

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 15th September 2021 at 8:01pm at the Town Hall (Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Council)

Present: Cllr Moulard – Chairman
Cllrs Anstey, Goldsmith, Hale, Jackson, Paton, Wilson & White.

In Attendance: Paul Goddard, Town Clerk
Rachel Edwards, Asst Town Clerk
Cllrs Adams & Earth (Public Gallery)
Cllr Bellows (NFDC)
Ruth Croker, Ringwood & Fordingbridge Footpath Society (“RFFS”)
A representative of the Salisbury Journal

1. To receive any apologies for absence

No apologies received.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

No declarations were made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2021 and report any matters arising

Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Paton and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2021 be signed as a true record. All in favour.
No matters arising.

4. To receive any matters raised by Members of the Public

No matters were raised.

5. Matters relating to the Recreation Ground

- To consider Recreation Ground hire charges for 2022/2023

Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Paton and therefore **RESOLVED:** to leave the Recreation Ground hire charges unchanged from last year. All in favour.

- To consider proposals for a Whippet camping event
Members agreed that the proposed dates of 8-18 June 2022 (avoiding the Queen’s Jubilee weekend) for the Fordingbridge Whippet, Lurcher and Dog Racing Club camp would be acceptable.

- To approve the installation of Outdoor Gym Equipment

Three quotes were received:

Fresh Air Fitness

Air Walker

Recumbent Bike

Seated Leg Press

3,725.10

plus VAT

1,241.70

Cost per piece

TGOGC

Air Walker

Recumbent Bike

Double Leg Press	8,600.00	plus VAT
	2,866.67	Cost per piece

Caloo

Air Walker

Workout Cycle

Leg Press	5,136.00	plus VAT
	1,712.00	Cost per piece

Separately, there was a quote from Fresh Air Fitness for eight pieces of equipment

Fresh Air Fitness

Eight Pieces (attached)	11,350.00	plus VAT
	1,418.75	Cost per piece

Cllr Hale proposed and it was seconded by Cllr White and therefore RESOLVED: to accept the quote from Fresh Air Fitness for three pieces of gym equipment. All in favour.

Councillors discussed negotiating with Fresh Air Fitness for the further five pieces of equipment.

- To consider the policy for placing memorial benches and trees
The Clerk reported that historically, members of the public request a memorial bench or tree to be placed in the Recreation Ground and the Council then tries to accommodate the request. However, the placement of these benches can break up the open space and disrupt longer term plans for the Rec. Councillors discussed the merits of drawing up an overall plan for the Rec. Cllr Jackson has already asked Redlynch Leisure to consider doing this. Cllr White suggested that FTC buy benches and allow members of the public to sponsor a bench and add a plaque. Cllr Anstey reported that when a member of the public requests a bench, the Council incurs costs for installation and maintenance. He recommended that these are passed on to the public in addition to the purchase price.

- To consider siting a memorial bench
Cllr Paton reported that Dennis Bailey, President of the Twinning Association, recently died and his family would like a memorial bench overlooking the river.

Action: Asst Clerk to email Cllr Paton details of suitable benches

Cllr Wilson reported that the river at the Rec is fast-flowing and dangerous, and said that a fence is needed. Councillors asked for the earth mound adjacent to the slipway to be cleared.

The Clerk reported that:

- The new picnic benches will arrive tomorrow
- The fencing around the car park is being put in
- The CCTV camera in the Rec has been vandalised. The CCTV company will send out an engineer to repair the camera tomorrow, however there is a risk the camera will be damaged again. Councillors discussed options to stop people from climbing onto the containers in the Rec and the Buildings' Manager has been asked for his thoughts on this. Councillors asked that it be publicised that FTC knows who damaged the camera and that this has been reported to police.

Cllr Anstey reported that the recent site visit by Councillors to the Recreation Ground only highlighted issues to be addressed in the same year. He said the Council needs a 5-year plan

for the Recreation Ground and that this should include the workshop, sports club and paddling pool.

[Cllr Bellows left the meeting.]

6. To report any matters concerning Open Spaces

- Jobs for Lengthsman – 8th October 2021

Cllr Paton asked that the lengthsman be tasked to cut back the vegetation in the culvert underneath the bridge adjacent to Riverside Court on West Street.

Cllr Wilson asked that trees be planted on the steep land belonging to FTC, adjacent to the old railway bridge.

The Clerk reported that the hedge at the Recreation Ground has been cut, other hedges will be cut later in the year.

7. To note any items of correspondence

Fordingbridge Greener Living has sent FTC a proposal to create a Community Orchard in Fordingbridge.

Action: Clerk to add the Fordingbridge Greener Living Community Orchard Proposal to the agenda for the next Amenities Committee meeting

Members agreed to offer a disabled fishing concession to a local resident.

Action: Clerk to let relevant parties know

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

Nothing to report.

9. To note the date of the next meeting as 17th November 2021

The meeting closed at 8:33 pm