, K. Giddings

46 **Apologies For Absence:**

Councillors N. Coltman, R. Grocock and C. Tasane

47 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor S. Van der Geyten declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Western Road Recreation Ground, as she is organising the Facebook page for Hailsham Active

Councillors P. Holbrook and Mrs B. Holbrook declared a personal interest in agenda item - Western Road Recreation Ground – football – as their grandchildren play cricket on the Recreation Ground and also football

48 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategic Projects Committee held on Wednesday 17th October 2018 (Ref 18/4/32-43) as printed and circulated, may be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman

49 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Strategic Projects Committee on 17th October 2018**

- Hailsham Country Park Deed of Dedication – this is being worked on by the Deputy Town Clerk
- It was agreed at the last Full Council meeting to spend up to £20,000 for work on the James West Community Centre and the work is now in progress
- J. Harrison had met with the Head of Planning at Wealden District Council and been advised that £258,000 Section 106 funding for enhancement of leisure facilities was available. Payment of this has been formally requested.
- It had been recommended that the request for £26,041.20 for work to the Country Park this would go to the next Strategy Committee meeting in January
- The Battle Road play area sign has been erected in the play area

Western Road Recreation Ground – football

Hailsham Youth Football Club had requested the use of Western Road Recreation Ground for their under 6's and under 8's teams.

J. Harrison read out an email from the Cricket Club, who had some concerns over allowing the Football Club the use of the Recreation Ground.

S. Wennington circulated Google map pictures to the Committee, showing where the Hockey pitches used to be located, on the Recreation Ground. He considered that sports clubs in the Town need to share grounds due to the lack of sports facilities available and advised that the football pitches will be smaller than the old hockey pitches.

Mr Newark and Mr Squires advised that they use bio degradable paint so the pitch markings will not be permanent and confirmed they will be able to mark the pitches and they use portable goals. They further advised they have their own roller so they can make good any damage, if there is any.

R. Newark stated the Football Club are happy to play at the drier end of the Recreation Ground to help prevent damage and said they will make sure the Recreation Ground is left in a good state. The pitches will not be full size, they are for under 6's and under 8's and the Recreation Ground will not be used for training.

Members discussed the request and agreed to the Hailsham Youth Football Club's request to use Western Road Recreation Ground for the youth football.

It was agreed to arrange a site meeting with Hailsham Youth Football, the Cricket Club and Hailsham Town Council to go over everything and work out exactly where their pitches will go, and discuss any concerns the Cricket Club may have.

RESOLVED:

- i) to allow Hailsham Youth Football Club the use of Western Road Recreation Ground for their youth football matches for under 6's and under 8's
- ii) to organise a meeting between the Cricket Club, Football Club and Town Council to agree the location of the pitches

Councillors P. Holbrook and Mrs B. Holbrook abstained from voting on the matter

Football Provision

A letter had been received from Mr A. Butler from Hailsham Athletico, requesting to hire Maurice Thornton Playing Field for his senior football team's matches.

There were some concerns that due to the flooding on the playing field, another football team will over load the pitch.

S. Wennington considered that Hailsham Athletico may wish to approach Hellingly Parish Council, to see if they could use the pitches at the old Hellingly Hospital site. It was agreed that S. Wennington and Councillor S. Van der Geyten would contact Mr Butler with this alternative suggestion.

Councillor F. Berry advised he had been approached by a number of young people who would like to play football on the Country Park and proposed placing a goal on Hailsham

Country Park.

Members were against this suggestion as concern was expressed at the lack of parking available near by for any football teams and the damage that could be caused to the Country Park as the ground gets very wet in the winter months.

52

Harold Avenue Allotments

A request had been made by an allotment holder to maintain an area of land at the allotments, in return for a free allotment plot

Members noted that there are a couple of larger areas of grass on the edges of the allotment site which need to be maintained. They are not suitable to create an allotment plot as they are on the edge of the site and needed for access.

One of the allotment holders had offered to maintain an area of grass on the front and edge of the site, keeping it strimmed; in return for the Town Council waiving his allotment fee (£34.65 per year)

Members were advised that at the moment the outdoor staff strim the area at this allotment site. It is intended to add these areas to the Horticultural Contract in 2020, when the Council next goes to tender

Members considered the request and considered that the Town Council should be responsible for maintaining these areas.

