

# HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL STRATEGIC PROJECTS COMMITTEE



SPC/18/6/59

REPORT (Minutes) of the Strategic Projects Committee held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Street, Hailsham, on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30 pm.

## **Public Forum**

Mr G. Osborne spoke in respect of a request by the Bonfire Society to hold their bonfire and fireworks event on Western Road Recreation Ground. He advised that he had met with the Council's Work Supervisor and had discussed and agreed resolutions to any concerns that had been raised. G. Osborne reported that the event would begin and end at the Freedom Leisure Centre Car Park.

The Head Coach at Hailsham Tennis Club addressed the Committee in respect of a request by the Tennis Club to place a banner advertising the Club on South Road railings. A further request was made for a sign advertising the Tennis Club to be placed on Western Road Recreation Ground, similar to the sign already erected by the Cricket Club.

A member of Hailsham and Heathfield District Scouts requested the use of Western Road Recreation Ground to hold their annual St Georges Day celebration event on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April from 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm. He advised that the scouts will parade from Vicarage Field and on to the Recreation Ground. He further advised that he has contacted East Sussex Highways regarding a road closure and has consulted with the Cricket Club, who have no issues with the event.

The Town Clerk read out an email from a resident, in relation to the wild flower verges. The resident outlined the importance of wild flowers for the eco system and stated that many Councils are taking steps to create wild flower areas. The Council were asked to give serious thought to creating some of the verges.

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## **Committee members present**

Councillors: F. Berry, N. Coltman, Mrs S. Cottingham, R. Grocock (Chairman), P. Holbrook, Mrs B. Pinkney, S. Potts, C. Tasane

Officers in attendance: J. Harrison, K. Giddings

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## **Apologies For Absence:**

None were received

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## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor F. Berry and S. Cottingham declared a personal interest in the agenda item for the Bonfire Society as they are both members of the Society.

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## **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategic Projects Committee held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018 (Ref 18/5/44-58) as printed and circulated, may be taken

as read and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman

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**To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Strategic Projects Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

- The location of the pitches has been agreed with the Football Club in consultation with the Cricket Club
- The allotment holder at Harold Avenue has been contacted regarding his request for a free plot in return for him maintaining a grass area
- The work to the cemetery will be carried out by S. Gillett and the table of fees is being implemented
- The memorial plaque has been ordered for the bench at Western Road Recreation Ground
- The Public and Communications Officer is organising the changes to the Town Council newsletter
- Wild flower verges – three areas of land had been passed to East Sussex County Council for consideration as wild flower verges. The land next to Hempstead Lane/Gleneagles Drive was not suitable as it was not owned by East Sussex Council but managed by the Estate here. The two other areas are still being considered

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**Hailsham Bonfire Society**

Members discussed the request by the Bonfire Society to hold their bonfire and firework event on Western Road Recreation Ground on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019

G. Osborne advised that the bonfire would be a token bonfire this year, around 12-15 ft, and that only clean timber would be used so there would be minimal fall out from this.

Members raised questions about crowd control and safety and G. Osborne advised that Western Road will have a road closure in place with barriers installed along the road for crowd control. There would be marshalls on the entrances to the Recreation Ground and escape routes are also allocated for any emergency. The Bonfire Society also have fire extinguishers in case of emergency.

G. Osborne advised that there is plenty of room between the location of the fireworks and the cricket score board, as some concern was raised over possible damage to the score board.

G. Osborne confirmed the Bonfire Society has all the necessary public liability insurance in place for the event.

G. Osborne stated he would liaise further where necessary with the Works Supervisor with regards to the event. He also stated that the Recreation Ground would be left in a good condition after the event.

Members agreed to approve the request for the event in October 2019, after which the event will be reviewed and permission to hold future events will be discussed further, at the Strategic Projects meeting in November 2019.

65.1

**RESOLVED** that:

- i) The request for the Bonfire Society to hold their bonfire and fireworks event on

- Western Road Recreation Ground on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October is approved.
- ii) An assessment will take place after the event to decide whether the event can be held on the Recreation Ground on a yearly basis

66 **Hailsham Tennis Club**

Members discussed the request for a sign on the Recreation Ground and concern was expressed over having a large number of signs on the site. It was suggested that one promotional board could be created for all organisations to advertise on.

