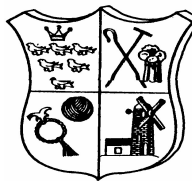


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held in the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Square, Hailsham on Wednesday 8th February 2023 at 7.00 pm.

AMC/22/6/82 **Public Forum**

P. Gibson of Hailsham News was present but did not wish to speak

R. Ahimsa-Rae was present and asked to speak under the agenda item for "Garden Guardians"

83 **Committee members present**

Councillors: C. Bryant, R. Grocock, P. Holbrook, S. Keogh, M. Laxton, T. Powis

Other Councillors present: Councillor A. Ricketts

Officers in attendance: J. Harrison, K. Giddings, C. Letschka

Apologies For Absence:

Councillor R. Newark

84 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor C. Bryant declared a personal interest in the agenda item for the Bonfire Society as he is a member of the Bonfire Society

P. Holbrook declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Garden Guardians as he is acquainted with R. Ahimsa-Rae

85 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on Wednesday 30th November 2022 (Ref: AMC/ 22/5/65-81) as printed and circulated, may be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman

86 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Assets Management Committee on 30th November**

The Committee were advised of the following:

The Cricket Club projects will be implemented in the spring

The hedge at the Common Pond has been removed

A Council policy is now in place for the installation of CCTV and the policy will be placed on the Town Council website

J. Harrison will talk to the CIL officer at Wealden regarding Maurice Thornton

87

Garden Guardians

R. Ahimsa-Rae addressed the Committee regarding her proposal to create a wildflower area in one of the Town Council's open spaces.

Members discussed the request and agreed it would be a positive project in one of the open spaces. It was noted that insurance would need to be put in place by R. Ahimsa-Rae

Members suggested R. Ahimsa-Rae speak to the Works Manager to discuss the best place to create this area and once an area is agreed, for the item to be brought back to the Assets Management Committee for further discussion.

R. Ahimsa-Rae left the meeting at 7.20 pm

88

Western Road Recreation Ground Adult Gym

C. Letschka addressed the Committee in relation to the equipment that needs replacing in the adult gym.

He advised that two options could be considered, either to replace the two most damaged pieces of equipment immediately or replace the whole area in one go

It was agreed that C. Letschka would provide costs for both options and the request would then be taken to Full Council for a final decision

M. Laxton asked if she could see the listed items in the Maintenance Plan and requested these are taken to the Strategy meeting

88.1

RESOLVED to:

- i) Obtain two quotations, one for replacing the whole adult gym area and one for replacing two pieces of equipment immediately
- ii) Take both options to Full Council for a decision

C. Letschka left the meeting at 7.30 pm

89

Warm Bank

A Ricketts updated the Committee on the recent Warm Bank sessions. She stated they are working extremely well with around 10 people per session.

A Ricketts stated that some toys have been supplied for the children, plus magazines and tea and coffee for those attending. She further reported that the sessions are self funding as the Community Hub provide the refreshments.

It was agreed to arrange a further Warm Bank Sub Committee meeting to discuss ways to evolve the current sessions, past the winter months.

It was further agreed to book the Saturday and Sunday sessions of 10.00 am to midday at the James West Centre through to the end of June, with a further review on the sessions, in June.

Members noted that the trial Warm Bank session on a Friday at the Youth Café would not be continued as there was no requirement for a Warm Bank here.

90 **Youth Service**

Members noted the report and thanked A. Joyes and his team for all their hard work and efforts.

Members agreed they greatly appreciated everything that the Youth Service does for the Town.

91 **Changing Spaces**

Members discussed the project and it was agreed that Councillor M. Laxton and J. Harrison will approach Wealden to enquire about funding.

92 **Sports Groups**

A meeting of the local sports groups had taken place before the Assets Management Committee meeting. Members agreed the meeting had been positive. It was noted that Hellingly Councillor, David White, has acquired some land behind the Hellingly Club and discussions are taking place as to what sports facilities could be created on this area of land.

93 **Brunel Drive**

Members discussed the recent parking problems that had occurred when the Hall had been recently booked with a large number of users. S. Keogh reported that users of the Hall parking on Brunel Drive had caused chaos with some drivers driving dangerously and the residents of Brunel Drive not being able to access their properties.

Much discussion ensued and S. Keogh reported he had been speaking to East Sussex County Council regarding the matter. He suggested it may be necessary to limit the number of people allowed to book the Hall at one time. He also considered that users must be advised they have to park in the James West Car Park rather than on the road.

Members discussed the suggestions proposed by M. Caira, which were to vet closely all future bookings. He suggested that when a booking is taken, it is asked what is the estimated number of attendees and cars that will need to use the car park. M. Caira had further suggested if these numbers are high then it may be necessary to refuse the booking

Members agreed to implement these suggestions.

S. Keogh advised he will bring a report on the matter to the next meeting in March.

93.1 **RESOLVED** to vet closely all future bookings and ask the estimated number of attendees and cars that will need to use the car park. If these numbers are high then the booking may be refused

All users of the Hall must be asked to park their vehicles in the James West car park rather than on Brunel Drive

94 **Bonfire Society**

Members discussed the recent site visit to consider the use of Grovelands Barn by the Bonfire Society. The concerns raised were the storage of the torches and the accelerant in

the Barn and the risk of a fire hazard this caused here.

The Works Manager had suggested a metal container is placed outside of the Barn and the accelerant is stored here. The torches are then prepared in this container outside, and not in the Barn.

It was also agreed that The Bonfire Society must obtain the correct public liability and sign an appropriate agreement.

94.1 **RESOLVED** to continue to allow the Bonfire Society to use Grovelands Barn providing the Bonfire Society provide a suitable container to be placed outside of the Barn, and the relevant insurance is in place and a contract signed by the Bonfire Society

C. Bryant abstained from voting

P. Gibson left the meeting at 8.35 pm

95 **Hailsham Cemetery – Garden of Remembrance**

Members discussed the request to remove the hedging in the Garden of Remembrance, and replace with picket fencing.

Much discussion ensued and some members did not consider picket fencing to be suitable for a Cemetery. It was suggested that the hedge could be removed and the area left open planned instead.

It was agreed to see if this idea works and if not, to look into other possibilities.

95.1 **RESOLVED** to agree to the request to remove the hedge and leave the area open planned with a view to consider further options in the future if necessary

96 **Health Parks Project**

Members thanked T. Powis for his in depth report on the Health Parks project

It was agreed to take the report to the Strategy Committee and to consider whether CIL can be used for any of the listed projects

96.1 **RESOLVED** to adopt the report as part of the Maintenance Plan

97 **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.

Common Pond

Village Green

98 **Common Pond**

Members discussed the quotation received to undertake work to the weeping willows on the islands

98.1 **RESOLVED** to agree to the quotation of £2650 plus VAT, to be taken from the Common Pond budget

99 **Village Green**

J. Harrison reported that a site meeting had taken place at the site of the new Cuckoo Fields development

He stated that a better access will need to be created to allow for room for vehicles to undertake maintenance to the Village Green and this will need to be written into a contract

99.1 **RESOLVED** to delegate the matters of access to the Village Green to the Town Council Officers

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm

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