

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 20th July 2022 at 7:30pm at the Town Hall (Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Council)

Present: Cllr White – Chairman
Cllrs Anstey, Earth, Goldsmith, Jackson, Paton and Wilson

In Attendance: Rachel Edwards, Asst Town Clerk
Cllrs Adams, Hale and Lewendon (Public Gallery)
A representative of the Salisbury Journal
2 Members of the Public

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Millar.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

No declarations were made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2022 and report any matters arising

Cllr Jackson proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Goldsmith and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2022 be signed as a true record.

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

Following the refurbishment of the Pavilion, the water softener is too small to cope with the increased water usage. It needs to be replaced for a larger capacity unit to avoid the boiler scaling up. Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Earth and therefore **RESOLVED**: to accept the quote from Southern Counties Water Softener Services Ltd. for £849 + VAT to replace the water softener.

Cllr Jackson recommended drawing up a strategic plan to consider the long-term use of the Rec and other open spaces. Members agreed that this should be discussed at a separate meeting.

Action: Clerk to arrange meeting for Councillors to discuss the strategic plan

Action: Clerk to ask Penny Farthing Homes for details of the new open spaces

6. To report any matters concerning Open Spaces

- To consider taking title to Flaxfields End Play Area

The Asst Clerk reported that FTC received the commuted sum from NFDC for this land some time ago and already maintains this land. Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Paton and therefore **RESOLVED**: to take title to the Flaxfields End Play Area.

Cllr Paton reported that the adjacent open space at Reeder Close was not well maintained and asked if FTC could take on the maintenance of this land, with either a commuted sum or the transfer of the land to FTC.

Action: Clerk to enquire about open space at Reeder Close

- To consider the request for fencing and signage at Flaxfields End Play Area
A member of the public reported that dogs freely roam the entirety of the Flaxfields End open space, including around the children's play equipment and that dog faeces are often found where the children play. She asked that fencing be installed to prevent dogs entering the play area and "No dogs in children's area" signs be erected.

Members noted that the play equipment at Flaxfields End was old and tired. If the play equipment is to be replaced, they recommended this be done before installing fencing, rather than installing fencing which potentially could be in the wrong location. Cllr Wilson suggested that the Flaxfields End Housing Association may wish to contribute to new play equipment on this land. Members agreed that additional signage was needed asking people to pick up after their dog.

Action: Clerk to explore option of new play equipment with the housing association

Action: Clerk to order signs

- Jobs for Lengthsman –5th August 2022
Cllr Goldsmith asked that the hedges along Witts Way, to the rear of the houses, be cut back as they encroach too far onto the footpath. Cllr Paton reported that the footpath to the south of the Church (FP97) is overgrown.

Cllr Wilson asked if CIL money could be used to improve Bishops Pond and allow the public access to the site. Cllr Hale reported from the Public Gallery that the path around the edge of the pond is falling away and dangerous. Cllr Paton thought there are better uses for CIL funds.

7. To note any items of correspondence

None.

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

Several incidents of antisocial behaviour have been witnessed at the Recreation Ground. The Clerk has reported these incidents to the Police who will step up their presence at the Rec. The Police asked that the public report further incidents either online or by phoning 101.

Cllr Paton reported that by early evening the Recreation Ground bins are often full with additional rubbish either left adjacent to the bins or strewn across the Rec. She asked that the bins be emptied last thing before the Groundsmen finish work.

9. To note the date of the next meeting as 21st September 2022

The meeting closed at 8:03 pm