

HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held remotely **VIA THE INTERNET**, on Wednesday 28th April 2021 at 7.00 pm.

AMC/20/13/
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Public Forum

None were present

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Committee members present

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

Officers in attendance: J. Harrison and K. Giddings

Also present: S. Wennington (Hailsham Active)

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Apologies For Absence:

Councillors K. Hinton and R. Newark

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Declarations of Interest

None were received

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Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on 17th March 2021 (Ref: AMC/20/13/181-195) 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 Assets Management Committee on 17th March 2021

- J. Harrison advised that he had received a link from East Sussex County Council regarding accident hot spots. The request for funding for the street light repairs had been approved by Council
- Members were advised the alcove light has now been switched off
- Hailsham East Community Centre has been included again on the list of Asset of Community Value
- The repairs are due to be undertaken at 4 Market Square
- An article regarding responsible dog walking will be included in the June news letter

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Ersham Road Cemetery

A request had been received to set up a "Friends of Ersham Road Cemetery", a voluntary group to repair and raise funds for the Cemetery and generally contribute to it.

Members discussed the proposal and concerns were raised at the health and safety and risk implications of having members of the public at the Cemetery when funerals were taking place, concerns over parking issues and insurance implications.

It was agreed to write to the volunteers to thank them for their idea but to advise that the risk implications are too great for such a volunteer group at the Cemetery.

Members agreed that the Cemetery does not require volunteers as it is extremely well kept and looked after now and members praised S. Gillett for all his hard work at the Cemetery.

RESOLVED to refuse the request to set up a Friends of Ersham Road Cemetery Group.

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Sports Club Meeting

Members agreed that the meeting of the Sports Clubs held prior to the Assets Committee meeting had been very positive.

Members were advised that the use of Hailsham Country Park for recreational purposes had been discussed plus the general pitch fees.

RESOLVED to waive the pitch fees for a year at Maurice Thornton Playing Field

RESOLVED to recommend to Council to provide football posts and pitch marking at Hailsham Country Park

Councillor P. Holbrook abstained from voting on the item

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Hailsham Byway 18A

A proposal had been received from Hailsham Active to upgrade part of the byway known as Hailsham 18a, running from the Diplocks Housing Estate to the Diplocks Industrial Estate. It was possible that funding might be available for the project from an external source.

A local company had agreed that they could undertake the work and the cost would be significantly reduced through the use of volunteers.

However, there was a possible conflict as the Town Council's Financial Regulations require a competitive tendering process.

Members agreed in principle to the proposal and agreed to bring the subject back to the next Assets Committee meeting, to allow for a further update on the funding situation from S. Wennington. It was also agreed this would allow time for the Town Clerk to discuss the financial regulations with the Town Council's Internal Auditor.

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Benches at Western Road Recreation Ground

Members were advised that there are eleven benches around the Recreation Ground and the majority are inside the newly installed perimeter track.

The Committee discussed whether to move some of the current benches to a better location for the use of the track, or whether to purchase some new benches.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk and the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Committee would meet on site to decide which benches require re-locating around the track and that the matter would be brought back to a future Assets Committee meeting for further discussion.

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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

Maurice Thornton Recreation Ground

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Maurice Thornton Recreation Ground

Much discussion ensued and members agreed they were against the proposal. It was agreed that the Committee still wished to propose to put the land at Maurice Thornton forward as a Fields in Trust.

Councillors C. Bryant, R. Grocock and P. Holbrook abstained from commenting on the proposal and did not vote on the matter.

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

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities