

## FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 8.40 p.m. in the Town Hall

#### PRESENT

Cllr Paton - Chairman  
Cllrs. Anstey, Connolly, Fulford, Price & Perkins

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Cllrs Adams & Hale,  
Ms K Mason, Town Clerk  
Miss D Vine, Asst. Town Clerk  
Mrs M Coatham, Finance Officer

#### **1. To receive apologies for absence**

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Lewendon.

#### **2. To receive any declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of Interest

#### **3. To confirm that minutes of the Amenities meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2012 and any matters arising**

It was proposed by Cllr Perkins and seconded by Cllr Connolly that the minutes of the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2012 be signed as a true record. All in favour, Carried.

#### Matters Arising

Pitch Maintenance – slitting of the pitch is being carried out regularly.

Whippet Track – Cllr Anstey reported that the Whippet Club had passed on their thanks for the work carried out to the Whippet track. Thanks will be passed to the two Groundsmen, D Jones & A Lane.

#### **4. To report on any matters relating to the Recreation Ground**

Proposed Concession Building – the Clerk read out comments submitted by (absent) Cllr Lewendon:

- It is considered that the area within the hedge to be the Memorial Gardens; the area between the Memorial gates and the Gardens merely being an approach path.
- Within the hedged area are trees planted in memoriam, the flowers left following the death of Princess Diana are under the main flower bed and ashes of residents of Fordingbridge have been scattered within this area.
- The gardens came into existence, to remember those who fell in the WW1
- Flattening this area and moving trees where possible is tantamount to destroying a little of the history of the town; these trees are effectively memorials to the dead and the families of those who planted them are still alive.
- If a tree is too mature to move visiting it to remember a relative by having to stand in a queue for an ice cream will not have the same solemnity as sitting in the existing gardens currently has.
- I suggest that the proposed building be sited where the boules court is. This is still close to the play area but doesn't disturb the gardens.

Members considered that further information and discussion was needed. It was AGREED to discuss at the Finance & Policy meeting next week.

*Standing Orders were suspended.*

Skatepark floodlights – quotes for the work have been received and the work will commence shortly.

Skatepark repairs – 1skateparks Ltd have quoted £360 to repair the skate ramp. It was proposed by Cllr Paton and seconded by Cllr Anstey that the quote be accepted and the repair take place. All in favour, Carried.

Cllr Anstey suggested that there should be a programme put in place for the replacement of the skate ramps when needed as these were expensive pieces of equipment.

Adult outside gym equipment – members discussed placing this in the Recreation Ground.

Pitch Maintenance – slitting of the pitches is being carried out regularly. The football pitch close to the footpath requires to be moved further into the ground so kicked balls do not pose a danger to pedestrians. The Clerk to arrange.

Whippet Track – a reserve track is needed in case of bad weather. Last season a temporary track was placed by the hedge parallel to Ringwood Road which worked well. Members AGREED that if a temporary track were needed it should be by the hedge.

Paddling Pool - quotes have been received for repairs needed and are in the region of £12k. It was AGREED to discuss this at the budget discussion.

#### **5. To report on any matters concerning Open Spaces**

Whitsbury Rd Play Area – the matting needs to be placed under a piece of equipment. The Clerk to organise.

Parking on Recreation Ground – Cllr Anstey reported that vehicles had parked on the Recreation Ground near the track from the car park to the Sports Club and caused damage to the pitch. Driving was not permitted on the grass and damage had been done. The Clerk was instructed to write to the rugby and football club reminding them that driving was not permitted on the grass and to remind their members.

Picket Close – the Clerk reported that complaints had been received from residents concerning the grass area at Picket Close being used by neighbouring properties as a car park. The grass is now churned up and some householders had been verbally aggressive when challenged. The Clerk to contact HCC Highways to ask for advice.

#### **6. To discuss Recreation Hire Policy & Single event**

It was AGREED to discuss this when considering budgets.

#### **7. To discuss budget proposals for 2013/14 and make recommendations to be taken to the Finance & Policy Committee meeting on 2nd January 2013.**

The need for prioritising budget projections was discussed and it was AGREED that the budget for the forthcoming year be discussed at an additional meeting in December when priorities could be set in line with a Forward Plan. The Clerk to advise date of Budget meeting.

Chairman

**8. To note any items of correspondence**

Nothing to report.

**9. To receive a report from the Clerk or any other relevant business**

Nothing to report.

**10. To note the date of the next meeting as the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013**

The meeting ended at 10.10 pm