PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Grounds Committee held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Petersfield, on Thursday 11th July 2019 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr J Matthews (Chairman), Cllr J Deane, Cllr Mr J Lees,

Cllr Ms Z Parker, Cllr Mr P Shaw.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Cllrs Mrs L Farrow (Town Mayor), Mr N Hitch (Town

Clerk), Mr D Budd (Senior Groundsman), Mrs S Fisher (Committee Administrator). There were 2 members of

the public present and no members of the press.

G 0235 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated Churchers College and David Burstall on the conclusion of the path project at the Heath.

The Petersfield Town Juniors Football tournament in June was very successful but there had been considerable damage caused to the pitches due to a combination of the weather and cars driving on them and the Chairman thanked the Senior Groundsman for all of his hard work in resolving the issue.

The installation of the CCTV cameras will start at the Avenue on 12th July and it is hoped that this will help to reduce criminal and anti-social behaviour.

G 0236 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr P Bisset.

G 0237 <u>DISPENSATION UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT</u>

(2011)

No requests for dispensation were received.

G 0238 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

G 0239 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the

Grounds Committee held on 13th June

2019 be received and approved

G 0240 PUBLIC REPRESENTATION

There were no requests to speak.

G 0241 PRESENTATION FROM PETERSFIELD RUGBY CLUB

Stuart Barden, Chairman of Petersfield Rugby Club, addressed the meeting regarding the clubhouse. He explained that there is a proposal for the Town Council to transfer ownership of the clubhouse and land immediately adjoining it to the club under a Community Asset Transfer (CAT). Mr Barden suggested that a working group be formed with representatives from the Town Council and the club (including a member of the club who is a solicitor and can provide legal services probono) to agree the terms of the CAT and put together a draft of the document for approval by the Town Council's solicitors. Members expressed their support for the CAT and agreed that this would be a good way to proceed, the issue of forming a sub-group will be added to the September Grounds meeting agenda.

Mr Barden explained that the rugby club has a development plan and that the club has put together plans to expand the clubhouse building. This will involve 4 additional changing rooms and toilets as well as storage and a plant room and gym on the ground floor with a large function room and expanded kitchen on the first floor. The club intends to have a pre-planning application meeting with the planning authority to discuss the proposed plans and it will start the fundraising process for the building work. Mr Barden suggested that the expanded clubhouse facilities could be used by the Petersfield Town Juniors Football Club as well and that the Town Council Grounds Team may be able to store some of their equipment as well. Members did not raise any objections to the proposed plans for the clubhouse.

The Town Clerk advised that the Neighbourhood Plan is to be reviewed in the autumn and as part of that process the Town Council will clarify that Penns B is intended for both recreational and sports use.

G 0242 GROUNDS REPORT

Members received and noted the Grounds report for July 2019 from the Senior Groundsman (attached at appendix A). The Senior Groundsman reported that there had been problems with visitors to the Heath leaving their rubbish in bags next to the bins but not actually throwing their rubbish into the bins. It was agreed that the Town Council would raise the matter with East Hampshire District Council and request that enforcement officers visit the Heath to follow up on this problem. The Chairman thanked the Senior Groundsman and his team for all of his hard work.

A question was raised with regard to the pricing structure that the Town Council use for charging other councils for maintenance work and the Town Clerk advised that the Town Council cannot be seen as a trading body and can only make a modest profit.

G 0243 INFORMATION FROM PETERSFIELD MUSEUM REGARDING PROPOSED HERITAGE SIGNS ON THE HEATH

Members considered the map and information received from the Petersfield Museum regarding the proposed locations of the heritage signs for the barrows on the Heath. Members noted that they had not been provided with any information regarding the design or size of the proposed signs and how much information will be displayed on each one. Members were concerned about excessive signage on the Heath and suggested that 1 or 2 interpretation boards with a central hub point and then markers at other barrows would be better. Members also suggested that a trail with QR codes and a leaflet option rather than extensive information on each board would be simpler.

G 0244 UPDATE ON NEW PLAY AREA AT BOROUGH HILL

Members considered whether the Town Council should purchase 3 picnic benches for use around the new play area at Borough Hill. The Senior Groundsman advised that the play fort had been used by people smoking in it and that rubbish had been left in it. Members were concerned that putting picnic benches in might encourage people to congregate in the play area and lead to anti-social behaviour. Members noted that there are several benches for parents to sit on in the play area and did not feel that picnic benches were necessary.

G 0245 CAR PARK SURVEY AT LOVE LANE

Members received and noted the results of the recent car park survey at Love Lane. The Senior Groundsman advised that he has carried out several surveys of the car park on different days over the course of the year to monitor use of the car park by pupils of Churchers College. The Town Clerk explained that the school pay the Town Council to use 40 parking spaces per term and that the number of spaces used in the autumn term is lower than in the spring term. There were concerns that the school has been using more than the agreed number of spaces and that this impacted on parking availability for users of Love Lane. The use of the car park will continue to be monitored.

G 0246 <u>UPDATE REGARDING THE PREPARATION OF THE HEATH</u> MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Town Clerk informed members that he and the Chairman had met with Jenny Edbrooke to discuss the preparation of the new Heath Management Plan, he anticipates that a draft of the plan will be ready in November and that a consultation will take place at the end of the year or early in the new year. The Town Clerk advised that Ms Edbrooke has relevant expertise, including marine management and ecology, and that she has previously prepared management plans for the Town Council for Rotherlands, Bell Hill and a draft one for Merrits Meadow. An estimate for costs of the work is awaited.

Mr R Warton of Friends of Petersfield Heath asked how consultation with stakeholders would be carried out and the Chairman assured him that stakeholders would be invited to comment on the draft proposals.

G 0247 REPORT ON TENDER ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE POND BANK STABILISATION

Members were informed that an out of date set of criteria had been used in the assessment process of the tenders received for the pond bank stabilisation work and that the tenders would be re-assessed using the correct criteria on 17th July. Members agreed that, given the scope and expense of the project, a sub-group should be formed to receive presentations from the highest scoring contractors before a decision could be reached as to which contractor to award the work to. It was noted that there was unlikely to be a significant difference in the scores for the top contractors but that it would be very useful to hear from them and to be able to question them regarding their tenders.

RESOLVED

that a Sub-Committee be formed, made up of the members of the Grounds committee, the Town Mayor and the Town Clerk, to receive presentations from up to the top 4 contractors based on the technical markings. Each contractor will be invited to give a 20-minute presentation followed by 25 minutes of questions from the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee will report back to the Grounds committee in September with its recommendation.

G 0248 PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER

Members noted the proposals from East Hampshire District Council to introduce a Public Space Protection Order with regard to dog fouling (see Appendix C) and controlling dogs and noted that there will be a consultation period regarding the proposals. Members expressed their support for the proposals and look forward to making representations in due course.

G 0249 PURCHASE OF A TRAILER FOR THE GROUNDS TEAM

The Senior Groundsman explained that, due to the increase in mowing that the Grounds Team are undertaking, an additional trailer was needed to transport another ride on mower. There were 2 quotes for trailers for members to consider (*see Appendix D*) and the Senior Groundsman explained that he would like to try out both of the trailers to see which one would work best with the ride on mower.

The Town Clerk advised that funding for a new trailer is available in revenue budget for Grounds equipment and that the Town Council had used Blendworth Tyres before, they offer good value for money. It was

RESOLVED

to agree to the Grounds Team purchasing a trailer from Blendworth Tyres, up to a value of £3,215 (excluding VAT), to be funded from the Grounds revenue budget.

G 0250 UPDATE ON ISSUES RELATING TO RAMSHILL ESTATE

The Town Clerk updated members that Taylor Wimpey have now settled their outstanding invoices, the Town Council is waiting for confirmation that they will pay for the hazel hedge and for Taylor Wimpey to confirm what further work is required following on from the report on the play area. Taylor Wimpey's lawyers have not made contact. It is anticipated that the path on Skinner's Lane will be completed by the end of next week.

Cllr J Lees, Chairman of the Ramshill Residents Association, advised that Damien Hinds M.P had indicated that he could provide assistance to help resolve the outstanding issues and the Town Clerk confirmed that he would be happy to liaise to help move things along. Cllr J Lees also asked the Town Council for permission to hold a community event in the play area in October and this was granted, assuming that ownership had transferred to the Town Council by then.

G 0251 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE DEPOT

The Senior Groundsman advised that, despite chasing, no response has been received from Hampshire Highways regarding the depot. The Town Clerk has asked both County Councillors to assist the Town Council and to follow this up.

CONFIDENTIAL

There were no confidential matters to discuss.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.36 p.m.

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

Starting regular maintenance of Stroud play area.

ASB

- Red for Avenue, Heath, skate park.
- Amber for all other sites

Dugg Budd Senior Groundsman 2nd July 2019

Committee Admin

APPENDIX B

From:

Ryan - Petersfield Museum <education@petersfieldmuseum.co.uk>

Sent:

04 July 2019 12:01

To:

committee.admin@petersfield-tc.gov.uk

Subject: Attachments: Heath Sign Boards Heath Sign boards.pdf

Good morning,

Please find attached a map showing the proposed sites for the Barrow sign boards. I have also listed the proposed locations below.

