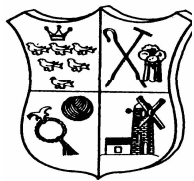


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held in the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Square, Hailsham on Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 7.00 pm.

AMC/22/7/
100

Public Forum

S. Wennington updated members on the situation with Maurice Thornton Playing Field. He advised he has met with Wealden Council and is hoping that the Section 106 funding allocated for drainage may be able to be increased

S. Wennington left the meeting at 7.10 pm

R. Ahimsa-Rae was also present and advised she wished to speak at the agenda item for Garden Guardians

101

Committee members present

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

Officers in attendance: J. Harrison, K. Giddings

102

Apologies For Absence:

Councillors R. Grocock and R. Newark

103

Declarations of Interest

Councillor P. Holbrook declared a personal interest in the item for Garden Guardians as he is an acquaintance of R. Ahimsa-Rae

Councillors M. Laxton declared a personal interest in Hailsham Active as she is a Director of Hailsham Active

104

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on 7th December 2022 (AMC/22/65-70) and Wednesday 8th February (Ref: AMC/ 22/82-99) as printed and circulated, may be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman

105

To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Assets Management Committee on 8th February

- The Works Manager, R. Gillett, will be attending a site meeting with the contractor on 21st March, in relation to the refurbishment and improvement of the Maurice Thornton, Battle Road and Stroma Gardens Playgrounds. Work on the sites is expected to commence in May

- J. Harrison will liaise with the outdoor maintenance staff regarding the work to the adult gym on Western Road Recreation Ground
- M. Laxton and J. Harrison will be meeting with Wealden Council in relation to the changing spaces project
- The bookings are now being vetted at the James West Community Hall to ensure the car parking does not cause an issue in the area. One booking has already been refused
- The work to the Common Pond is in hand
- Discussions will be taking place with the developer and Wealden Council in relation to the Village Green
- P. Holbrook advised that the pathway around the Common Pond requires cleaning as it is covered in silt and has become very slippery. J. Harrison stated he would speak to the outdoor team to see if the area can be cleaned
- P. Holbrook also asked if the wire over the bridge at Grovelands Barn can be fixed back on as this area is also slippery

106

Garden Guardians

R. Ahimsa-Rae addressed the Committee, stating that the plan for the Garden Guardians project can start small initially and grow over time, as she obtains funding and community support. She advised she would like to plant some trees and the Committee suggested she contact Environment Hailsham to see if they can assist with watering the trees.

S. Keogh advised that it would not be possible for the Council to provide any funding for this project as funding across the board has been cut recently.

The Committee agreed to support the project but at no cost to the Council

106.1

RESOLVED:

- i) To support the Garden Guardian project but at zero cost to the Council
- ii) R. Ahimsa-Rae to meet with the Deputy Town Clerk and Works Manager to discuss the project to decide which areas of public open space can be used
- iii) A letter will be drafted to R. Ahimsa-Rae advising that the Council supports the project

R. Ahimsa-Rae left the meeting at 7.40 pm

107

Warm Bank Sub Committee

Members were updated on the recent Sub Committee meeting of the Warm Bank

Members noted that the warm bank sessions on a Friday morning at the Youth Centre would not be continued as there was no requirement for them.

It had been suggested that the warm bank sessions were extended through the year as they were evolving from just a “warm bank” to sessions offering community support and advise

The Warm Bank Sub Committee had proposed the following to the Asset Committee:

RESOLVED to recommend to the Assets Management Committee that the Warm Bank sessions are extended and evolved to become social, community support sessions, and to book Meeting Room 1 for these sessions for the duration of 2023

J. Harrison updated the Committee, stating that since the Sub Committee meeting, the Community Fridge have been offered a larger premises and are moving out of the James West Centre.

In light of this the Committee agreed to support in principle the proposals of the Warm Bank Sub Committee, subject to discussions about whether the proposals are still viable as the Community Fridge will no longer be located at the James West Centre.

107.1

RESOLVED to support the decisions proposed by the Warm Bank Sub Committee, subject to further discussions with A. Ricketts and J. Fox as to how they wish to move forward with the Warm Bank sessions

108

Brunel Drive

S. Keogh advised he had contacted East Sussex County Council Road Safety and had also recently met with them.

He requested that a feasibility study is carried out at a cost of £500

Members noted that the “cognitive” signs stating there is a 30 MPH speed limit are put up for 3 months and then removed for a time before being put up again.

Much discussion ensued and it was agreed that each individual request for the signs would need to be looked at and a policy would need to be put in place as a criteria would need to be met for the signs.

108.1

RESOLVED to recommend to Council to:

- i) Request £500 for the feasibility study, to be allocated from the “professional fees” fund
- ii) Accept the recommendations of East Sussex County Council Road Safety in principle
- iii) Refer to ESCC for a policy, the policy then to be agreed by the Assets Committee

P. Holbrook advised he did not wish to vote until he had viewed the policy, and abstained from voting on the item

109

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 Playing Field

2 North Street

110

Maurice Thornton Playing Field

The Committee noted that there was £322,093 in Section 106 funding for drainage

J. Harrison advised that an indemnity needs to be drawn up by Wealden before funding can be approved so logistically it could be difficult to manoeuvre

Members noted that a meeting with Wealden Council, S. Wennington and representatives from the Football Club needs to be organised and it was further agreed that once the lease is signed the sub lease will need to be discussed with the Football Club

Members also noted that professional advice needs to be sought on what type of drainage is required and what drainage options are available for the site.

110.1 **RESOLVED** to:

- i) organise a meeting with Wealden Council, S. Wennington and representatives of the Football Club
- ii) obtain quotes for the drainage at Maurice Thornton Playing Field, after advice has been sought on the best type of drainage required for the site

111 **2 North Street**

Members noted that the rent has been reduced to £18,000 per annum

It was agreed to advise the landlord that the Town Council needs to speak to the Lessee before a decision can be made on whether to continue renting the premises

Members considered that the premises could only continue to be rented if the Lessee could cover the rental costs

111.1 **RESOLVED** to advise the landlord of the premises that the Town Council will make a decision on the rental of 2 North Street once discussions have taken place with the Lessee

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities