

HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



AMC/19/2/16

REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Street, Hailsham, on Wednesday 31st July 2019 at 7.00 pm.

Public Forum

Mrs Dawson from Grovelands School and Mr M. Simms from Hailsham Tennis Club attended the meeting and addressed the Committee before their agenda item was discussed

17 **Committee members present**

Councillors: C. Bryant, R. Grocock (Chairman), P. Holbrook, M. Laxton, T. Powis, C. Tasane

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings

18 **Apologies For Absence:**

Members noted and approved the apologies for absence from the following member:

Councillor B. Granville

N.B Councillor K. Hinton gave his apologies immediately prior to the meeting

19 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor P. Holbrook declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Grovelands School, as his grandchildren go to the School.

Councillor R. Grocock declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Grovelands School as he is involved in helping with the Forest School

20 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on Wednesday 26th June 2019 (Ref 19/1/1-15) as printed and circulated, may be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman

21 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Assets Management Committee on 26th June 2019**

- The new goal post and fence for Quinnell Drive Play Area was approved at the Full Council meeting in July
- South East Water are currently checking whether they will cover the costs of the legal fees for the lease at land at Diplocks Way
- K. Giddings contacted the Hockey Club suggesting they contact Hailsham Active and Wealden Council regarding a potential Hockey Clubhouse
- Hailsham FM have been informed that their rent will be put on hold for the time

- being
- The ex-employee of the Town Council has been contacted regarding the reduction in grave fees
- The Cricket Club have been given approval for their sponsorship event

22 **Land at Grovelands Farm**

Mrs H. Dawson addressed the Committee regarding the problems Grovelands School has experienced with vandalism in their Forest School. Mrs Dawson explained that she cannot improve the facility for the pupils due to this vandalism - equipment and logs cannot be left in the area as they are often damaged. Mrs Dawson stated that a fence in this area would help secure the Forest School and allow her to continue to improve the area for the pupils.

22.1 **RESOLVED** to approve the request to place a fence on the Council owned land adjacent Groveland School's Forest School, subject to Grovelands School investigating whether planning permission is required for the fence

23 **Hailsham Tennis Club**

M. Simms of Hailsham Tennis Club addressed the Committee with regard to the Tennis Club's Lease and asked whether the Council would increase/renew the current lease as there are only less than 10 years remaining on the Lease.

He advised that the Tennis Club had been successful in gaining planning consent to modernise the floodlights and improve the lux levels to meet the LTA's latest playing standard.

He stated that the Tennis Club was now actively involved in attempting to secure additional funding for the work to commence but this could only be carried out if the Club's Lease was renewed, as applications require a minimum of at least 10 years remaining on a lease. He requested that 21 years be added to the Lease.

Members agreed to this request. M. Simms advised that the Tennis Club would be willing to pay 50% of the legal fees for this extension.

23.1 **RESOLVED** to approve the request by the Tennis Club to extend the Club's lease by 21 years. The Tennis Club to pay 50% of the legal fees for the lease extension

24 **Community Infrastructure Levy Projects**

J. Harrison reported that the Strategy Committee was proposing the development of a Community Infrastructure Levy policy and members were asked to consider three items within the remit of the Assets Management Committee which may be put on the list for Community Infrastructure Levy funding. Much discussion ensued and it was agreed to put this item back on the agenda for the August meeting and to consider any ideas for Community Infrastructure Projects at this meeting. Once any items have been highlighted for CIL funding the Committee to then decide on how to take this project forward.

24.1 **RESOLVED** to put the agenda item "Community Infrastructure Levy Projects" on the agenda for the August Assets Management Committee meeting for further discussion

25 **Budget**

Councillor P. Holbrook suggested the possibility of placing advertising on the Council's dog bins to gain funds to go towards the costs of running the dog bins.

The Committee discussed whether to increase the hire charges for Maurice Thornton Pavilion and the Fleur de Lys meeting room. After much discussion members decided not to increase the fees at the current time.

It was agreed for the Town Clerk to write to Hailsham Town Football Club to advise the Town Council would like to work with the Club and improve the facilities on the football pitch and to advise that the Council may increase the costs of the pitch in the future as a result of improvements to the pitch. The Town Clerk was also requested to discuss with the Football Club whether they would like a further two cuts per year to the football pitch

25.1 **RESOLVED:**

- i) the Town Clerk to write to Hailsham Town Football Club advising of possible future pitch improvements and to enquire as to whether the Club would like two further cuts to the pitch per year
- ii) the Town Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Football Club with the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Assets Management Committee
- iii) to maintain the current hire charges of the Fleur de Lys meeting room and Maurice Thornton Pavilion and re-visit these costs if and when the facilities are improved

It was agreed to consider the replacement/updating of the defibrillators in the Town at a future meeting, if required.

25.2 **RESOLVED** to make no further changes to the budget

26 **Managed Maintenance Plan**

Members were informed that there is no separate budget at the moment for general maintenance and it was suggested that a managed maintenance plan could be created for future work that will be required. The Committee were in favour of such a plan and requested that the outdoor team organise a list and rough costings of maintenance items required for the next 18 months to two years, to be discussed at an Assets Management Meeting later in the year.

26.1 **RESOLVED** that a list of work and costings be presented to the Committee for discussion at the Assets Meeting in November

27 **Hailsham Country Park**

Members were reminded that at the Strategic Projects meeting of October 2018 it was agreed to enter Hailsham Country Park into a Deed of Dedication

Members considered and approved the wording of the Deed.

27.1 **RESOLVED** to approve the wording of the Deed of Dedication for the Country Park

28 **Hailsham Parish Church**

K. Giddings advised that the floodlights in Hailsham Parish Church Yard were installed in 2005 and there have been problems with the lights failing and needing repairing ever since. Some of this has been due to vandalism but the majority of problems have been due to failing switches and water getting into the flood lights causing them to fail. The

lights have not worked in the Church Yard for the last couple of years.

The Church is now completing work to create their new entrance, this will involve moving one of the flood lights and the Church have asked whether the Council wishes to retain the lights and try and repair or concede to have them removed.

Members were informed that as the lights have not worked for quite a while there are now bats in the area and if the Council decided to move the lights and continue to flood light the Church Yard a bat survey would need to be carried out and funding set aside for this survey.

Much discussion ensued and the Committee agreed they no longer wished to support the floodlighting and were in favour of the removal of the flood lights from the churchyard.

28.1 **RESOLVED** to agree to the removal of the floodlights in the grounds of the Hailsham Church Yard

29 **Confidential Business**

To resolve 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 be transacted following the temporary exclusion of members of the Public and Press, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders No. 1E.

Hailsham Cemetery

The reason for exclusion is:

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

30 **Hailsham Cemetery**

Members were reminded that in Councillor Pott's Cemetery report at the meeting of the Strategic Projects Committee in April 2019 it had been recommended to replace the roof to an outbuilding at Hailsham Cemetery.

Members agreed to approve the work to the roof.

Members discussed three quotations for the work from Mann Roofing and Building, Accurate Roofing and CA Fox Roofing

30.1 **RESOLVED** to appoint the work to the roof of the outbuilding at Hailsham Cemetery to Accurate Roofing, to be taken from the Ripleys Capital Reserves

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st August 2019 at 7.00 pm