

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION & AMENITIES
COMMITTEE HELD 9TH MAY 2018**

Cllrs. Present: Cllr. Margaret Allingham, Cllr. Stephanie Arnold, Cllr. Paul Carnell, Cllr. John Jupe, Cllr. David Kinloch, Cllr. Cliff Morris, Cllr. Derek Pretty, Cllr. Jane Welsh (Chair)

In attendance: Heather Jones – On behalf of Allotment Hirers
Two Allotment Hirers

R71 Apologies: Cllr. Shankerlal Sthankiya

**R72 Minutes & Matters Arising
Meeting of 11 April 2018**

The Minutes were signed and agreed as a true and correct record by the Chair as being a true and correct record.

R73 Correspondence:

- i) Request from Marianne Cairley of Eastleigh Borough Council for members agreement for the use of Greta Park, Norman Rodaway and the tennis courts as part of the annual Park Sports programme. This also includes the use of the skateboard park at Woodhouse Lane for the Skate Jam. Members approved the dates as submitted.
- ii) Request from Justin Burnett on behalf of Hedge End Hawks to use Turnpike Way for the forthcoming cricket season. The fixture list has been submitted and the Town Clerk advised that the Town Council is awaiting confirmation of public liability insurance. Members approved the cricket request from Hedge End Hawks Cricket Club but subject strictly to a certificate of public liability insurance being presented.
- iii) Request from a Rhona Stevens who would like to use the bandstand from June to offer Summer stories and sing along sessions. She would like to do this on a voluntary basis and a great service for young families. She proposes to start on a weekday term time basis, 11.00am to 12.00pm or 1.00pm to 2.00pm. The actual length of the sessions may be 30 minutes to 45 minutes to include singing. Members approved this proposed use of the bandstand and the times to be entirely at the discretion of the applicant.
- iv) Request from a Ray Oakley whether the Town Council has wheelchair and/or disabled allotments for rent. There was much debate considering the advantages and disadvantages of such a proposal coupled with the legal impacts on the Town Council. **The Town Clerk was instructed to draft a report and set out the potential cost implications of adopting such a policy and defer to the June recreation and amenities committee meeting.**
- v) Request from an allotment holder of Purple 2 who has been given permission from the owner of Pink2 to take their greenhouse and would like to erect same on to her plot Purple 2. Members agreed with this request subject to the condition that it is laid on a temporary base and not on tarmacadam or concrete.

RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE – CONT'D PAGE 2
MEETING OF 9 MAY 2018

R74 Matter for Resolution

Allotments – Change of Policies – Report from Operations Manager

- *Allotment allocations*
- *Introduction of a non-parishioner rate*
- *Skip Collection.*

The Town Clerk reported that there are currently 34 vacant plots within the allotments. Empty plots are expensive to manage in both time and a lack of rental income. The Town Clerk outlined to members proposals, which have been discussed and considered in detail with the Operations Manager, to change the current allocation policy with the aim of making the allotments more efficient.

- To aim to only maintain 5 empty plots at any time – decommissioning to grass all other vacant plots. These plots can be levelled and added to the mowing regime and reinstated as and when required. Benefit to the Town Council – Reduced site maintenance, better maintained allotments, raising the overall standard of the site.
- To increase plot allocations to 2 per household at the Town Clerk and Operations Managers discretion. Background – request from a plot holder who maintains a very high standard of plot to take over the adjacent plot. Benefit to the Town Council – additional rent and reduction in maintenance costs and help raising the overall standard of the site.
- To site one skip per annum at the allotments preferably in May with no further additions.
- To allow non-residents to make use of allotments at an increased rate at £33.00 for 2018/2019 (i.e. double the parishioner rate of £16.50). Benefit to the Town Council - Empty plots cost money both in time and lack of rent. Opportunity to bring in some increased rent which could be directly invested back into the allotments thereby directly benefitting parishioners. Any non-parishioner looking for a plot at an increased rate is likely to be very committed and hopefully would help raise the overall standard for the site.

RESOLVED: To approve the above policies with immediate effect in relation to the allotments.

The Town Clerk drew members specific attention to the Operations Manager update report prepared especially for this committee, which was appreciated by members.

R75 Dowd's Farm Play Area Refurbishment

Members were advised that the online consultation is now active and running until 31st May. 100+ responses have already been received with an overwhelming favour towards a zip wire (89%) and climbing structure (59%). The survey has been advertised via the website, Posters, Twitter and Facebook. Survey link - <https://www.hedgeend-tc.gov.uk/home/survey/>

There being no further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 20.20 hours.