I hope that the map makes sense but am happy to answer any questions.

1. Main entrance gateway (Heath Rd West)

- 2. Heath Rd carpark entrance (Just as you enter the heath from the carpark facing away from the road)
- 3. Mesolithic Floor (On the ridge up near the Meso floor)
- 4. The Cricket Pitch
- 5. Durford Cross entrance
- 6. Barrow 8
- 7. Barrow 18
- 8. Barrow 19 and 20.
- 9. Sussex Road carpark (entrance to the heath)
- 10. Music Hill

Ryan Watts

Learning and Community Engagement Officer 01730 262601

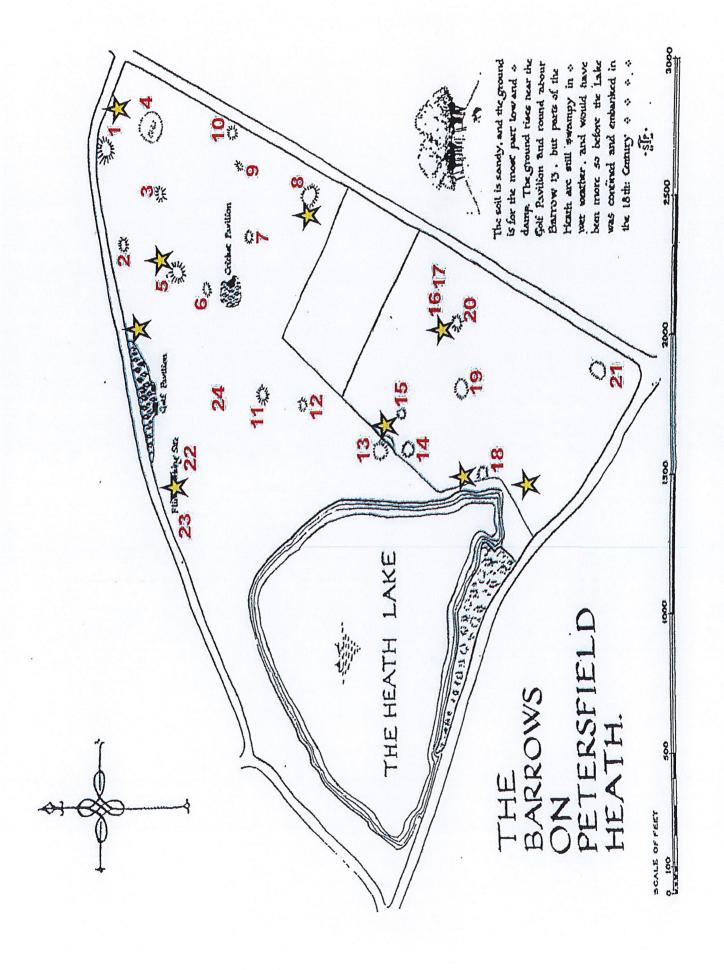
The Museum buildings are currently closed while we undertake work on our Heritage Lottery Funded redevelopment project. However, staff are available for enquiries, bookings and information about forthcoming events and exhibitions.

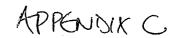


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NON EXEMPT

EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET

4 July 2019

REPORT: Public Space Protection Orders (Dogs) under The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to replace existing byelaws and Orders

FOR DECISION

Portfolio: Cllr Ingrid Thomas Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood

Services

Head of Service: Tim Pointer

Key Decision: Yes

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1. To approve consultation being undertaken regarding the use of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) in East Hampshire

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. In consultation with the Portfolio Holder, delegate to the Head of Service for Enforcement and Neighbourhood Quality the authority to carry out all necessary publicity required by virtue of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations to enable effective consultation with communities across East Hampshire to update the existing provisions for the control of Dogs.
- 2.2. Provide the findings of consultation to Cabinet, with recommendations to be approved by Full Council
- 2.3. That consultation relating to a Public Spaces Protection Order (Dogs) is progressed to include the following restrictions:-

District wide (any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission)

- a) A person in charge of a dog must put the dog on a lead if asked to do so by an authorised officer;
- b) Persons in charge of a dog must have with them appropriate means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog;
- c) Persons in charge of a dog must remove the faeces;

Other

- d) Exclusion of dogs from: Fenced and gated Children's play areas, skate parks, tennis courts and multi-use games areas;
- e) Dogs must be on a lead in East Hampshire District Council owned cemeteries
- f) That the current arrangements in respect of controlling Dogs in Queen Elizabeth Country Park are extended for a further three years.
- g) That the fixed penalty charge for breaches be set at £100 which is the maximum currently permitted by the Anti-Social Crime and Policing Act.
- 2.4. For persistent offenders the maximum fine at court would be £1000

3.0 Executive Summary

- **3.1.** The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 created new powers to replace existing legislation for the control of Anti-Social acts.
- 3.2. PSPOs can be made where the Council is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the activities to be controlled are carried out, or likely to be carried out, in a public place. (any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission)
- 3.3. Dog fouling is both unpleasant and a danger to health, and the Council is committed to tackling it.
- 3.4. There are current Dog Control measures in place across the District (which automatically transferred to a PSPO in October2017). However, the current orders are very restricted for the following reasons:
 - The Order covers limited parts of the District, there are a range of exclusions that do not reflect the current management and use of land.
 - The Order is limited to dog fouling and does not cover other types of anti-social behaviour related to dogs; and

- The current PSPO will expire in 2020 and there is a need to review it.
- The signage is outdated
- 3.5. The current Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) charge utilised by the Council in relation to Dog Control Orders is £50.
- 3.6. The Act requires that the Council consult with interested parties on any proposals to be made under a PSPO.
- 3.7. Whilst the making of the order for all public spaces within the Council area, enforcement activity will be targeted at areas under Council ownership and where specific authority and where appropriate signage and other steps have been taken by the land owner to enable that enforcement.

4.0 Background and relationship to the Corporate Strategy and Directorate Business Plan/s

4.1. The Corporate Strategy promotes improving and creating a better quality of place. This correct use of PSPOs will support this objective and the priority for Public Service Excellence, our aim is to improve people's lives by providing excellent public services that meet our customers' needs. The consultation process will enable the council to gain insight which will help shape this work.

5.0 Resource Implications

- 5.1. Whilst a PSPO is a common tool introduced by local authorities in relation to issues, it should be noted that there are costs associated with the introduction of them through the need for additional signage across the district and in costs of training officers to enforce the PSPO. In addition, enforcement of PSPOs will in most cases be reliant on an authorised officer being present when an offence occurs.
- 5.2. For third parties, such as parish and town councils, there is no cost imposed by the PSPO but should they wish to have it enforced upon their land they may need to fund appropriate signage, the provision of suitable receptacles for the disposal of dog waste, and potentially fund any additional enforcement arrangements.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1. If Full Council agrees to adopt the PSPO, prosecutions for failure to pay any fixed penalty notice for the above offences will be pursued by the Council's Legal Team and costs recouped via court processes through powers in respect of Section 59, Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 & Section 2, Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations.

6.2. Full Council will also have to revoke the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, this was the previous legislation used to impose fines.

7.0 Risks

7.1. This action may increase public expectations over the number of offences reported, this expectation will need to be managed through the Communication Strategy

8.0 Consultation

8.1. Consultation is required by law and will be carried out predominantly online with a limited number of paper copies available at points across the district. This will test current public attitude to these issues. The outcome of the consultation will be provided as a separate report to Cabinet for agreement to proceed to Full Council.

9.0 Communication

9.1. An internal and external communication strategy will be produced for Cabinet to ensure that maximum coverage of the requirements of the order is communicated to both residents with, and without dogs. Internal communication has already been undertaken.

Agreed by:

Monitoring Officer: 18th June 2019 (EB)

S151 Officer: 18th June 2019 (EB)

Director: 6th June 2019

Portfolio Holder: 6th June 2019

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Incorporating BLENDWORTH TRAILER CENTRE

Whichers Gate Garage, Rowlands Castle, Hampshire PO9 6BB

Tel: 023 9241 2731 Fax: 023 9241 2112

www.blendworthtrailers.co.uk Email: sales@blendworthtrailers.co.uk

V.A.T. Reg. No. GB 107 4002 23 Established 1968

EXHAUSTS - BATTERIES - SERVICING - TOW BARS - TRAILERS

PETERBFIELD TOWN COUNCIL THE TOWN HALL HEATH ROAD PETERBFIELD HANTS GU31 4EA

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Incorporating BLENDWORTH TRAILER CENTRE APPENDIX D

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PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL THE TOWN HALL HEATH ROAD PETERSFIELD HANTS GU31 4EA

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EXHAUSTS - BATTERIES - SERVICING - TOW BARS - TRAILERS

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PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL THE TOWN HALL HEATH ROAD PETERSFIELD HANTS GU31 4EA

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