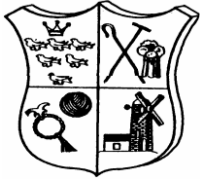


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held remotely **VIA THE INTERNET**, on Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 7.00 pm.

AMC/20/12/
171

Public Forum

M. Laxton requested one of the signs at Hailsham Country Park stating dogs must be kept on leads be made more visible. K. Giddings advised she would organise this.

S. Wennington updated members regarding the new path at Western Road Recreation Ground and stated that the path could hopefully be officially opened in April, by the Mayor. He reported that he was investigating funding for the maintenance of the path. The new path has received a very positive response from the public.

S. Wennington advised he would liaise with P. Holbrook regarding the official opening of the path.

S. Wennington further reported that he had received the Ecology survey, this was very positive, it has stated that some of the lower lamps may have to be bollards, to protect bats in the area. The final style of the type of lights installed will be decided alongside Wealden Council.

J. Harrison reported that South East Water had flooded an area of the Recreation Ground by the cricket score shed, without permission and that this had caused considerable damage. He advised he has contacted South East Water about this and is waiting to hear back, but will follow this up shortly if they do not get in touch.

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Committee members present

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

Officers in attendance: J. Harrison and K. Giddings

Members of the public present: S. Wennington (Hailsham Active)

173

Apologies For Absence:

None were received

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Declarations of Interest

None were received

175

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on 18th November 2020 (Ref: AMC/20/12/153-165) as printed and circulated, may be

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

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on 10th December 2020 (Ref: AMC/20/12/166-170) as printed and circulated, may be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman

176 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Assets Management Committee on 18th November 2020 and 10th December 2020**

Wealden Council have undertaken the improvements to the roundel on Vicarage Field.

The situation at Hailsham Cemetery is being dealt with.

The discussions are still ongoing with Taylor Wimpey in relation to the football pitch at the James West Centre.

Members were informed that work should begin on the improvements to South Road Play Area around mid April.

177 **Maurice Thornton Site**

J. Harrison reported that he had met with Wealden District Council and they had advised that they would not be prepared to designate Maurice Thornton Recreation Ground as a Fields in Trust site as this would remove any options they may wish to consider in the future, for the site.

Wealden Council have asked for a detailed proposal as to which part of the site the Community Interest Company would take over.

Members discussed the Town Council's lease on the land and were advised that only 16 years is left on the lease. It was agreed that ideally an extension on the lease is required, if possible extended to 100 years.

Concern was raised by members at Wealden Council's refusal to designate the area to Fields in Trust and it was agreed to write to Wealden Council, outlining these concerns, which the Committee considered seemed to suggest that this space will not always be available as an open space and to ask Wealden to advise what their position is on this area of land. The letter to also include a request to extend the Town Council's lease on the land.

177.1 **RESOLVED to:**

- i) Write a letter to Wealden District Council to formally propose to delegate an area of Maurice Thornton Playing Field to Fields in Trust and to ask for Wealden Council's position on this. To further request the Town Council's lease on the land to be extended, if possible to 100 years.
- ii) Organise a Sub Committee once a response is received to this letter

Councillor Mrs M. Laxton voted against, Councillors C. Bryant and R. Grocock abstained

Members discussed the container on the site and both the Town Clerk and R. Grocock requested S. Wennington organise for the container to be moved, as they advised the location of the container was a public liability and a health and safety concern.

S. Wennington advised that it was not possible to move the container at the moment as the ground was too wet so it could not be moved with a vehicle and cannot be moved by hand due to the current social distancing regulations and the number of people that would be required to physically move the container.

178

Hailsham Youth Service

Members noted the report from A. Joyes.

M. Laxton asked whether the difference in the costing for the old mini-bus and the new mini-bus plus the additional insurance, was paid from the Youth Cafe budget? It was confirmed that this was all used from the existing budget.

Members thanked A. Joyce and his team for all their hard work. It was also noted how they had continued to support the young people where possible, throughout the pandemic, even though they are not able to open the Youth Cafe at the current time. It was agreed to send a thank you letter to A. Joyes and his team.

S. Wennington reported he may be able to assist with funding to cover the insurance on the mini-bus. It was agreed to delegate this to officers, and for A. Joyes and S. Wennington to liaise in regard to the insurance.

179

Maurice Thornton Pavilion

The Committee had previously agreed to replace the tiles on the Maurice Thornton roof at a cost of £23,000 for supply and installation.

The Town Council's outdoor works team manager had requested that the Committee consider installing an alternative product that is more environmentally friendly and members were therefore asked to consider a new option of a recyclable, environmentally tile for the Maurice Thornton Pavilion roof.

It was suggested an envirotile is purchased, which is made from recycled polymers and it can be recycled again when the roof has to be changed in the future

It was agreed to ensure the cost of the tiles and the work to the roof is as close to possible as the originally agreed cost of £23,000

M. Laxton requested that this project is brought back to the Committee for consideration.

179.1

RESOLVED that:

- i) If the cost of the project is below £23,000 the project will be delegated to Officers to complete
- ii) If the cost of the project is over £23,000 the decision will be taken back to the Assets Committee for further discussion

Councillor Mrs M. Laxton voted against

180

Bus Shelters

K. Giddings advised there had been no further communication from Wealden District Council in regard to who is responsible for taking over the proposed bus shelters at Ersham Road, therefore it was agreed to follow the advice given by East Sussex County Council, who had advised it was the Town Council's responsibility, if it chose to take on the

bus shelters.

Much discussion ensued; members discussed the commuted sum for the bus shelters and K. Giddings advised that East Sussex County Council had advised the Town Council could ask for a suggested figure of £1,500 for each bus shelter. Members suggested the Town Council requests a slightly higher figure than this.

It was further requested to ask East Sussex County Council what the criteria is for new bus shelters and also whether one of the two bus shelters could be placed in a different location to Ersham Road.

180.1

RESOLVED to:

- i) Agree to take on responsibility of the two new bus shelters at Ersham Road
- ii) To request a commuted sum of £2,000 per bus shelter

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities