

HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held remotely **VIA THE INTERNET**, on Wednesday 22nd July 2020 at 7.00 pm.

Public Forum

Mr D. Radtke and Mr G. Maunders were present to speak on the agenda item for Community Land Trust and it was agreed they would speak directly before the item

AMC/20/9/
113

Committee members present

Councillors: C. Bryant, N. Coltman, T. Powis, R. Grocock (Chairman), K. Hinton (Vice Chairman), P. Holbrook, M. Laxton, C. Tasane

Officers in attendance: J. Harrison and K. Giddings

114 **Apologies For Absence:**

None were received

115 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor M. Laxton declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Community Land Trust as she is a member of the Community Land Trust Committee and she did not vote on the subject

116 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on Wednesday 18th March 2020 (Ref AMC/19/8/104-112) as printed and circulated, may be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman

117 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Assets Management Committee on 18th March 2020**

In respect of the expansion of the Youth Service into Hellingly, A. Joyes has confirmed that this has been verbally agreed with Hellingly Council and the expansion is proceeding.

K. Giddings advised that she had contacted St Wilfrid's Hospice to see if they wished to install a clothing bank within a Council owned area in Hailsham but she had not received a reply. She advised she would contact Wealden District Council to see if clothing banks are still being emptied and would then contact St Peters and St James Hospice for the further details on their clothing bank request, to allow for further consideration by the Assets Committee, at a future meeting.

J. Harrison reported that the proposals for Union Corner Hall and the roof at Maurice Thornton will go to Full Council for consideration at the next meeting in September 2020

- 118 **Memorial Benches**
- Members were advised of three requests received to place memorial benches on Council owned land.
- The first request was to place a bench at Maurice Thornton Playing Field, for the recently retired Hailsham United Chairman, to be placed at the Marshfoot Lane end, adjacent the pitches.
- The two other benches were requested to be placed at Hailsham Country Park, in an area adjacent the Lake.
- Members also considered a draft Memorial Bench Policy with a form that would need to be filled out and signed by the member of the public requesting the placing of a memorial bench. It was agreed to adopt this policy so that further memorial bench requests do not have to be agreed at a Committee meeting but instead can be delegated to Officers for approval.
- 118.1 **RESOLVED TO:**
- i) Agree to all three bench requests, subject to payment up front
 - ii) Agree to adopt the Memorial Bench Policy
- 119 **Hailsham Country Park**
- A request had been received from the Council's Water Bailiff to hold a fishing competition at the Country Park Lake at some point in the Autumn, on a Sunday morning. It was agreed K. Giddings would contact the Water Bailiff in respect of his request, outlining the conditions that would need to be in place for this competition to go ahead.
- 119.1 **RESOLVED** to agree to the request to hold a fishing competition, providing all aspects of social distancing are adhered to and numbers of participants allowed are in line with Government recommendations at the time. It was further agreed that the area could not be closed off just for the competition and other members of the public would be able to fish at the Lake at the same time
- 120 **Carpenters Way Play Area**
- Members discussed the proposal to close the play area and relocate the equipment.
- Members were advised that if the equipment was removed, the area would be left as a public open space.
- It was agreed that before any final decisions are made, that the local residents on the Estate must be written to via a leaflet drop/questionnaire drop, advising them that it is being considered to remove the play equipment and obtain their opinions or suggestions for alternative ideas.
- Responses will be considered at a future Assets Committee meeting.
- 120.1 **RESOLVED** to obtain the views of local residents on the removal of the play equipment at Carpenters Way Play Area. Once these have been received, to further consider this proposal at a future Assets Committee Meeting.

121 **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

Community Land Trust
Hailsham Cemetery

122 **Community Land Trust**

Mr D. Radtke from the Community Land Trust Committee, asked for the Committee to support the Land Trust's request.

Councillor K. Hinton read out a letter from Wealden District Council in relation to the Community Land Trust's request. He expressed surprise that Wealden Council had not mentioned the current use of the site, that it is a green space, and he questioned that Wealden Council did not seem to be aware that there would be a loss of green space if the proposals went ahead.

Mr Radtke and Mr Maunders left the meeting at 7.40 pm

Much discussion ensued and members expressed concern at building on this area of land which would result in a loss of green space, at a time when the Council is currently requesting more green space is available in Hailsham.

122.1 **RESOLVED** to refuse the Community Land Trust's request

Councillor M. Laxton abstained from voting as she is a member of the Community Land Trust Committee

123 **Hailsham Cemetery - Update**

Pathways

Members discussed the quotations received for the repairing of pathways at the Cemetery. Concern was expressed at the cost of repairing the paths and it was agreed a phased repair could be undertaken. It was suggested that updated quotations could be obtained for the pathways and the pathways in most need of repair could be considered first, with this built into the Managed Maintenance Plan.

123.1 **RESOLVED** to delegate to Officers to present a costed and prioritised plan to the Committee for undertaking work to the pathways over a period of time, such as four years.

The money for these repairs to be built into the budget and taken from the Community Infrastructure Levy or Capital receipts.

124 **Ashes**

J. Harrison advised he would write to the owners of the ashes plots to ask them to remove the small fences and other items that have been placed at the Cemetery.

Trees

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Members discussed a complaint received from a member of the public regarding the removal of trees at the Cemetery. The Committee were informed that a Tree Consultant had advised that the trees here needed to be removed.

Members agreed that the recommendations of the Tree Consultant had to be followed and therefore the complaint could not be upheld and the trees did need to be removed.

125.1

RESOLVED for the Town Clerk to contact the member of the public explaining the reasons why the trees were removed

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities