

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL – MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 11th SEPTEMBER 2019**

Cllrs Present: Cllr Margaret Allingham, Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Dave Kinloch (late arrival), Cllr Cliff Morris, Cllr Derek Pretty, Cllr Jane Welsh (Chair)

In attendance: **Hannah Drury-Ellis – Marketing Officer**
 Isobel – Pupil Wildern School
 Parent (Mother)
 Mrs Thornton – Wildern School

R151 Apologies Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr Ben Thomas, Cllr Anne Small

R152 Minutes and Matters Arising

Meeting of 10th July 2019
Minutes were signed.

R153 Correspondence

- a) Isobel who was a pupil at Wildern School attended the meeting giving members a presentation on a school project she was doing on the importance of bees and ways we could help with their survival. It was explained how the Town Council were currently developing a Pollinator action plan which would help towards addressing this problem.

- b) A request had been received from the Hedge End Carnival Committee, on behalf of C Burnett & Sons for the use of Greta Park for the annual Firework Fiesta and Funfair on the 9th November 2019.
RESOLVED: That this application was agreed.

- c) The Friends of Wildern Nature Reserve were asking for committee approval to start seeking sponsorship for the purchase and installation of signage for the WLNR. Clearly the Council would have the final say on style, content and location.
RESOLVED: That members were in agreement for the Friends of Wildern Nature Reserve to start seeking sponsorship.

- c) A thank you email had been received from the 31st Itchen North (Amazon) Sea Scouts, thanking the Committee for their understanding and support in considering and approving there request for a BBQ at their AGM held back in July.

R154 Allotments

- a) Green 5b – request for the erection of a heavy duty polytunnel of either 6'x8' or 8'x10'.
RESOLVED: That either sized polytunnel would be acceptable, subject to the usual conditions and that the hirer is reminded of the allotment T&C's in reference to polytunnels.

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- b) I2 – request for the erection of an 8'x6' greenhouse
RESOLVED: That this application is approved, subject to the usual conditions.

R155 To discuss potential ideas with members for the 2019 Hedge End Residents Day sponsored by HETC

(Sacha Lee – Arts Director, The Point/Berry Theatre)

Apologies had been received from Sacha Lee. This agenda item would be deferred to the October R&A meeting.

R156 To discuss whether the Serving the Community Awards continue

(Proposal circulated prior to the meeting)

The Marketing Officer gave members a brief report on what the options were and how members wanted to go forward with this.

Numbers applying for both awards over the years had declined, but it was felt that with a new Marketing Officer in post there could be new drive in pushing these awards forward and that another year was given before any decision was made.

It was also agreed that the application process needed to be more streamlined and placed on the website for ease, rather than the public having to come into the offices or the form sent to them to be filled in.

RESOLVED: That these Serving the Community Awards were continued for another year to see how they went and that the application form was streamlined and placed on the HETC website for ease.

R157 To agree the new Terms and Conditions for Regular and “One-off” hall hirers

(T&C's circulated prior to the meeting)

This agenda item was withdrawn, as further information needed to be added. It would be returned to the Committee for agreement at a later date.

R158 To discuss holding a Tree Charter Day event – 30th November 2019

This was an event organised by the Woodland Trust, with events held up and down the Country.

The Operations Manager commented that most of HETC parks/open spaces were already well planted with trees and that there were not really any further areas trees could be placed. He put forward to members a suggestion of mapping the important trees within Hedge End. This could involve the community, be launched on the 30th November, but would be more of an on-going project, with any data given in checked and then added to our data base.

Another suggestion came from Cllr Jane Welsh, the planting of the saplings on the fence line at Bridget Mary Gardens, this had been agreed by the committee a few months ago and could include Community involvement.

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It was confirmed by the Operations Manager that this project had been programmed in for the Conservation Volunteers to do and that asking other members of the Community to get involved could be problematic. HETC would be covered by using the Volunteers who were already registered with the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the Operations Manager brings back to the October R&A a proposal for the planting of the saplings and that the mapping of the trees was to be progressed.

R159 Referrals from the Strategy Committee for discussion

(Reports circulated prior to the meeting)

a) Football Strategy

Cllr Derek Pretty commented that the Woodhouse Lane development was pending and that the site would be providing quality football facilities. He felt that there would be no benefit to improving the drainage at Rodaway, especially with the cost implications that would be involved and that Greta Park being the poorest of our football site be decommissioned within a 2/3-year time period.

RESOLVED: All members agreed that the football strategy was deferred until such time it was known the timescale on the provision of the facilities at Woodhouse Lane. That HETC carry on with the current ground's maintenance provision at Norman Rodaway to keep it to the present standard, with a long-term goal of de-commissioning Greta Park.

b) Bin Strategy

Members felt it would be good to have a standardisation of all HETC bins. Having looked at the proposal all agreed that bin design no2. (dual use) was the way forward, this would enable HETC to empty all bins, replacing the dog only bins and taking away the need for EBC to empty them.

RESOLVED: That the Operations Manager obtains pricing for the dual bin - design no2 bringing it back to the R&A Committee in October and that the committee at this meeting look at developing a strategy for the replacement of the bins.

c) Wildflower Planting Strategy

Having looked at the pollinator action plan, along with further information given by the Operations Manager on how changes to HETC land management would be of great benefit, members agreed on the locations and suggested timelines along with the periodical reviews in the report.

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The Operations Manager also made members aware of the need to invest in a flail mower, this would be essential for maintaining the wildflower meadows.

RESOLVED: That all the suggested timelines and locations, along with periodical reviews were agreed and that members supported the purchase of a flail mower (2021).

R160 Operations Manager Report

The report was circulated to all members and contained the following in brief;

- **Albert Road Cemetery**
7 interments had taken place since the last R&A meeting, with 3 booked in so far for September.

- **Allotments**
There are currently no empty plots and a waiting list of 9.
There has been reports of theft at the allotments, as a result the combination lock was changed to both gates

- **Conservation Volunteers**
The last session took place on the 5th September in Aspen Close woodland and there would be a further session this month on the 26th September at Goodall's pond, within the local nature reserve.

- **Open spaces**
Grass cutting - This was on schedule and was likely to continue until the end of October/early November.
Hedge cutting – Staff are working to complete all hedge cutting over the next couple of months.
The hedges opposite Wildern School were currently being cut back, they had become very overgrown over the years reducing the footpaths.
Paddling pool – This season had been successful, without any significant incidents. The refurbishment of the pumphouse had made the maintenance easier and safer for all staff. The paddling pool would close on the 16th September.

- **Buildings**
It was hoped repairs to the cladding, as well as some general repairs would be carried to Taplin pavilion over the next couple of weeks.

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- **Mapping**
Both allotment sites had now been mapped, to include taps, toilets, stopcocks as well as the plots themselves.
Additional information added include HETC land ownership, noticeboards, teen shelters and additional bins.
- **Local Nature Reserve**
FWLNR continued the monitoring of species. Goodall's pond had been extended, this would hopefully encourage greater diversity of species.
- **Anti-social behaviour**
Woodhouse Lane – Multiple break ins at the Hedge End Bowling Club, a hit and run that damaged the storeroom doors and damage to several parked cars had occurred.
- **Dowds Farm fishing** – A report had been received from the Eastleigh and District Angling Club.

There being no further business to conduct the meeting closed at 8.50pm