

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL – MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019**

**Cllrs Present: Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Dave Kinloch (late arrival),  
Cllr Cliff Morris, Cllr Anne Small, Cllr Ben Thomas, Cllr Jane Welsh (Chair)**

**In attendance: Cllr Geoffrey Westgarth**

**Mark Black – Grazier**

**Maria Ross – Allotment Association**

**Karen Bean – Allotment Holder**

**Jill Gray – Allotment Holder**

**R143 Apologies** Cllr Margaret Allingham, Cllr Derek Pretty

**R144 Minutes and Matters Arising**

Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019

The minutes were signed.

The Chair brought forward this agenda item.

**R145 To discuss the commitment to graze at Coltsfoot Paddock and Holly field grazing site (A27)**

The proposal had been circulated to all committee members prior to the meeting. Mr Black the grazier, who was in attendance specialised in Conservation grazing and was currently grazing Dexter cattle (x2) at Coltsfoot Paddock, part of Wildern Nature reserve over the Spring and Summer months. The proposal was to make no change to the Grazing of fields 1,2 and 3 and the existing agreements in place, however he would like a 5-year agreement to graze both Coltsfoot Paddock and Grazing field 4. This would allow him to apply for a Countryside Steward Scheme (CSS) grant to enable him to invest in infrastructure repairs and provide our annual conservation grazing at Coltsfoot Paddock. The CSS annual claim was paid once a year, with the first instalment paid of approximately £300 in December 2020.

The proposal was for zero rent on year 1 of tenancy to allow for infrastructure repairs then an annual rent of £300 starting December 2020 for a period of 5 years in total.

**RESOLVED: That the above proposals were agreed by all members.**

**R146 Correspondence**

a) Dowds Farm Junior Parkrun – They had approached Snows Toyota in reference to sponsorship, they in turn had asked for the possible siting of a static two car display at the inaugural event. It was believed that this was the final amount that needed to be raised.

**RESOLVED: That members agreed the siting of two static cars on Dowds Farm during the inaugural event.**

b) This request had been referred from Full Council. The Horticultural Society were asking if the wall by the flower bed nearest the traffic lights could be extended to help retain the soil.

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This area belonged to HCC (Highways land), thus the Town Council would need to apply to have any works done and this would involve cost implications. It was suggested that the flower bed was moved back by removing turf from the rear and placing it at the front of the bed to alleviate the problem. The Operations Manager was more than happy for staff to be made available during the winter to help with this. Members asked why the Town Council had not approached HCC for this area of land. This was not for R&A and was to be referred to the P&R committee for further action.

**RESOLVED: That it was suggested that during the winter months an area of turf from the rear of the flower bed was cut and placed along the front of the bed to help retain the soil, thus replacing the need of a wall and moving the whole flower bed back. That the possible acquisition of this area was referred to the Policy and Resources Committee.**

- c) A request had been received from Infinity FC to play on the Hampshire League pitch at the Norman Rodaway for the 2019/2020 season. They are looking to play on a Saturday afternoon. It had already been agreed by members at the June meeting to allow both Hedge End Rangers Vets and Hedge End Town FC teams to play at Rodaway at this time and with any team playing in the Hampshire League having to be the only team using the facilities when they play, this would knock out the ability for the other teams. Members agreed to decline the application.

**RESOLVED: That this application is declined.**

- d) A request had been received from a company on the Botleigh Grange Campus to hold an afternoon staff Summer event at Woodhouse Lane on either the 26<sup>th</sup> July or 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019. Cllr Cliff Morris declared an interest.

Glen, Dimplex Heating & Ventilation were requesting the use of Woodhouse for a staff Summer event, either on the 26<sup>th</sup> July or 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1-6pm. This event would cater for 80-100 members of staff and would involve the provision of a catering van, bar serving limited alcoholic drinks/soft drinks and the organisation of a treasure hunt and games.

Some members felt there should be a charge for the use of the grounds, along with the bond of £1,500, while others felt local businesses should be helped and that there should be no rental for use of the grounds, just the bond. However, it was pointed out that the event would finish after staff working hours and that a charge of £50 should be made at least to cover the out of hours costs for a member of staff to attend site to check all was ok and to lock up any barriers required.

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The following two options were proposed and voted on as follows:-

- i) To charge £300.00 for use of the grounds plus the £1,500 bond.  
1 – in favour and 4 – against.
- ii) To charge £50.00 to cover staff time plus the £1,500 bond.  
4 – in favour and 1 against.

It was agreed therefore to charge £50.00 plus the bond. They would also need to provide their Public Liability Insurance, Risk assessment, there was to be no parking in the car park and the area would need to be left tidy and cleared of all rubbish after the event.

