

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION & AMENITIES
COMMITTEE HELD 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2011**

Cllrs. Present: Cllr. Margaret Allingham, Cllr. Sheila Baynes, Cllr. Keith Day, Cllr. Val Houghton, Cllr. Peter Hughes, Cllr. David Humby, Cllr. Derek Pretty, Cllr. Jane Welsh (Chairman), Cllr. Ray Worley.

Also present:

Mr. and Mrs. Thoma	-	Grange Road residents
Mrs. Fry	-	Woodhouse Lane resident
Mr. Flooks	-	Stubbs Drove resident
Ms. Martin	-	Willow Close resident
Mr. Lawrence	-	Willow Close resident
Ms. Emily Weekes	-	Youth Town Council
Mr. J. Hipwell	-	Gravity Engineering Ltd.

R27 Apologies: Cllr. Jenny Hughes
Max Parr LTA

R28 Declaration of Interest:

Cllr. Keith Day declared non-prejudicial interest in item 9 of the Agenda regarding Allotments, as he is an Allotment Hirer.

R29 Minutes & Matters Arising - Meeting of 13th July, 2011

R21 vi) HAGS Play has now supplied FOC individual stickers to be placed on each piece of equipment with instruction for use and disclaimers.

R21 viii) EBC and HCC are in the early stages of progressing the design of a shared use cycleway along Lower Northam Road and it is possible that installation costs of a bench may be met as part of the works, however, a metal seat is recommended as HCC will not take the future responsibility of maintenance and if LAC were to consider on-going maintenance, it is likely that they would suggest metal.

R25, an order has been placed and installation expected week commencing 26th September.

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

R30 Welcome to Max Parr LTA, Competition Organiser -

Promotion of terms and use of Hedge End Tennis Courts
Deferred to meeting of 12th October, 2011.

R31 Correspondence:

- i) Hedge End Town FC - a copy of Public Liability Insurance Certificate. Noted.
- ii) Countryside Voice - publication Summer 2011
- iii) The Journal - ICCM publication Autumn issue.
- iv) Brigadier Gerard FC - a copy of Public Liability Insurance Certificate. Noted.

R32 To discuss acoustic fencing at Woodhouse Lane Skateboard Park

Guests were invited to join members in discussions with regard to proposals to install acoustic fencing, giving opportunities for views to be debated together with suggestions to

**RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2011**

improving further consideration for local residents and appropriate security. The Chairman

emphasised that the feasibility of a complete enclosure would be considered in the next financial year and proposals to install a car park barrier should be deferred until such time as the Grounds Store is developed. All agreed that nuisance in the area is not caused by skateboard enthusiasts but the wrong element of youth who have most likely been moved on from other Hotspot areas.

The Chairman elected to speak to the Police re ensuring that the Skateboard Park is highlighted as a Hotspot during the early hours of the morning and seek their advice re the relocation of the Teen Seat on site.

Jake Hipwell, Client Manager, Gravity Engineering - An Update Report:

The last Programme of Works was entirely wrong and Mr. Hipwell expressed apologies for the lack of communication of matters that have prevented the progress of this project but offered the following by means of explanation and progress from this week:

- There have been issues with the company, juggling several sites in progress, concrete supply and difficulties with weather
- Site Foreman is now on site.
- The flat slab concrete will be laid Friday 16th September.
- Shaping/Coping/Bars and foundation elements will be undertaken within the next 10 – 14 days
- With regard to the renovation of the existing site - a previous supplier, unfortunately completed works to a lesser standard than expected and these works had to be undertaken again to a much higher standard expected by Gravity Engineering - these works have been completed.
- Site levelling and compaction has also been undertaken again, as it was not completed to the standard required.
- The site should be completed in 6 weeks – Friday 28th October, 2011.
- Council will be better informed and there will be weekly site visits by Mr. Hipwell personally.

Residents were advised to report incidents of disturbance via 101 when it's less urgent than 999. Criminal damage or threatening assault remains a 999 call.

Resolved: That in preparation for the proposed installation of an Acoustic Fence, to one boundary of the Skateboard Park, the clerk seek planning consent and invite suitable tenders.

R33 To discuss programming of Heritage Sign

The sign is ready for installation and currently stored with Peter Clutterbuck. Development Control Services confirm that an advertisement application will be required. Steve Farrow of HCC Highways has confirmed that Section 72 of the Road Traffic Regulations 1984 does allow the Town Council to erect signs on the highway to indicate the name of the Council and that HCC has no objections subject to public utilities equipment not being affected and the sign is located so that any part of it is at least 0.5m from the edge of the carriageway.

**RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2011**

Peter Clutterbuck will install the sign and is able to scan the highway to detect public utilities. Members considered three locations and were invited to cast their vote:

1. Village centre, close to the Library in Upper Northam Road (3 votes)
2. Upper Northam Road green close to Upper Northam Close
3. Upper Northam Road, opposite Lamp 13 and Kings Community Church (6 votes)

Resolved: That subject to Planning Consent the Heritage Sign is placed in the highway grass verge, opposite Lamp 13 in Upper Northam Road facing traffic entering the village from Junction 7, M27.

R34 To discuss Stubbs Drove/Willow Close access arrangements.

The Chairman invited residents to describe their concerns with regard to disturbances caused by youths making use of an unofficial access from Stubbs Drove to Willow Close, during the early hours, with undesirable and abusive behaviour, on a regular basis and the following was noted:

- Youths using the unofficial access throughout the darker hours up to 2.00/3.00 a.m. particularly on Wed. Thurs. and Friday nights and residents experience:
- Vandalism to property
- Graffiti to property
- Noise nuisance
- Screaming obscenities
- Damage to private cars
- Dustbins turned over
- Loss of sleep
- Serious cause of stress
- Residents fearful for their safety and feel intimidated
- Urinating against caravans
- Youths using private gardens for access to Poplar Way
- 60% are long serving residents and include 3 widowers, 2 retired couples and a lady living alone in her mid- fifties
- Stubbs Drove has become a “rat-run” and is an un-adopted road that is not in very good condition and poor terrain presenting a hazard to those using the access, especially during the Winter months.
- Local night-time disturbances are ruining quality of life for residents.

Cllr. Peter Hughes proposed that subject to whether HETC have the legal right to do so, the Council seek to place a suitable Budget, hopefully with the assistance of HEWEB LAC, to close the access within HETC property, with 6’ high Palisade fencing. Seconded Cllr. David Humby. Votes in support of the proposal 8 and 1 abstention.

Resolved: That the clerk effect the aforementioned proposal and obtain competitive tenders and seek planning consent.

R35 Allotments

The Chairman provided an up to date report and informed members that she continues to seek sponsorship for prizes to be awarded to hirers of the “Best Kept” Allotment. It has been very difficult to select a prize winner for the inaugural year of this award.