

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 20th March 2024 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall (Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Council)

Chair: Cllr White
Present: Cllrs Shering, Anstey, Bailey, Paton and Howard

In Attendance: Paul Goddard, Town Clerk
Cllr Woods (NFDC)
Cllr Cameron (in the public gallery)
A member of the public

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Wilson, Millar and Perkins.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

Cllr Shering declared an interest in agenda point 6, to consider quotes for repair work to the paddling pool.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2024 and report any matters arising

Cllr Shering proposed, and it was seconded by Cllr Bailey and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2024 be signed as a true record. All those that attended in favour. No matters arising.

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 28th February 2024 and report on any matters arising

Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Howard and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th February 2024 be signed as a true record. All those that attended in favour. No matters arising.

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

No matters were raised.

6. Matters relating to the Recreation Ground

- To consider a request to fund bathing water signage
Cllrs discussed the requirement for signs, the number of signs and their content and the availability of a grant in the region of £340 for signage. The Town Council would pay for its own signage. Regarding a second sign and the funding request from Fordingbridge Avon Bathers, Cllr Shering proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore **RESOLVED:** to obtain the grant and meet the additional cost up to £500 with Fordingbridge Avon Bathers meeting the balance. All in favour. [The member of the public left the meeting.]
- To agree in principle the siting of a riverside bench
Cllrs discussed the siting of the bench, how it might be fixed and the surfacing needed. Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore **RESOLVED:** to agree in principle the siting of a riverside picnic bench.
- To agree tree work at the Recreation Ground
Cllr Bailey explained the work being proposed and the need for it to be undertaken. Cllr Bailey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Howard and therefore **RESOLVED:** to

agree the quote from Treemenders for tree work at the Recreation Ground in the sum of £820 plus VAT. All in favour.

- To consider allowing camping at the Rugby Club anniversary event

The Clerk summarised the current minimum charges and the limited camping requested by the rugby club. Cllrs discussed the proposed camping, insurance and the need for a temporary events notice. **Action: The Clerk to clarify the extent that the Town Council's insurance might cover the event.** Cllr Bailey offered to help the club with the event. Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Howard and therefore **RESOLVED:** to allow the limited camping requested by the rugby club for no charge. All in favour. Vehicles had to remain in the car park.

- To consider replacement signs at the Recreation Ground

Signage at the Recreation Ground had been considered by the Recreation Ground Working Party and Cllrs considered a further meeting of the working party was needed to progress this. **Action Clerk to arrange a meeting of the working party.**

- To consider quotes for repair work to the paddling pool

Cllrs considered two quotes for the repair work to the paddling pool. Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr White and therefore **RESOLVED:** to suspend standing orders and financial regulations as it had only been possible to obtain two quotes. All in favour. Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Bailey and therefore **RESOLVED:** to agree the quote of Crownshade (a company in which Cllr Shering had declared an interest) to lift and re-bed slabs where needed and grind out the joints and repoint at a day rate of £225 per person (it was estimated that the work would take two people four days, albeit it may take longer). All in favour. Cllr Bailey said budgeting for future maintenance required on the pool would need to be considered longer term.

- To consider a request to install a plaque in the Memorial Gardens

Cllrs discussed plaques on benches, memorial trees, charging for plaques and having a designated structure for plaques in the memorial garden. This will be considered by the working party. Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore **RESOLVED:** to accept the request for a plaque. All in favour.

7. To report any matters concerning Open Spaces

- Jobs for Lengthsman – 5th April 2024

Cllrs noted the good work undertaken on the steps at Allenwater Drive by the Lengthsman and thanked him for it. Cllrs considered the condition of the town centre and agreed that the shopkeepers should be written to requesting they keep their shop fronts tidy and separately, in conjunction with the Fordingbridge Events Group and the Rotary Club, the Council should arrange a clean-up day in the town centre. **Action: Clerk to arrange.**

8. To note any items of correspondence

No items of correspondence.

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

Cllrs discussed options for the provision of summer play and possible venues. **Action: Clerk to look at options.**

10. To note the date of the next meeting as 15th May 2024

The meeting closed at 8:25pm.