

## FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall (Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Council)

**Present:** Cllr White – Chairman  
Cllrs Anstey, Earth, Goldsmith, Millar, Paton & Wilson

**In Attendance:** Paul Goddard, Town Clerk  
Rachel Edwards, Asst Town Clerk  
Cllrs Hale & Lewendon (Public Gallery)  
1 member of Public

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

Apologies were received from Cllr Jackson.

**2. To receive any declarations of interest.**

No declarations were made.

**3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and report any matters arising**

Cllr White was listed as being present twice in the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022; the second entry needs deleting. Cllr Goldsmith proposed, and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore **RESOLVED**: that, with the amendment above, the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 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**

- **To re-consider Recreation Ground hire charges for 2023/2024 following a request from the Whippet Club**

Fordingbridge Whippet Lurcher and Dog Racing Club asked that the charge for camping be set at £15 per pitch per night rather than the £20 agreed at November's Amenities Committee meeting. Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Goldsmith and therefore **RESOLVED**: that provided that this amount covers the costs to the Council, the pitch fee be set at £15 per pitch per night for 2023. It will be reviewed again for 2024. All in favour.

- **To agree a quote for remedial work on the Recreation Ground car park**

Earlcote quoted £2500 for the regrading and compacting of the car park and an additional £600 per 20 tonnes of stone for infilling. The Clerk reported that the last time needed 60 tonnes to infill but thinks less would be required this time. The work would be done in Spring. Members agreed to suspend standing orders as only one quote has been received. Cllr Millar proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore **RESOLVED**: to agree this quote for remedial work and in future, to consider additional quotes for a longer lasting surface. All in favour.

- **To consider a survey regarding the Recreation Ground from Burgate School**

Burgate School conducted a survey of its students regarding the Recreation Ground. Drugs and ASB put some young people off going there. The students said they wanted

toilet facilities, a café and outdoor seating. Councillors noted that although these facilities already exist at the Rec, the café and toilets are closed in the evenings. Councillors discussed ways to make the Rec more user friendly.

**Action: Clerk to share survey results with Riverside Kiosk and the Sports Club**

**Action: Clerk to arrange meeting between Burgate School and FTC**

- **To consider adopting the approach to the Recreation Ground proposed by Cllr Millar**

Cllrs discussed the proposal produced by Cllr Millar. Cllr Earth proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Wilson and therefore **RESOLVED**: to adopt the approach to the Recreation Ground proposed by Cllr Millar and to follow the guidelines in the presentation given to General Council on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Cllr Paton asked for a new sign detailing what time the toilets and gates would be locked as she considered “sunset” to be too vague and open to misinterpretation.

- **To consider seeking Green Flag status**

Cllr Wilson recommended working towards obtaining a Green Flag Award and said that she was prepared to do the work needed. Councillors agreed a Green Flag Award was a good aim to have for the Rec.

Cllr Earth proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Millar and therefore **RESOLVED**: to work towards obtaining a Green Flag Award for the Recreation Ground.

- **To consider quotes for a piece of play equipment**

Councillors agreed to redesign the children’s play area and install additional fencing, before purchasing more play equipment. It was noted that there is a lack of play equipment for children aged 6+ and that the Junior School could be asked for feedback before purchasing additional items.

**Action: Clerk to email Redlynch Leisure’s design for a children’s play area to members**

- **To agree a quote for play surface repairs**

The play surface under the swings and the see saw is worn. Abacus quoted £2500 + VAT for repair and Redlynch £950 + VAT. Members agreed the Redlynch quote.

- **To consider the request from Fordingbridge Area Wild Swimmers Club to install an emergency safety box on the outside wall of the Sports Club building**

The Fordingbridge Area Wild Swimmers Club asked permission to install a plastic weatherproof box on the outside of the Sports Club to the left of the defibrillator, in which to store a first aid kit and warm blankets to be used in the event of an emergency. The group is willing to supply and maintain the necessary equipment and proposed that the box be fitted with a combination padlock, with the access code provided to regular swimmers, the Sports Club manager, and Council staff. Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Earth and therefore **RESOLVED**: to agree the request from Fordingbridge Area Wild Swimmers Club to install a emergency safety box on the outside wall of the Sports Club building. Cllr Millar asked for something on the outside of the box to advertise the Fordingbridge Area Wild Swimmers Club.

## **6. To report any matters concerning Open Spaces**

- **Jobs for the Lengthsman – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Cllr Goldsmith reported that the hedge along Witts Way needs cutting.

- **To consider installing dog agility apparatus in Fordingbridge**

A member of public requested that dog agility equipment be installed in the town. Cllr Wilson thought the planning proposals for the new sites had a dog agility area. Members agreed that if space is available on the new development sites, then it would be worth considering. It was agreed to add dog agility equipment to the strategic plan.

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

None.

**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 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

The meeting closed at 8.43 pm