66.1 **RESOLVED:**

- i) To agree to the Tennis Club's request to place a banner on the South Road railings
- ii) To ask the Cricket Club to remove their signs on the Recreation Ground and to liaise with all the clubs regarding one sign in the area to advertise all the clubs
- iii) Those clubs that wish to advertise on the board to contribute to the cost of the board

67 **Battle Road Allotments**

A request had been received by Hailsham Allotment Society to place one bee hive on the Battle Road site.

The bee keeper who will maintain the hive is experienced in keeping bees and a member of a bee keeping association. The bee keeper will visit the hive once every two weeks and he has the relevant insurance in place.

A notice will be placed on the site advising of the intention to keep bees

Members were in favour of the request

67.1 **RESOLVED:**

- i) to agree to the request to place one bee hive on the Battle Road allotments
- ii) The following conditions to be put in place for any further requests for bee hives on the site:
- *Approval must be given from the Town Council for bee hives to be placed on the allotment site*
  - *The individual making the request must be experienced in keeping bees and a member of a bee keeping society*
  - *A notice must be placed on the site notifying all allotment holders of the intention to keep bees on the site*
  - *The location of the hive must be agreed by the Town Council, in consultation with the Allotment Society and allotment holders*

68 **Proposal for District Scouting St Georges Day Event in Hailsham**

Members discussed the Scouts request to hold their St Georges Day event on Western Road Recreation Ground on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

- 68.1           **RESOLVED:**
- i) to agree to the Scout's request to use the Recreation Ground for their event
  - ii) The Recreation Ground must be left in a good condition with all rubbish removed
- 69            **Terms of Reference**
- Members discussed allowing the Committee a small budget for remedial repairs, to be taken from the capital reserves, so this does not have to be taken to the next Full Council meeting
- J. Harrison advised he would list the amount of funding spent by the Strategic Projects Committee in the last year and the proposed budget for the Committee would be discussed at the April meeting
- 69.1           **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council at the annual meeting in May 2019 for the following changes to the Terms of Reference:
- i) 7 members on the Committee
  - ii) The Committee name to be changed to the Assets Management Committee
  - iii) The meeting to commence at 7.00 pm
  - iv) Meetings to be held monthly
  - v) To remove youth projects, communications and environment from the list of oversight Councillors
  - vi) To retain Cemetery Wardens, Community Halls and Allotments on the oversight Councillor list
- 70            **Hailsham Cemetery**
- The Committee agreed on a number of changes to the Hailsham Cemetery regulations.  
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- It needs to be stated under "Cemetery rules" that the information guide is a guide only and that the cemetery regulations also need to be adhered to
  - All the roman numerals to be removed and replaced with numbers or letters
  - The numbering to be changed on the application for "Permission to erect a memorial"
  - An addition to the information guide stating that there are disabled facilities at the Cemetery and that the Cemetery is disabled friendly, with no steps
- Members agreed to organise another visit to the Cemetery for a further review, with the Town Clerk, Councillor S. Potts, Councillor B. Holbrook, D. Saxby and S. Gillett
- 71            **Arlington Road Play Area**
- The developer of the new Arlington Road Estate had approached the Council to ask if they wish to take over responsibility of the play area here.
- Members were shown pictures of the wooden play area.
- Members were reminded that the Town Council does not install wooden play equipment now as it is not as robust as other material and is high maintenance, requiring more repairs than other types of equipment.
- The Town Clerk advised he is currently awaiting confirmation on whether there are commuted sums/S106 monies payable to the Council for taking on these areas.

Members agreed the Council would need to be consulted from the start, in relation to taking over play equipment and consulted over what type and style of equipment is installed.

The Town Clerk advised he would contact the Head of Planning at Wealden District Council to request that if a play area is to be offered to the Town Council, the Town Council is consulted over the style and type of equipment to be installed, from the beginning.

71.1 **RESOLVED** that the Town Council does not take on responsibility of the new play area on the Arlington Road development

72 **Wild flower verges**

Members discussed the various areas proposed to be wild flower verges. It was agreed to concentrate for the moment on an already designated area at the Common Pond.

Councillor P. Holbrook and S. Cottingham agreed to take responsibility for planting the flowers at the wild flower area at the Common Pond

72.1 **RESOLVED:**

- i) To create a wild flower area on the already allocated spot by the Common Pond
- ii) To take funds from the Garden Budget for this project, up to £400

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 7.30 pm

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