HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL – MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD 12TH JUNE 2024

Cllrs present: Cllr Margaret Allingham, Cllr Leigh Hadaway, Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Jane Welsh (Chair)

R491 Apologies Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr Lucy Jurd, Cllr Derek Pretty

R492 Minutes and Matters arising

Meeting 8th May 2024

R488 Football Foundation Grant Application - The Operations Manager confirmed that approval for this grant had been received.

R489 Dowds Farm play area surfacing - It was confirmed by the Operations Manager that installation had now taken place.

Minutes were signed.

R493 Correspondence

None received

R494 To consider and approve the Biodiversity Strategy

The Operations Manager commented that following feedback received from EBC Biodiversity Officer a few minor changes had been made, but in all the strategy was much the same as previously given to councillors.

The strategy showed everything HETC would be working towards in conserving and enhancing the biodiversity on Council landholdings.

He also commented that there was no particular officer within HETC or funding available to do the auditing of sites. The strategy would be put on the Town Council's website.

Cllr Leigh Hadaway felt the strategy was very positive reading on what the the Town Council does and would be doing.

Cllr Margaret Allingham commented that maybe an article could be placed in The Gazette. It was suggested that individual elements of the strategy were used, rather than the whole document.

RESOLVED: All Cllrs agreed that the Biodiversity Strategy was approved.

R495 Operations Manager Report

The report contained the following updates:

- Albert Road Cemetery
- Allotments
- Bowling Green
- Conservation Volunteers
- Cricket
- Football
- Graffiti and Vandalism
- Local Nature Reserve
- Paddling Pool
- Play Areas

- General updates

  The Operations Manager added that the bench sited near the Table Tennis table in St Johns Recreation Ground had been destroyed and that the play area risk assessment had now been done .

  Cllr John Jupe commented how very disappointing it was to see so much vandalism taking place.

  It was commented that numbers on the waiting list for an allotment had gone down, this was mainly due to the recent yearly renewals, with many having given up their plots.

  There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.33pm