It was to be minuted that this was to be a one off event to help gauge how it went for any other application there may be in the future.

**RESOLVED: That it is agreed to allow the company to use Woodhouse Lane for their event on either of the two dates at a cost of £50.00 plus £1,500 bond and that they need to supply and adhere to the following stated above.**

The Chair brought forward this agenda item

**R147 Allotments**

**a) Yellow 9 – Objection to the Allotment Tenancy Agreement, Plot Allocation, Clause 5;**

Non-Residents i.e. those living outside the boundary of Hedge End, may hire allotment plots at an increased hire rate (double the annual parishioner rate). Please note – as from April 2020 this will apply to all current non-resident Tenants and be payable on renewal of the Tenancy agreement.

The plot holder from Yellow 9 put forward her objection, asking the committee to reconsider the decision for doubling the non-parishioner fee from 2020, feeling that this clause would penalise those who had been committed long term Tenants.

Members explained the decision for this clause and that they had given all current allotment holders a year's notice of the intended increase.

She could always half her plot to reduce the annual fee.

The Allotment Association Chair asked how the Town Council dealt with those plots that were being neglected due to ill health. It was asked that those concerned make contact with the office as soon as possible in order to make the Council aware of the situation and extra time given to catch up on the plot.

**RESOLVED: That there would be no exception made for this allotment request.**

**R148 Picnic on the Green – Musical afternoon, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

Proposal submitted by Cllr Geoffrey Westgarth (Proposal circulated prior to the meeting).

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Cllr Geoffrey Westgarth was in attendance and give a brief report to member. His intension was to utilise the under used bandstand on the village green. He wanted to keep the event casual and low key, with just three small acts attending for an afternoon of music for residents to come and listen to. However, he felt it needed to be advertised in order to make local residents aware. Members were concerned that once HETC advertised the event the Town Council would then become responsible and indeed could lead to large numbers attending in an area not really suitable with no proper organisation in place.

Cllr Cliff Morris proposed he investigated the liability to the Town Council if it were advertised and bring it back to the committee. It was also asked if it could be checked that HETC had liability insurance for the use of the bandstand as a facility.

**RESOLVED: That Cllr Cliff Morris investigates the implications on the Town Council and that this is deferred to the October R&A meeting.**

### **R149 Referrals from the strategy Committee for discussion**

#### **a) To discuss a family festival**

Members felt that a large family event was needed in Hedge End, with Greta Park being central, this would be an ideal location. An event on such a scale would require a lot of planning, with cost implications for the Town Council. It was suggested an event was considered for 2021, with Cllr Ben Thomas submitting a proposal to the committee.

**RESOLVED: That Cllr Ben Thomas submits a proposal for a 2021 family event and that it is deferred to the November R&A meeting.**

#### **b) Junior parkrun update**

All the necessary paperwork had been completed and the majority of funding having been secured, with only a few hundred remaining to be raised. A date for the inaugural event was still to be confirmed.

Members felt that an adult parkrun would be a good idea, with various locations within Hedge End that could be considered. However, the Junior parkrun was still to take place and this would be a good in sight for the organisation of an adult event.

### **R150 Operations Manager Report**

The report had been circulated to member at the meeting and contained the following;

- **Albert Road Cemetery**  
1 interment had taken place since the last R&A meeting, with 4 booked in for July.

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### **Allotments**

There were currently 3 empty plots and 5 on the waiting list, with 3 existing tenants requesting additional plots.

### **Conservation Volunteers**

Last months session continued in Hogsty Copse to clear sapling trees from 'valley mire'. This month's session was in Aspen Close woodland.

### **Open Spaces**

The grass cutting was on schedule, with no complaints received so far, this year. It was a difficult time for hedges, as brambles were growing faster than the Town Council could cut them back. The Operations Manager was more than happy to respond to any hedges noticed, as urgent.

The Funfair left Greta Park without any issues.

A bonfire was lit by youths at Rodaway, there was no damage other than scorched earth.

### **Buildings**

A homeless person was found living in the town centre disabled toilet, they were however evicted by the Police within 24 hours.

### **Mapping (GIS)**

The grazing fields had now been mapped and measured.

Bench mapping had begun.

HCC had finally given us the adopted highway information for Hedge End (internal use only).

Defibrillators were now mapped and on a monthly maintenance check list.

### **Local Nature Reserve**

Grazing had started at Coltsfoot Paddock in line with the LNR management plan. 2 Dexter cows would be on site until late September/ late October weather dependant.

Cllr John Jupe reported that one of the gates in Locke Road play area was broken.

The Chair asked members about the annual walkabout in August and confirmed that an email would be sent asking members for their preferred date of either the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday.

There being no further business to conduct the meeting closed at 9.15pm

