

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL – MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 14TH JUNE
2023**

Cllrs present: Cllr Margaret Allingham (Vice-Chair), Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr Leigh Hadaway, Cllr Lucy Jurd, Cllr Derek Pretty

In attendance: Brett Athow – Operations Manager

R410 Apologies Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Dave Kinloch, Cllr Cliff Morris, Cllr Jane Welsh

R411 Minutes and Matters arising

Meeting 12th April 2023

Paddling Pool Kiosk – It was confirmed that last year's franchise holder was fully up and running for this season.

R412 Correspondence

For noting only

(i) Eastleigh Active Summer Programme – Use of Woodhouse Lane for Skate Jam 3rd August & Greta Park for Nerf Warz 4th August

R413 Greta Park – Junior Football Coaching

To consider one-off use on the 8th July, pending the July meeting

The appeal for use of Greta Park had been deferred to the July meeting, as due to circumstances the person concerned was unable to attend this June meeting and wished to be present.

There was one Saturday, 8th July prior to the July meeting where members were asked to consider allowing football coaching to take place at Greta Park.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that this one-off session on the 8th July could take place.

R414 To consider a request from the Friends of Wildern Local Nature Reserve for permission to harvest seeds from wildflowers currently growing on HETC land adjacent to the cricket ground car park in Turnpike Way

The FoWLNR were working with EBC on a roadside verge project in Turnpike Way. A section of the verge had been left un-cut allowing the group to create a suitable habitat for birds, invertebrates, and pollinating insects.

Following a visit from the BSBI recommendations for the management of the verge had been given, which included the introduction of wildflowers.

Some of these wildflowers were currently growing on HETC land adjacent to the cricket ground car park in Turnpike Way.

The Operations Manager recommended that if permission was given that no more than 10% of the seeds were to be taken. Members discussed further.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that permission was given to harvest no more than 10% of the seeds from the mentioned area.

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R415 Wildern Local Nature Reserve

To agree to host a Bioblitz on the 15th July in collaboration with Friends of Wildern Local Nature Reserve

HETC in collaboration with FoWLNR wanted to hold a small Bioblitz event to help identify new species of plants, animals and fungus within the reserve. The event would be low key and if successful could be expanded upon in future years.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to this event taking place.

R416 Football Debt

For discussion

Following the end of the 2022/23 football session it had been found that many of the football teams still had outstanding invoices to be paid, even though these teams had been contacted on a regular basis for payment. Payments were on 30 days, however it was felt that a more robust procedure was needed for payments not received within the 30 days' timeframe. Members discussed the proposal presented to them.

RESOLVED: Councillors felt the new proposal was a good process and agreed that this was implemented moving forward.

R417 To consider a request for use of a HETC car park for the selling of Christmas trees, wreaths, floral decorations 7 days a week over the Christmas period.

A request had been received from a stall holder who attended the Hedge End weekly market for the use of a car park within Hedge End for the selling of Christmas trees etc over the Christmas period.

Even though further information had been requested, nothing had been received from the stall holder.

Member confirmed that further information was needed to enable a decision to be made.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that this request was deferred to the July meeting, pending the receipt of further information.

R418 Operations Manager Report

The report contained updates on the following:

- Albert Road Cemetery
- Allotments
- Bowling Green
- Conservation Volunteers
- Cricket
- Graffiti & Vandalism
- Local Nature Reserve
- Paddling Pool
- Play areas & open spaces

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Cllr Lucy Jurd asked reference the watering of saplings, the Operations Manager confirmed that currently one member of staff was deployed 2 days a week just for watering, this was not a simple process, as a bowser was used. Therefore the watering of saplings along with hedging were not a priority.

The Operations Manager added that this was not on the report, however wished to make Councillors aware that needles had recently been found at Dowds Farm car park.

He also confirmed that today he had met with the Hampshire FA and that there was grant funding available for improvement to the football pitches.

This report as usual would be made available on the Town Council website.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 7.30pm