

PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Grounds Committee held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Petersfield, on Thursday 14th April 2016 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr J Deane (Chairman), Cllr J Matthews, Cllr N Orr and Cllr Paul Strawbridge, and Cllr M Vincent

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr N Hitch (Town Clerk), Mr D Budd (Senior Groundsman), Mr S Field (Committees Manager). Cllr L Farrow, and 1 member of the public.

G 0796 **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and provided comments in note form (*notes attached*)

G 0797 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies received

G 0798 **DISPENSATION UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT (2011)**

No requests for dispensation were received.

G 0799 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

G 0800 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Grounds Committee held on 17th March 2016 be amended to include apologies from Cllr M Vincent and approved and signed

G 0801 **PUBLIC REPRESENTATION**

There were no public requests to speak

G 0802 **GROUNDS REPORT**

Members received and noted the Grounds Report for April 2016 by the Senior Groundsman. (*A copy is attached to these Minutes as Appendix A*).

- It was noted that Heath Bracken control would be planned later in the year by Friends of the Heath
- The damaged patch at Bell Hill Recreation Ground has been rolled, but still requires further attention to be levelled and seeded
- Rotherlands is particularly boggy at the moment. The Senior Groundsman is to visit on a regular basis and monitor conditions. The Town Clerk has approached various organisations for assistance

- Costs will be obtained for additional fencing to be erected on the edge of Penns Field to complete the fencing up to the EHDC border
- New bins have arrived to replace dog and general waste bins, but many are dented and scratched. The supplier has decided to come out and make good the bins that are damaged
- St Peters Wall. Waiting for contractor to respond with dates. Tree stumps will need to be removed first
- Goal posts stored near to Taro still need to be re-located

G 0803 GREEN SPACE SIGNAGE

Members received an updated report from Cllr J Matthews regarding the Green Space Signage, which included a recommendation to start removing posts that had lost their signs, and some post and signs where this was possible

RESOLVED: As there has been no further feedback on sections 1 and 2 of the report, it was agreed that these two sections be adopted

RESOLVED: As per section 4.24 of the report, that the Senior Groundman commences work on removing posts and signs from the heath where possible, in preparation for eventual new signs

G 0804 INCREASING NUMBER OF FITNESS GROUPS IN OPEN SPACES

Members received a report on the growing number of fitness groups that are using public spaces. Further to discussions it was

RESOLVED: that the policy be amended to state that all groups should register with Petersfield Town Council, completing a form that will request type of activity, size of group, charged or not etc. It was agreed that groups should be limited up to 15 persons

G 0805 LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Members received a verbal report to upgrade the Tennis Courts at the Avenue Pavilion from those who attended the meeting with the Lawn Tennis Association. It was discussed that the LTA would finance electronic equipment for a one year trial period to regulate and monitor the use of the tennis courts, and that this would enable the introduction of charges. From our part, we would need to re-paint the tennis court lines to bring them up to the appropriate standard. It was also noted that one or more tennis coaches would be sought to provide lessons, and this would generate income to maintain the courts at a higher level. The general public would be consulted through various media to provide feedback on the plans that were being considered

RESOLVED: that the court lines be re-painted and the public consulted regarding the introduction of regulating equipment via PTC news and Petersfield Post

G 0806 **VINTAGE MOBILE TEA ROOM**

Members received an email requesting the use of any public space for a Vintage Mobile Tea Room

RESOLVED: that there was little or no requirement for additional provision of refreshments, as the two most well used areas - the Heath Pond and Penns Field already have refreshment establishments provided.

G 0807 **JAY MILLERS CIRCUS AT THE AVENUE**

Members received details of a request from Jay Millers Circus to set up a Circus from 17-18th September 2016

RESOLVED: that subject to weather and ground conditions, and appropriate charges being included to remove the goal posts, that this event should go ahead. The Town Clerk will inform Jay Millers Circus

G 0808 **PEOPLE OF THE HEATH REPORT REGARDING BARROWS**

Members received a report from People of the Heath entitled "Understanding and Conserving Petersfield's Prehistoric Barrows"

G 0809 **MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF PETERSFIELD HEATH 22ND MARCH 2016**

Members received and considered minutes of Friends of Petersfield Heath meeting dated 22nd March 2016

RESOLVED: that point 9.1 of the minutes be clarified in a letter from the Town Clerk

G 0810 **OFFER FROM CHURCHER'S COLLEGE FOR ADDITIONAL RAISED PATH**

Members received an offer from Churcher's College to work with Friends of Petersfield Heath to construct a further section of raised path over boggy areas alongside Sussex Road

RESOLVED: that a letter be sent from the Town Clerk, accepting this offer with our thanks

G 0811 **UPDATE ON PENNS B**

Members received a verbal update on Penns B. This was subject to discussion at the last Town Development Committee held on 8th April 2016. TDC has recommended a sum of £12000 being earmarked for initial consultancy if needed. In addition Cllr Julie Butler of EHDC is organising a meeting with stakeholders to include EHDC to discuss the whole business of the sports hub for which Penns B is included. This would also include use of officer time at EHDC

