

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL – MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 9TH OCTOBER 2019**

Cllrs Present: Margaret Allingham, Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Cliff Morris (late arrival), Cllr Derek Pretty, Cllr Anne Small, Cllr Jane Welsh (Chair)

In attendance: Sacha Lee – Arts Director, The Point/Berry Theatre
Maria Ross – Hedge End Allotment Association

R161 Apologies Cllr Ben Thomas

R162 Minutes and Matters Arising

Meeting 11th September 2019

Minutes were signed.

Cllr Paul Carnell, however did comment that there should be no approval of these minutes from the last meeting, as they had already been to Full Council and that any committee minutes should be approved by R&A before they go to Full Council for noting.

R163 Correspondence

None received

R164 To discuss potential ideas with members for the 2019 Hedge End Residents Day sponsored by HETC – Deferred from the September meeting.

(Sacha Lee – Arts Director, The Point/Berry Theatre)

Sacha had now been in post as Arts Director for 3 years and had come along firstly to introduce herself to the Committee and secondly to let members know what they were doing with the £2,000 sponsorship money that had been given by HETC.

Residents were able to obtain free tickets from their autumn programme by going online and booking up to four tickets for one of the hidden Strawberry events, then checking out with their Hedge End postcode.

These tickets however were on a first come first served basis.

She also commented that there was good community loyalty for The Berry and being in the heart of the community many residents were able to walk.

R165 Allotments

a) To consider email received from Hedge End Allotment Association committee reference possible extension to the existing palisade fencing.

The Allotment committee wanted members to consider further installation to the already existing palisade fencing, adding along the perimeter in Springfield site, behind Busikids and along the perimeter in Kanes Field abutting the woodland, Morant Copse.

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This would have a positive impact on the two allotments sites by:

1. Increasing overall security of the site.
2. Allotment hirers knowing that the site was secure all round when lone working.
3. Help with the deer encroachment.

The Chair commented that the cost for the palisade fencing previously put up had been very expensive and that monies the town council receive from rental was quite low, barely covering the current running costs for the allotments and that there would need to be a substantial increase in hire fees.

Maria from HEAA felt it would be good for allotment hires to be made aware of all allotment costs and that maybe at renewal time a letter explaining what these costs were was sent to all hirers.

There was a report currently being compiled, which would include income and expenditure and would be coming to the R&A Committee December/January as part of the pricing review of all HETC facilities.

RESOLVED: That a breakdown of costing for the allotments was returned to the committee, as part of the pricing review and that the Operations Manager prices out the additional fencing for possible consideration for the 2020/21 budget.

R166 Tree Charter Day event – 30th November 2019

(Proposal for the planting of saplings – Bridget Mary Gardens circulated prior to the meeting)

Members considered the three options presented in the proposal.

All were in agreement with Option 2 – making the event an extension of Hedge End Conservation Volunteers, with anyone attending letting the office know rather than just turning up, this would hopefully increase Conservation Volunteer awareness within the community and help bring in more volunteers. Numbers attending would be specifically catered for and the risk would be assessed based on expected numbers, with any staff and tool requirements pre-arranged.

With November's conservation session being on the same day as the Christmas Lights Switch On - (28th November) and the need to check staff availability it would be left to the office to arrange a midweek date. Once done this would be emailed to all volunteers and councillors, as well as advertising the event via the town council's usual means.

RESOLVED: That a midweek date for this event was organised via the office and emailed to all volunteers and councillors, with the inclusion on the HETC website, social media, as well as posters.

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R167 Referrals from the Strategy Committee for discussion

(Reports circulated prior to the meeting)

a) Play area Strategy

The Operations Manager went through the draft strategy with members. Key points included current and future maintenance, along with future aspirations. Members put forward ideas to help develop the strategy.

RESOLVED: That an updated strategy report is returned to the November R&A meeting for further discussion.

b) Skate Park Strategy

Members went through the draft strategy with the Operations Manager. As with the Play Strategy members put forward ideas that would help develop this strategy further.

RESOLVED: That an updated strategy report is returned to the November R&A meeting for further discussion.

R168 Bin Strategy

(Further information collated and circulated prior to the meeting)

Having looked at this further strategy report members put forward how they wished this strategy to develop.

RESOLVED: That this report is updated and returned to R&A in November for final approval.

R169 Operations Manager Report

This report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and gave updates on the following areas:

- Albert Road Cemetery
- Allotments
- Conservation Volunteers
- Open Spaces
- Paddling Pool
- Local Nature Reserve
- Anti-Social Behaviour

There being no further business to conduct the meeting closed at 21.00 hours.