

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL – MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 14TH OCTOBER
2020**

Cllrs present: Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Derek Pretty, Cllr Ben Thomas, Cllr Jane Welsh (Chair)

In attendance: Brett Athow – Operations Manager

R219 Apologies Cllr Margaret Allingham, Cllr Cliff Morris

R220 Minutes and Matters arising

Meeting 9th September 2020

Minutes were signed.

R221 Correspondence

- a) Request from a local resident for the provision of a pedestrian gate from the old Budgens car park through to Greta Park.

RESOLVED: That as the car park belonged to EBC they were to be contacted reference this residents request.

R222 To discuss a revision to the HETC Tree policy

Members prior to the meeting had been given a list of considerations for discussion.

RESOLVED: That there would be a continuous programme of tree survey and maintenance. HETC would strive to replace trees that were removed, with a request being made to P&R for a budget for the planting of any new trees. That the additional restrictions on tree works was agreed. To seek from P&R £15,000 maintenance budget for 2021/2022. The revised HETC Tree policy needed to be returned to the November R&A committee meeting for approval.

R223 To discuss a revision to the Cemetery Regulations

A list of considerations had been given to members for discussion.

It was agreed by members what would be incorporated in the new Cemetery Regulations.

RESOLVED: That the agreed points were incorporated within the Cemetery Regulations and that the updated regulations were returned to the November R&A committee meeting for approval.

R224 Allotments update

A recent inspection had taken place in early September by Cllr Jane Welsh and the Operations Manager, as a result of this x17 first warning letters for non-cultivation had been sent out, following a further inspection 4 weeks later final warning letters had been issued to x8 of these allotment holders giving them a further 2 weeks to improve their plot or face termination.

R225 Operations Manager Report

This report had been circulated to all members and contained brief updates on the following:

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- Albert Road Cemetery – x4 interments had taken place since the R&A meeting in September.

The Green Flag had been awarded to the Cemetery again this year, this award recognised the best parks and green spaces across the country.

- Allotments – There were currently no available plots and approximately a waiting list of 54.
- Conservation Volunteers
With the current restrictions and uncertainty these sessions would not be resuming yet, with the planned activities being done in house instead over the winter months.
- Football and Cricket
With the Cricket season over renovation works would begin once there was some dryer weather. The football session was in full swing, with weekly maintenance and line marking taking place. Facilities were limited for the teams, with only toilet facilities available for use.
- Open Spaces
Aspen Close – Over the coming months clearance work was being carried out in the area adjacent to Stubbs Drove. The permissive footpath was currently difficult to access and water was not draining adequately.

Dowds Farm

Play area – The Rocker unit was still out of action, in addition there was now a problem with the zip wire. The supplier was still to confirm the repairs for both.

A section of the knee rail had been replaced along Wellstead Way after being damaged.

The Eastleigh and District Angling Club would be installing a couple of signs at Dowds Farm pond - "EADAC Private Fishing", these would be placed out of reach within the reed beds.

Work was continuing to reclaim footpaths and verges and work over the winter would begin to reclaim the hidden pond adjacent to Mescott Meadows/ Tollbar Way.

- Drummond
There were still ongoing issues with litter and gatherings. The cost was being looked into for reducing the earth mounds that bordered the front of the site. Once finalised this would come to R&A for discussion.

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- Greta Park
Repairs were being carried out to the terrace area and was ongoing.
- Norman Rodaway
Following the unauthorised encampment an effective and quick clean of the area had been carried out, with EBC sending along staff members to assist.
- Turnpike Way
The roof of the pavilion, as well as the ATC building had been significantly damaged by youths. This had now been repaired.
- Woodhouse Lane
A meeting had been held to discuss the reduction in height of the trees and hedges along Woodhouse Lane (EBC owned the small strip of land between the open space and highway). This would make the site more visible and less enclosed. EBC agreed that it was the right thing to do and agreed to complete the work during October 2020.
- Other
A new member to the Ground staff team had been appointed. It was reported that the Grounds Depot had been recently burgled, with the loss of most of the power hand tools. EBC, however had kindly loaned some tools until the replacements arrived.

The Chair welcomed on behalf of the Recreation and Amenities Committee the new member of staff appointed.

A vote of thanks was given to the Operations Manager and Grounds team for all the hard work that had been carried out.

There being no further business to conduct the meeting closed at 8.18pm