

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL – MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 10TH JUNE 2020**

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

In attendance: Brett Athow – Operations Manager

R205 Apologies Cllr Ben Thomas

R206 Minutes and Matters Arising

Meeting 13th May 2020

Minutes were signed.

R207 Correspondence

- a) A request from a resident for a tree survey/assessment to be carried out on a tree adjacent to their property.
A report on the proposed tree had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The Operations Manager had met with the resident concerned, he confirmed that they were happy with the suggested proposal being put forward to the committee.

RESOLVED: That HETC staff would gradually remove the fallen stems late Summer/Autumn this year. Wood would be stacked on site, with smaller branches being chipped. The main stem would be left safely for the wildlife to colonise, ensuring that it was fully stable, with reasonable clearance from the fence. It was asked that the committee were kept informed.

R208 To agree the new Terms and Conditions for the use of inflatables/ bouncy castles within HETC halls.

Members had been given the new Terms and Conditions prior to the meeting for considerations.

RESOLVED: That these new Terms and Conditions were agreed.

R209 To agree the new Terms and Conditions for the hire of sporting facilities (football & cricket).

These new Terms and Conditions had been given to all members prior to the meeting for consideration.

RESOLVED: That these new Terms and Conditions were agreed.

R210 Allotments

- a) Request for the installation of a 6' x 8' greenhouse – Plot Blue 3a, Kane's Field.

RESOLVED: That the installation of this greenhouse was agreed, subject to the glass being replaced with Perspex and an inspection being done by the Operations Manager to check the construction for the base.

R211 Operations Manager Report

The 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 last R&A.
- Allotments – There are currently no empty plots and a waiting list of approximately 40. The allotment toilets would remain shut for now.
- Aspen Close – Play area repairs had now taken place following the recent ROSPA inspection.
- Conservation Volunteers – Due to the current situation sessions were cancelled for now.
Cllr John Jupe commented that these sessions could restart in the form of organised litter picking. The Operations Manager suggested that this could possibly be looked at for the end of July.
- Dowds Farm – On-going issues with litter, with a significant increase over the last few months. A couple of campaigns about litter had been placed on social media. *It was commented on the great job the litter picker was currently doing.*
Repairs were taking place to a damaged picnic bench by the pond area.
Continued watering of the Lime trees 3 times a week.
Play area – Repairs were almost completed following this year's ROSPA inspection and was in a generally good condition.
- Drummond Community Centre
There had been several fires on the grass area to the rear of the building, but there was no significant threat to the building.
Litter was a significant issue here.
Play area – Repairs following the recent ROSPA inspection were now complete. The play area was now in a generally good condition.
- Football and Cricket
There were no scheduled matches taking place at this time, however with the lockdown slowly lifting this could all change.
- Greta Park
The fencing had now been removed from the Greta Park car park, with top soil used to infill the sunken area and topped with rubber turf matting.
The oak tree had been redressed with mulch to help retain moisture and provide nutrients.
- Locke Road
Play area – Was not wearing very well. Following the recent ROSPA inspection it was made aware that there was serious degradation of the boarding on the multi-climb/slide unit. Due to the limited funds available for play area repairs and the high volume of repairs needed across all sites the

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best option at this time was to remove the unit.

Cllr Derek Pretty asked if a cost to have it repaired could still be obtained, declaring an interest, he knew of a carpenter who would be able to give a quotation for its repair.

- Paddling Pool

It was very unlikely that the paddling pool would open during early summer, with the kiosk tender now being postponed.

The Operations Manager commented that repairs to the wet pour would be needed.

- Norman Rodaway

Following the vandalism of the dragon's teeth various options were being looked at for their replacement.

Litter was an on-going issue, with horse manure and debris still being dumped in the HETC ditch running adjacent to Green Lane. EBC Environmental Health had been contacted to see if they could help.

Car park –This was scheduled for a tidy up this month, to include crown lifting of trees, cutting of hedges and a general tidying up.

- Woodhouse Lane

No contractors parking signs had now been placed at the car park entrance.

- Other

Following the travellers on St Johns Recreation ground, an extensive 2-hour clean-up had been carried out by staff on the Saturday morning, with the park being left closed for the duration of the Bank Holiday weekend. The site gates were currently being secured with a large grass roller and the HETC minibus. Ideas for future access and security of the site were now being discussed.

Town Centre toilets had now been reopened.

The committee thanked the Operations Manager and staff for all the work being done.

There being no further business to conduct the meeting closed at 7.35pm