

**PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

A meeting of the Grounds Committee was held at the Town Hall, Petersfield, on Thursday 13 January 2005.

**PRESENT:** Mr C Jenner (Chairman)  
Mrs J Butler  
Mr V Clarke  
Ms M Vincent

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs B Macken (Town Clerk)  
Mrs S McMorran (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Mr P Jones (Maintenance Contract Officer)  
Mr B Dutton (Town Mayor)  
Mr K Law (Chairman of PADAC)  
Mr J Crowhurst (Treasurer of PADAC)  
Petersfield Herald

and 4 members of the public

**G 0532      CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

The Chairman had no comments.

**G 0533      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Mr Ayer due to commitments at EHDC (Licencing committee).

**G 0534      APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Following consideration, it was

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Grounds Committee held on 11 November 2004 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**G 0535      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**G 0536      MAINTENANCE/CONTRACTS OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mr Jones gave his report to those present, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED** that Petersfield Planting be an agenda item for February and that a letter of intent be sent to the contractor, Philip Voice Limited.

It was then

**RESOLVED** that the meeting be adjourned for a 5 minute period, in order for members of the public to discuss matters of interest with Councillors. As no questions were forthcoming the meeting was re-convened.

During item G 0537 The Chairman suspended standing orders on numerous occasions to allow the public to participate in the debate.

**G 0537**      **THE HEATH**

**A.      Petersfield and District Angling Club (PADAC)**

**i.      Willow Trees** - Members received a list seeking permission for proposed work to Willow Trees (PADAC to carry out work). Following consideration it was

**RESOLVED** the work be agreed and permission given to PADAC to carry out the work.

**ii.     The Island** - Members received and considered correspondence regarding erosion to the Heath Pond Island. The Chairman advised that at a recent meeting of the Friends of Petersfield Heath a sub committee had been set up to look at this problem. Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED** that PADAC seek advise from their consultant for a report and that a report be compiled by the Friends sub committee. Both reports to be available for the April committee meeting of Grounds.

**iii.    Bank Stabilisation** - Members received a response from the Environment Agency regarding bank stabilisation ( Currently railway sleepers - G 0640 refers). Members also received details of bank stabilisation for other areas of the Pond from the Angling Club.

Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED** that, in principle Option 3 for bank stabilisation be agreed to replace railway sleepers and that Faggots with the Coir Fibre System be accepted for other areas including Sussex Road (copy of proposed methods attached to these minutes).

It was also

**RESOLVED** that PADAC mark a plan of the Pond detailing which method would be used on each part of the banks of the Heath Pond and report to the February meeting.

**iv. Gates/Bollards** - The Maintenance/Contracts Officer advised members that the cost of a gate would be £2,500. The cost of bollards was difficult to estimate as many options were available. A cost in the region of £1800 - £2,500 for bollards would be expected. Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED** that this item be brought to a future meeting of committee when firm costings, together with examples of bollards, were available.

Mr Dutton left the meeting.

**v. Heath Integrated Management Plan**

Mr Jones reported that not much progress had been made to date as there was a shortfall of £1500 for the funding of the proposed plan. He, together with the Deputy Town Clerk, would continue to investigate possible sources of funding. This was noted.

**B. TARO FAIR - EXCESSIVE NOISE**

Members received correspondence from EHDC regarding noise levels at the Taro Fair G 0432/E refers (copy attached to these minutes for information) which was noted.

**C. ANNUAL REVIEW OF CHARGES FOR BOAT HOUSE AND BOATING RIGHTS**

Following consideration it was

**RECOMMENDED** that the charges for the Boat House and the Boating Rights be increased by 10%.

**G 0538**

**DEVELOPERS CONTRIBUTIONS**

Members received correspondence from EHDC regarding use of Transport Improvements funds (Copy attached to these minutes for information).

The Chairman advised that he had been advised by Mrs Ayer, via e-mail that another officer at EHDC did not agree with this advice. Following consideration it was

**RESOLVED** that the Chairman would investigate this matter further.

**G 0539**      **THE SPAIN**

Members received correspondence from the Town Council's solicitor regarding land at The Spain, Petersfield. Members also received advice from Mr Hick who suggested that the Town Council should move to acquire the freehold of The Spain whilst bearing in mind that the Town Council has exercised the responsibilities of ownership since 1959.

Following consideration it was

**RECOMMENDED** that the Town Clerk seek the advice of the Town Council's solicitor to ascertain if the Town Council had responsibilities for this land as they maintained the area.

It was also

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk contact the Town Council's Insurance Company to check if this area was covered by the Town Councils insurance policy.

**G 0540**      **LOVE LANE PAVILION**

Members received details of proposed changes to the trustees (due to death and retirement). Following consideration it was

**RESOLVED** that the changes be agreed with the new trustees being Mr John Wood, Mr Ian Essai, Mr Les Petters and Mrs Dee Salmon.

**G 0541**      **AVENUE PLAYING FIELD CAR PARK**

Members received correspondence from neighbours regarding anti-social behaviour taking place in the car park.

Members sympathised with the residents and deplored the behaviour of those responsible. Members were informed that the gate to the car park was now locked after the last hire in the Pavilion and that the Police had been informed of the recent problems. The committee regretted that there was no further action that could be taken and it was therefore

**RESOLVED** that the gate continue to be locked after the last hire in the Pavilion and that the Police be kept informed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55 pm