

PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Grounds Committee held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Petersfield, on Thursday 12th July 2018 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs L Farrow (Chairman), Cllr J Deane, Cllr J Matthews, Cllr Mrs V Morgans, Cllr Ms M Vincent and Cllr C Wilton

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr N Hitch (Town Clerk), Mr S Field (Office and Committees Manager), and Mr D Budd (Senior Groundsman). There were 5 members of the public and no press.

G 0166 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Grounds Meeting and mentioned that the recent damage to the sleepers at the Love Lane Skate Park would need to be repaired at an estimated £2500. Two quotes would be sought and the Town Clerk would seek the approval of the , Town Mayor, Grounds Chairman, and Finance Chairman for the work to be done.

G 0167 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

G 0168 DISPENSATION UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT (2011)

No requests for dispensation were received.

G 0169 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

G 0170 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Grounds Committee held on 14th June 2018 be received and approved

G 0171 PUBLIC REPRESENTATION

Nigel Wells spoke on behalf of Festival for Young People wishing to seek support from the Town Council to start the process for Phase 2 of the Love Lane Skate Park. After further discussion, the Town Council assured Mr Wells of their support in principle, subject to evidence (a business case and revised plans being submitted) for further discussion.

Members also asked for costs to be presented, and an indication of how many local residents from Petersfield would potentially utilise these facilities.

G 0172 PETERSFIELD RUGBY CLUB AND TOWN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB FUTURE REQUIREMENTS

Mr Stuart Barden (Petersfield Rugby Club) and Mr Nick Orr (Petersfield Town Junior Football Club) gave an account of their current and future needs, and wished to work with the Town Council to develop the Sports Hub, providing both clubs with the additional pitches required, and providing Petersfield Town Junior Football Club with a more permanent home. It was the wishes of both clubs that the work could be completed by September 2019.

It was noted that the 'roll on roll off' goals had worked very well, and it was likely that these would be introduced on all pitches, with possibly the exception of one. 10 pitches in total were required by Petersfield Town Junior Football Club, while the rest of the area would be used by Petersfield Rugby Club. An astro-turf pitch would also be very useful, and a clubhouse would be required when the move from Love Lane to Penns Place took place.

Two sets of potential pitch layout plans had been drawn up that were acceptable to both clubs.

The Rugby Club are ready to introduce a 3rd set of floodlights, with funds available from the club, and money earmarked from the Rugby Football Union, should these be implemented.

The Town Clerk indicated that the first steps had taken place with the 'change of Lawful Use' being applied for, and the ACD survey being completed with an indication of how the changes to the area could be mitigated for the wildlife that was found.

G 0173

GROUNDS REPORT

Members received and noted the Grounds Report for June 2018 from the Senior Groundsman. (*appendix A*).

The Senior Groundsman reported that not much was happening in terms of mowing due to the unprecedented dry weather.

Anti Social Behaviour had increased, potentially partly due to the end of exams, and this was seen as a blip.

Liss and Liphook work was going well, and the new ride on mower was due to be delivered on 24 July, and would be stored at Newman Collard in Liss.

Members asked whether there would need to be reseeding at Penns Place. The Senior Groundsman hoped that this would not be necessary as often grass was still growing under the surface, and would be revived by rainfall.

G 0174

PETERSFIELD RUGBY CLUB LANDSWAP

Areas of land required for the implementation of further floodlights was discussed, and it was recognised that an area would be required from land in Penns B field for one of the pylons. Discussions also pursued regarding the

legal status of the land on Pitch 4, which is currently under dispute. After further discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the land swap for Petersfield Rugby Club is approved to include the land on the two most northern pylons, furthest from the Taro Centre and that the plans showing these areas are revised by Petersfield Rugby Club.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk may give permission for the installation of the new floodlights when a formal request is made by the Rugby Club

G 0175 COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

Members received a drawing of the area where the Club House is located, that Petersfield Rugby Club would like to be transferred under a Community Asset Transfer agreement. Discussions pursued regarding the large debt that was owed by Petersfield Rugby Club to Petersfield Town Council, and it was

RECOMMENDATION: that the Community Asset Transfer, as per the map provided, could go ahead on the basis that an independent valuation is carried out and that the MOU financial issues are concluded satisfactorily by Petersfield Rugby Club by 1st September.

G 0176 WW1 TREE PLANTING

Members were reminded that this subject of planting 111 trees as a memorial to WW1 had been discussed at the last meeting, and Petersfield Society were now waiting for alternative sites to be located for the planting of 111 trees. It was discussed that a site at Bell Hill Recreation Ground could be used, or part of High Meadow. Alternative tree species should also be considered, particular those that are likely to live longer than the Himalayan Birch tree that has been suggested. A possible location for an initial tree could be the area outside of St Peters Church near to where the time capsule had been buried.

RESOLVED: that Cllr J Deane works with Petersfield Society with the potential Bell Hill and High Meadow areas for Himalayan or alternative 111 trees, and investigates the planting of one tree outside of St Peters Church near to the time capsule.

G 0177 POLICIES FOR COUNCIL OWNED LAND

This item is to be moved to the September 2018 meeting.

G 0178 **BIRD SURVEY ON HEATH**

Members were asked to consider the undertaking of a bird survey on Petersfield Heath to enable the new Management Plan to be completed.

Members received a copy of a survey that had been carried out by Ted and Penny Raynor in November 2017 which had been produced in conjunction with the Pond Stabilisation Project.

After some discussion, it was:

RESOLVED: **that the Bird Survey produced in conjunction with the Pond Stabilisation project be shared with Mr R Hart and Mr A Smallbone for further comment and development.**

G 0179 **MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF PETERSFIELD HEATH MEETING 28TH JUNE 2018**

Members discussed a number of items that had been included in these minutes.

1. Funds required for the leaflet would be discussed in the July Council meeting as this was a community grant application.
2. Ragwort - the Council instruction has always been to remove the plant. Whilst removing the head will stop the plant re-seeding, this is not Council policy and needs to be addressed.

G 0180 **AUTHORITY FOR TOWN CLERK TO SIGN LEGAL DOCUMENTATION IN CONNECTION WITH TRANSFER OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AT RAMS HILL INTO COUNCIL OWNERSHIP**

Members discussed and it was

RESOLVED: **that the Town Clerk be authorised to sign legal documentation in connection with transfer of Public Open Space at Ramshill into council ownership**

G 0181 **ALLOTMENT USER MEETING 2018**

Members discussed and it was

RESOLVED: **that the Allotment User meeting be held at 5.30 pm on 13th September 2018. The Office Manager would arrange for invitations to go out.**

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G 0182 PETERSFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB

Members were reminded that the rent review for Petersfield Town Football Club had been delayed for a year to assist in the financial difficulties of the club. This should now be reviewed, and after discussed it was

RECOMMENDED: **that the rent for Petersfield Town Football Club should be increased by 2% from 1st July.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Grounds Report July 2018

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

- July maintenance schedule.

Love Lane Playing Fields

- July maintenance schedule.

Penns Farm Playing Fields

- July maintenance schedule.

Bell Hill Recreation Ground

- July maintenance schedule

Paddock Way

- July maintenance schedule.

Woods Meadow

- July maintenance schedule.

General

- Cutting hedges around access points, boardwalk and other areas of need on most sites.

ASB

- Amber for love lane, The Avenue, Bell Hill Rec and High Meadow.
- GREEN for all other sites.

Dugg Budd
Senior Groundsman
2nd July 2018