G 0812 **RE-SURFACING OF HEATH ROAD CAR PARK**

Members received details and costs to re-surface the Heath Road Car Park. After discussions it was

RESOLVED that company B - L A Kattenhorn & Partners Ltd at a cost of £14,040 plus VAT be awarded the contract to re-surface the car park

G 0813 **IMPROVEMENTS TO MILLENNIUM PATH**

Members received details and costs to replace and widen the Millennium Path. Discussion took place regarding the type of materials used so that leeching does not occur, and also whether to install treated or pressure treated wood

RECOMMENDATION: that subject to an investigation by the Senior Groundsman of material leeching and wood treatment, Company B be granted the work at a cost of £31926

G 0814 **PATH ON BELL HILL RECREATION GROUND**

Members received details and costs to introduce a hard standing path/track from the Bell Hill Recreation ground entrance, along to the access to the playground, and for an additional path to go from the hard standing area to the other end of the field

RESOLVED: that a revised quote be obtained to install the hard standing area to the playground only, and that the spoil be removed either by the same contractor, or an alternative

G 0815 **BURNETT'S FUN FAIR MAY BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND**

Members received details of a request from Burnetts Fun Fair to hold a Fun Fair over the May Bank Holiday weekend. After discussions it is

RESOLVED that the Fair should go ahead, moving onto heath and setting up on Friday 27th May, finishing at 10.00 pm on Saturday, finishing at 8.00 pm on Sunday, and Monday

G 0816 **INVITATION TO AGM - CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND**

Members received an invitation to the AGM of 'Campaign to Project Rural England

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G 0817 **PROPOSAL IN RELATION TO PETERSFIELD RUGBY CLUB**

Members received a presentation of a proposal from Cllr P Strawbridge regarding Petersfield Rugby Club. After discussions it is

RESOLVED: **that Petersfield Town Council agree criteria of independent valuation with Petersfield Rugby Club**

RECOMMENDATION: **that the Town Clerk produce documentation to support the views shared by Petersfield Town Council, and present this to members before the next Council Meeting, so that a decision could be reached regarding the full proposal presented**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Grounds Meeting – 14 April 2016

Chairman's Comments

To keep all in the picture an update on the following items not on tonight's agenda:-

- **Heath Management Plan and Pond** – We have recently hastened SDNPA for a meeting.
- **Cricket Club Lease:** Still awaiting revised valuation.
- **Petersfield in Bloom** – Details now included on PTC website. I continue to invite members of this Committee and other Council Members to see if they can assist on Judging Day which is Thursday 14 July 2016. There will be a number of short meetings prior to confirm entries and routes.
- **Ramshill** – We have now heard back from Taylor Wimpey and are scheduled to meet with them on 13 May 16. All member are most welcome to attend.
- **Sale of green plot at Eastlake Close** – is awaiting action to inform residents in the immediate neighbourhood of the proposal for sale of this plot.
- **Borough Hill and Woods Meadow** – Playgrounds work should shortly be tendered for.

Finally The Chairman moved under Standing Orders 6 a and for reasons of expedience such that Item 17 & 18 be brought forward to take place after Item 7. As we have FoPH in the meeting these are the only two items they wished to hear. Moreover Item under confidential be moved to take place after new position of Item 18. The reason is that Cllr Matthews has asked for leave of absence from this meeting by 8 pm and the value of the subject to be discussed would be enhanced by his presence.

Grounds Report

April 2016

This report seeks to inform councillors of matters of interest affecting any of the public open space land which we own or manage. Members are reminded that its contents are not available for debate, but questions can always be asked and we will seek to answer them, however it should be borne in mind that if they involve the need for investigation or would be complex or lengthy, answers will need to be given outside of the meeting. If councillors consider that any matter on the report is in need of debate, the subject can be added to a future meeting's agenda for this purpose.

The Heath

- Continual assessment of dead trees on barrow 20.
- Removal of arisings from clearance work around barrow 20.
- Continued spring/summer maintenance schedule.

Love Lane Playing Fields

- Carrying out regular litter picking and bin emptying (every other day).

Penns Farm Playing Fields

- Start and maintain spring/summer maintenance schedule.

Bell Hill Recreation Ground

- Start and maintain spring/summer schedule.

Paddock Way

- Start and maintain spring/summer schedule.
- Still awaiting quotes for the continuation of drainage for playing field.

General

- Return to full maintenance schedule for all PTC sites.
- Looking at replacing goal posts at Woods meadow, Paddock way etc.
- Awaiting a start date for the repair to St Peters churchyard.
- Weed killer applied to areas around Town Hall and other sites maintained by Grounds.
- Spring/summer planting of planters depending on duration of the bulbs currently in planters.
- Planting underneath canopy at the Festival Hall.
- Planting above Town Hall entrance.
- Removal of dog bins from PTC grounds.
- Installation of new hooded bins to replace dog bins.

Dugg Budd
Senior Groundsman
4th April 2016