52.1

RESOLVED to:

- i) deny the allotment holders request to maintain an area of land at the allotments, in return for a free allotment plot
- ii) to include the areas that need maintaining in the Horticultural Contract, when it next goes to tender in 2020

Councillor P. Holbrook abstained from voting as he is an allotment holder at the Battle Road site

53

Hailsham Cemetery

Members noted that Mr S. Gillett has been appointed as the new Cemetery Warden.

53.1

Woodland Area

J. Harrison advised that the families with plots on the woodland burial ground have been written to, advising them that any benches will be moved to the edge of the site. The cemetery regulations will be updated shortly.

53.2

Costed Improvements and Amendments

Members noted Councillor Potts report, outlining work required to be carried out to the anti-weed membrane and the removal of asbestos at the Cemetery.

J. Harrison advised that the work on the anti-weed membrane will be carried out "in house" by S. Gillett.

Members noted the following costs required for the anti-weed membrane:

6X bulk bag 20mm gravel	£300
16m2 Paving	£250.00
1X bulk bag Sharp sand	£50.00
1X bulk bag MOT (crushed granite chippings)	£50.00
5X Cement	£30.00
5 X small bags sand	£20.00
2 X rolls weed membrane	£60.00

An asbestos survey has been commissioned and revealed the presence of chrysolite asbestos on the corrugated roof and wall panels of the shed.

Indicative quote for the removal of the asbestos received, will require funding of **£550.00 + VAT**

Members noted the dumper had been sold for £200 so therefore a total of £1060.00 was required for the anti-weed membrane and removal of the asbestos

53.3 **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council to carry out all the work highlighted in Mr S. Potts report and approve the expenditure of £1060.00, to be taken from general reserves

Table of Fees

53.4 J. Harrison reported that there has been an increasing request for oversized coffins recently and he requested the Committee agree a price to charge for oversized graves

J. Harrison also advised that occasionally there is a request for a side by side burial, and a policy needs to be agreed on this as three plots are required for a side by side burial. Members agreed that if a double side by side burial is requested then three plots must be paid for.

53.5 **RESOLVED** that:

- i) there is a £75.00 charge for oversized graves
- ii) three grave spaces are used for a double side by side burial and the charge is for three plots

Western Road Recreation Ground Bench

Members considered a request by a resident of Hailsham to place a memorial plaque on an existing bench on Western Road Recreation Ground. This was for the resident's father who passed away in September. She had advised that her father was born in Hailsham and lived in the Town for 85 years and he often sat on the bench and watched the cricket on recreation ground.

K. Giddings advised that the plaque would be ordered through the Council and secured on the bench by one of the Council staff. The resident would cover the costs for the plaque.

54.1 **RESOLVED** to agree to the request to place a memorial plaque on an existing bench at Western Road Recreation Ground

55 Confidential Business

Resolved that due to the special and confidential nature of the business about to be

transacted, and possible disclosure of personal or legal information not in the public interest at the present time, the following items of business are to be transacted following the temporary exclusion of members of the Public and Press, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders No. 1E.

Town Council Newsletter
Horticultural Contract

The reason for exclusion is:

(b) terms of tenders, and proposals, and counter-proposals in negotiations for contracts

56 **Town Council Newsletter**

The Committee were informed that the newsletter's design is refreshed every few years. The size of the newsletter will now be taken from A5 back to A4 and members were asked to consider quotations for producing the new style newsletter.

Members considered four quotations.

Councillor F. Berry considered that the Town Council could encourage local companies to advertise in the newsletter and stated he would speak to T. Hall about this

56.1 **RESOLVED:**

- i) to appoint M and S Print as the printers for the newsletter
- ii) to keep the name "our Hailsham" for the newsletter
- iii) to approve the changing of the format to A4

Councillor F. Berry abstained from voting

57 **Horticultural Contract**

Members were advised that the current contractors have improved their performance and it was agreed to continue with the contractor for the duration of the contract

57.1 **RESOLVED** to complete the final year's horticultural contract but to review the horticultural contract in June/July 2019

58 **Wild flower verges**

Members considered all the suggested verges for wild flowers. Members were reminded that the verges must be accessible by tractor and any suggestions must be approved by East Sussex County Council.

Members suggested the following for a wild flower verge:

- Marshfoot Lane
- Station Road (in the vicinity of Burton Walk south towards common pond)
- An area at the junction of Hempstead Lane and Gleneagles Drive

It was proposed some areas of Council owned land could be allocated for wild flower verges and members agreed to discuss this item at the next Strategic Projects meeting in February 2019

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 pm. The next meeting will be

held on Wednesday 20th February 2019 at 7.30 pm

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities