

PEACEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the EXTRA-ORDINARY meeting of the LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE held in the ANZAC ROOM, Community House, Meridian Centre, Peacehaven on Tuesday 16th August 2016 at 7:30pm.

Committee Members Councillors: Wayne Botting Andy Loraine
 Rachael Coles (Chair) Ron Maskell
 Brian Gosling Amber Robertson
 Lynda Hallett Robbie Robertson (Vice Chair)
 Job Harris Melvyn Simmons
 Jackie Harrison-Hicks

Present Councillors: Rachael Coles (Chair) Ron Maskell
 Brian Gosling Amber Robertson
 Job Harris Robbie Robertson (Vice Chair)
 Jackie Harrison-Hicks

In Attendance: Claire Lacey – Town Manager
 Sally Landers – Administration Officer

GENERAL BUSINESS

LA090 CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health & Safety

Thank you for attending this evening. We are not expecting any emergency evacuations from the building, however In the event of an emergency, please leave the building by the safest route possible and meet on the grassed area on the opposite side of the car park. Do not re-enter the building until you are informed by a member of staff that it is safe to do so. Please also switch your mobile phones to silent and refrain from using them during the meeting.


Benches

Quotations are being received for repainting the benches in the town – any interested parties should contact the Town Manager by email or by going to the Information Office at Community House.

Firle Road Play Area

To cut back on cost and repairs, Councillors will be putting together a Repainting Fun Day and require a group of volunteers to repaint the fences at the Firle Road Play Park. This will be a Community event on a date during September to be confirmed. The event will be publicised for residents to attend and help paint the fences. Refreshments will be provided to volunteers.

We are also looking for donations of paint brushes which can be used for fence painting. Please drop these into the Information Office at Community House over the next few weeks.

Signed: 

57

Date: 06/09/16 Extra-Ordinary Leisure & Amenities Minutes 16/08/16

Centenary Park

To assist traffic flow at Piddinghoe Avenue car park, the Grounds Team spray painted arrows.

We have been notified of an incident at Centenary Park whereby a dog swallowed a corn on the cob which was amongst lots of other litter left by the bin near the children's play park, this became lodged in the dog's small intestine. The dog was very poorly which led to him being on a drip for two days along with X-rays and blood tests. On the second day the dog had major abdominal surgery. This operation saved the dog's life and he is now recovering well. The dog's owner has requested we use their story to invest in more bins and to make people aware of the damage littering can cause, which could be dangerous to dogs, wildlife and even small children.

On Saturday evening 13th August at Centenary Park a waste bin was set alight by vandals. The damage will be cleared up and eventually replaced by Peacehaven Town Council although this comes at a cost. In working man hours, administration and replacement; this will be in excess of £1000 cost to the Council, which will have an impact on the Council Tax that local residents pay next year. The Town Manager has reported this incident to the police and has stated that 'We need to raise awareness of petty crime in the Town, to ensure people can understand the true implication as well as being accountable for their actions. This has ruined a beautiful area of the Big Park, a £2.2million investment that has been provided for residents to enjoy in the Town. The Council will prosecute if the offender is caught.' As Chair of Leisure and Amenities it is so sad that individuals feel the need to destroy facilities in our beautiful parks. There is the knock on effect of cost with our Grounds team having to clear up the mess, as well as Officers time writing reports, ordering new materials and dealing with the insurance company. It is truly disappointing that one or some individuals have spoilt this area for all the park visitors this past weekend. I trust anyone with information will come forward, the Police crime reference number is 1208 15082016.

In June there was also some vandalism to the acorn in the play area and evidence of drug usage, this was taped off and all sharp edges removed.

Please will all Councillors and residents report any anti-social behaviour, vandalism or crime direct to Sussex Police online at <http://www.sussex.police.uk/contact-us/report-online/>. The only way as a Council we are able to monitor criminal activity in the Town, is to have it logged with Sussex Police, this includes graffiti, smashed glass in bus shelters, bin fires and road accidents.

Shepherds Down Dog Park

We are pleased to announce that the new 'gate closers' have been installed at Shepherds Down Dog Park.

Ride On Mower

At the Leisure & Amenity meeting on 21st June the Committee agreed to purchase a new ride on mower which we are pleased to announce arrived yesterday, Monday 15th August.

Signed: 

58

Date: 06/09/16 Extra-Ordinary Leisure & Amenities Minutes 16/08/16

LA090 CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS continued

Cllr. R Robertson queried when the burnt out bin was cleared away if the incident occurred on Saturday night

C Lacey confirmed the bin was dealt with on Monday 15th August by the Grounds Team

Cllr. R Robertson queried if the Grounds Team are 'on call' during the weekend

C Lacey stated the Grounds Team are not 'on call' during the weekend and noted the Prevent Crime team had visited recently and stated all crime should be reported via telephone number 101 or on line in order to identify any trends

Cllr. J Harris stated he could arrange a Crime Stoppers event in the Foyer at Community House to publicise the need to report crime

LA091 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Alan Sargent – West Ward


The resident read the following:-

'I would like to draw the Committee's attention to S106 and CIL monies available from the three major developments on the South Coast Road. In addition the development at 1 South Coast Road has now kicked off. I have been banging on at the Planning & Highways Committee for the last two months to no avail in order to obtain the monies. Before you say this is a Planning & Highways matter, be aware any money received will fall into the Leisure & Amenities budget to provide play facilities and other amenities as described in the planning approval, I suggest you get chasing.

Secondly agenda item 8 is of some concern as the variance in prices suggests that the companies are tendering against different specifications. The smaller box was replaced when the new floodlights were installed by the former Town Clerk and Leisure & Amenities Manager, so there should be a guarantee which is usually five years. The dilapidated box was found to be acting as a junction box and considered redundant at the time however because there would be new supplies required for the Big Park Project it was agreed by the former Town Clerk that the box would be replaced by the Big Park Project. I would suggest you get a qualified electrical engineer to examine and schedule the whole electrical circuitry before placing an order, you may be spending money unnecessarily.'

C Lacey stated S106 monies are being dealt with by solicitors for the Council and a letter has been sent to the resident this week with regards to this. C Lacey confirmed S106 monies are not paid by the developer until the build is finished and stated the developments in question have not been completed as yet

Cllr. R Maskell stated it should not be necessary for Council to pay for legal assistance noting S106 monies can be drawn down once a specific project has been submitted to Lewes District Council

Signed: 

59

Date: 06/09/16. Extra-Ordinary Leisure & Amenities Minutes 16/08/16

LA091 PUBLIC QUESTIONS continued

Emily Lennard – East Ward

The resident raised concerns with regards to parking at Centenary Park and the surrounding area which is an issue for residents, noting that there are some yellow lines in place and that more may reduce the problem. The resident stated that the parking problem was also causing accessibility issues for disabled visitors to Centenary Park.

Cllr. R Coles stated that this would be an ESCC Highways issue and could be raised at the next Strengthening Local Relationships (SLR) meeting

Action: SLR Agenda item - inconsiderate parking on the roads arounds Centenary Park – additional yellow lines?

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks queried if these issues had been reported to Sussex Police by the resident

The resident stated that these issues have been reported to Sussex Police, noting that it took four years to resolve the problem of vehicles parking in her allocated space

Cllr. J Harris noted that a horse box which parks in this location, was also an issue

LA092 TO CONSIDER APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. W Botting – noted (holiday)

Cllr. L Hallett – noted (holiday)

Cllr. A Loraine – noted (work commitments)

Cllr. M Simmons – accepted (family illness)

LA093 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None

LA094 TO APPROVE & SIGN THE NON CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF 21st June 2016

Cllr. R Maskell proposed

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks seconded

Approved

Debate:

Cllr. R Robertson noted page 4/41 with regards to the minibus, confirming it is a 17 seater and not 12 as stated in the query. Cllr. R Robertson added that the minibus had been donated to the CATS Club who had exchanged it for a new vehicle

