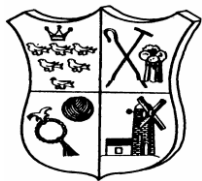


# HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held in the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Square, Hailsham on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7.00 pm.

## AMC/22/2/21 **Public Forum**

Mr H. Marks of Hailsham Tennis Club asked the Committee whether the Tennis Club could place a sign on Western Road Recreation Ground, advertising the Tennis Club, as he stated that many members of the public are not aware there is a Tennis Club situated on the ground, as the Club cannot be seen from the road or the Recreation Ground.

Mr S. Rooksby asked that the Committee consider his request to purchase The Cemetery Lodge

Mr S. Wennington reported that the Town Clerk had suggested that Hailsham Active attend the Assets meeting in September to present a report to the Committee. He advised he would like to meet with the Councillors before this meeting to go over various items.

He addressed the Committee in relation to the goal posts on the Country Park and the recent complaint that had been received about the football matches here.

S. Wennington stated that Hailsham is 50% below in sports facilities in relation to other areas, according to Fields in Trusts recommendations.

Councillor R. Grocock stated that the main complaint here was the anti social language by some of the football players and further stated that if this does not improve the goal posts will have to be removed.

Members agreed that the goal posts had been placed on the Country Park to accommodate a girls football team, with a junior pitch and the adult football teams had not been given permission to train or play here.

## 22 **Committee members present**

Councillors: N. Coltman (substituting for C. Bryant), R. Grocock, P. Holbrook, M. Laxton, R. Newark, T. Powis

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings

## 23 **Apologies For Absence:**

Councillor C. Bryant, J. Cook, S. Keogh

J. Harrison – Town Clerk

## 24 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor R. Newark declared a personal interest in Hailsham Active as he is a Director at Hailsham Active and is acquainted to members of Hailsham Football Club

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

Councillor T. Powis declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Cemetery Lodge, as he is acquainted with Mr S. Rooksby

25 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 (Ref: AMC/ 22/1/1-20) as printed and circulated, may be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman

26 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Assets Management Committee on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Councillor M. Laxton requested to be included in the Post Office Sub Committee

**K. Giddings reported the following:**

- M. Caira has contacted All Recycle Ltd advising that their request to place a clothing bank at the James West Centre was refused
- J. Harrison is liaising with the owners of 2 North Street to re-negotiate the contract
- J. Harrison has spoken to the Foodbank in relation to their request regarding notice
- GM Monks have been awarded the contract for the lights to the pathway at Western Road Recreation Ground
- The Hailsham Beavers had reported that they had a very enjoyable time fishing at the Country Park Lake and had thanked the Committee for their assistance with this
- CIL funding for play areas had been taken to the Strategy Committee
- The resident of Quinnell Drive has been contacted in relation to the goal posts situated on the play area
- J. Harrison is liaising with East Sussex County Council in relation to costings for street lights
- J. Harrison has contacted the resident at Derwent Close regarding his request to move the street light outside his home

27 **Hailsham Tennis Club**

Much discussion ensued in relation to Mr Marks request for an additional sign for the Tennis Club on Western Road Recreation Ground.

The Committee agreed that we must proceed with the organisation of the original sign that was agreed to be created to list all the Sports Clubs on the site. It was further agreed that the sign which is currently on the site, which was erected without permission, must be removed.

Members agreed to defer the decision on the Tennis Club sign until a site meeting has taken place with members of the Assets Committee, to include Councillor N. Coltman. Once the meeting has taken place, all the Clubs on the Recreation Ground will be notified of the decision and asked to comment on this within a specific timeframe

27.1 **RESOLVED to:**

- i) Organise a site meeting with Councillors only to discuss the Tennis Club's request for a new sign
- ii) To contact the Sports Clubs on the Recreation Ground for their comments on the decision that has resulted from the site visit
- iii) To remove the current sign that is located on the Recreation Ground
- iv) To bring the Tennis Club's request back to the Committee for further discussion at the September Assets meeting

28 **James West Centre**

K. Giddings advised that there had been an incident where an emergency vehicle could not access the property in question as Brunel Drive was blocked due to the parked cars. Some of the cars parked here were users of the James West Centre, who had parked in the road instead of parking in the James West Car Park

K. Giddings reported that it was possible to ask the users of the Hall to park in the car park rather than the road, to help the situation, however some users refused to park in the car park and there was nothing legally that could be done to enforce the use of the car park, for the users of the Centre.

K. Giddings advised that she contacted Councillor Gerard Fox from East Sussex County Council for an update and he had reported he is looking into the matter.

Much discussion ensued and members suggested the Neighbourhood Watch Police be contacted to see if they can assist in the situation.

28.1 **RESOLVED that:**

- i) The Town Clerk write to East Sussex County Council Highways Department and L. Buck of Neighbourhood Police to ask for advice on whether any thing can be done to resolve the parking issues here. Councillor Gerard Fox to be copied into the letter

29. **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.

30 **Hailsham Country Park**

Members were advised that a complaint had been received from one of the adjacent properties at the Country Park in relation to the football matches played in the evening. The complaint was in relation to foul language that was being used by the football players. The resident had asked if the goal posts could be removed here.

Rother Council had contacted the Town Clerk in relation to this noise complaint, asking for it to be dealt with.

Much discussion ensued and members agreed that the Committee had not agreed to a full

sized football pitch on the site, but a junior pitch which was primarily set up for a girl's football team. The fact that the pitch was only junior sized was to discourage adult teams to use it.

Members agreed the girls' team must be contacted as members were unsure whether the girls team was still playing football at the Country Park.

It was suggested that the goal posts could be removed as a temporary measure, until a solution is found and the relevant Football Clubs are spoken to about the behaviour of some of their members

30.1 **RESOLVED** that:

- i) the Town Clerk contacts the girls' football team to see if they are still playing on the pitches and using the goal posts
- ii) the goal posts at the Country Park to be removed as a temporary measure, if they are no longer being used by the girls' football team

Councillor R. Newark abstained from voting

31 **Cemetery Lodge**

Members discussed the request by Mr S. Rooksby to purchase the Cemetery Lodge. Much discussion ensued and members agreed they could not sell an asset of the Council to a member of the public, as they wished to keep the Cemetery as an integral whole.

31.1 **RESOLVED** to decline Mr Rooksby's request to purchase the Cemetery Lodge

Councillors M. Laxton and T. Powis abstained from voting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 pm