Signed: 

60

Date: 06/09/16, Extra-Ordinary Leisure & Amenities Minutes 16/08/16

REPORTS

LA095 BIG PARK PROJECT BUILDINGS

The Leisure & Amenities Committee **AGREES** to proceed with the project management of the Big Park Project, to erect two buildings west of the Café

The Leisure & Amenities Committee **NOMINATES** the following four Councillor's:-

Cllr. R Coles
Cllr. J Harris
Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks
Cllr. R Robertson

Three of the above will attend Big Park Project Board meetings depending on availability

Cllr. R Robertson proposed
Cllr. B Gosling seconded

Agreed

Debate:-

Cllr. R Robertson queried if the cost of CCTV would be funded from the £50k

C Lacey confirmed the Big Park Project Board (BPP Board) had allocated £50k to this proposal and will apply for a grant of £50k bringing the total to £100k. C Lacey confirmed the BPP Board had instigated a public consultation in 2011 and recommended this Committee nominate three Councillors and one Officer to become Members of the Board

Cllr. R Coles suggested the proposed structures could accommodate an arts centre which may have the potential to generate income

Cllr. R Robertson stated the BPP Board should be disbanded and a Peacehaven Town Council Committee should be managing Centenary Park enhancements. Cllr. R Robertson recommended applying for the grant in order to build the structures with the view that they become an arts and crafts centre

C Lacey noted the BPP Board currently consisted of representatives from the community and suggested the Leisure & Amenities Committee proceed with this proposal if Members were in agreement

Signed:



61

Date: 06/09/16 Extra-Ordinary Leisure & Amenities Minutes 16/08/16

LA096 FIRLE ROAD PLAY AREA – REPLACEMENT GATES

The Leisure & Amenities Committee **APPROVE** the replacement of four gates in the Firle Road Play Area with two new large wooden gates (to include posts and fixings) from AVS Fencing (Ringmer) and two new small metal gates from Monohinge at a total cost of **£2,146**

Cllr. R Robertson proposed
Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks seconded

Approved

Debate:-

C Lacey stated the Head Groundsman had recommended the purchase of two large wooden gates and two small metal gates

Cllr. R Coles stated that Members should note the recommendation made by the Head Groundsman

Cllr. R Maskell re-iterated that it would be advisable to take note of the Head Groundsman's recommendation

LA097 REPLACEMENT OF SPORTS PARK ELECTRICAL JUNCTION BOXES

The Leisure & Amenities Committee **APPROVE** the replacement of the two electric junction boxes in the Sports Park for a cost of **£13,268** by **A J Taylor**.

Cllr. R Maskell proposed
Cllr. A Robertson seconded

Approved

Debate:-

Cllr. R Coles noted that the electric junction boxes were in a very poor state of repair

Cllr. R Maskell noted that the quotes submitted were not comparable and recommended the brick built option as this would be more cost effective as it would last longer


Cllr. R Robertson noted the brick built option may save money in the long term and suggested the metal option with a brick built surround

Cllr. R Maskell noted the brick built quote was the most expensive stating that this was the superior option

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks noted the total cost of the brick built option, including VAT, was £15,921.60

Cllr. R Maskell stated the VAT was recoverable

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks enquired if a wooden surround would extend the life of the junction boxes

Signed: 

62

Date: 06/09/16. Extra-Ordinary Leisure & Amenities Minutes 16/08/16

LA097 REPLACEMENT OF SPORTS PARK ELECTRICAL JUNCTION BOXES continued

Cllr. R Maskell stated the preferred option would be to build a brick structure with a door for access, which may require a small amount of maintenance

Cllr. J Harris concurred and recommended the brick built option

Cllr. R Maskell queried if funds were available for the brick built option

Cllr. R Coles noted that £7k from reserves was available and further funds would have to be sought for the brick built option

NEXT MEETING

LA098 TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 6th September 2016 at 7:30pm

Noted

Signed:



63

Date:

06/09/16 Extra-Ordinary Leisure & Amenities Minutes 16/08/16

