



HAYLE TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2015

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held in the Assembly Room, Hayle Community Centre, 58 Queensway, Hayle on Thursday 22 October 2015 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Councillors G Coad, D Cocks, N Farrar (Chair), I Lawrence, B Mims, O Philp and C Polkinghorne

Also present Councillor B Capper

Town Clerk Eleanor Giggall

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

A12 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Ninnes and Wills. Councillor Rance, although not a member of this committee, also tendered her apologies but provided comments for item 10a) (Minute A21).

A13 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

A14 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING 25 JUNE 2015

It was resolved that the minutes of 25 June 2015 be taken as a true and correct record, the Chairman signing each page before placing them in the record book.

A15 COMMUNITY CENTRE

a) Tenants and users update

There was little news to report since the last meeting. The Clerk was pleased to report that a couple of new casual hirers had signed up for regular sessions.

b) General Maintenance update

The Clerk advised that due to other priorities there had been a delay in obtaining the quotations for the soffits and chimney works that had been discussed in previous meetings.

The Clerk reported that she had been in touch with the asbestos advisor at Cornwall Council. He advised that the soffits are of a cement based asbestos material, which is not licensable. However, he explained, only suitably trained and insured contractors can work on or remove it

and must follow the appropriate HSE guidance including dealing with and transporting special waste. We do not have to use a licensed asbestos removal contractor to undertake the work but the appointed contractor we use must have the correct training, insurance, PPE and method statement in place for undertaking such work. This is relevant for both removals and work to the material (cladding/drilling/fixing etc).

Given that the costs and measures that would need to be taken to clad the existing soffits and that this would not be a final solution, the Clerk asked Members to consider whether it would be better and more efficient to remove the existing soffits and fully replace with UPVC soffits, ensuring the above criteria are met. The Clerk suggested that the additional money that would be required be taken from the Community Centre Capital Fund, which currently stands at £55,982.

It was resolved that the Clerk obtains quotations for the removal of all existing soffits, in accordance with HSE asbestos guidance, and total replacement with UPVC soffits, with the money to come from the Capital Fund.

A16 HAYLE SWIMMING POOL

- a) To present and consider proposals for covering the pool
- b) To note that an application to the Coastal Communities Fund has been submitted for further improvement works

Items a) and b) were considered together. The Chair and Clerk explained that they had met with designers and suppliers of pool covers, Swimex Enclosures Ltd. Images of recently installed pool covers, proposed plans/designs for Hayle Pool and indicative costings were presented to Members. Full details are on file in the Clerk's office.

The Clerk also explained that, with the help of Vanessa Luckwell, Community Link Officer, an application for £50,000 had been submitted to the Coastal Communities Fund. If successful, this money would be used to carry out essential preparation works, such as relocating the pool pump room (required to accommodate the proposed cover), ground works for the retractable cover and improvements to the pool. Dependent on the outcome of this application, the Clerk explained that she and Vanessa would then submit further applications to other bodies with a view to securing the money required for the actual cover, which was anticipated to cost in the region of £200,000.

It was resolved to note this information, with thanks to the Chair, Clerk and Community Link Officer for their work on this project.

- c) M & S Grant Award and Heat Hayle Pool Project Update

The Clerk confirmed that the 'Heat Hayle Outdoor Pool' had been successful in securing the £12,500 awarded by M & S Community Energy Fund, as a result of a public vote.

The Clerk advised that there were conditions attached to obtaining the grant, one of which was to submit a copy of a quotation for the installation of the proposed air source heat pumps. The Clerk confirmed that she had approached several companies but to date no appropriate quotes had been received. The quotations received had all been way beyond the predicted prices, which had been indicated by representatives of Community Energy Plus, and several suggested that there were other more energy and cost efficient methods of heating the pool. The Clerk

reassured Members that she had been in contact with the grant providers, who had confirmed that they would be satisfied to receive a quotation and to award the grant for another sustainable method of heating the pool, if necessary, in due course.

It was resolved to note this update.

Members discussed where the pump room would be rebuilt and several options were considered.

It was resolved that the Clerk contact Corinthian Land Ltd with a view to asking for the strip of land that runs adjacent to the western edge of the pool to be transferred to the Town Council.

d) 2015 Season Report

The Clerk acknowledged that a written report is usually circulated. However, one had not been prepared this year as much of the information had already been shared in a Resource Committee meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the final figures for the Swimming Pool, including estimates for utilities to the year-end, indicated that there would likely be an over spend on budget of approximately £500. Given the difficulties at the start of the season around water quality and the unseasonal weather in August, the Finance Officer considered that the figures were satisfactory.

In terms of the operation, the pool had operated well with the support of a professional lifeguarding team. No major accidents or incidents had occurred.

A17 FORMER HAWKINS MOTOR SITE, HAYLE TERRACE

- a) To consider the correspondence and sketch requesting use of additional land

Members considered the proposal and the sketch, supplied by the agent on behalf of the Hawkins family, which indicated the section of land that was required in order to provide parking for each of the new houses currently being built.

It was resolved that the Clerk should a) obtain an independent valuation of the section of land under discussion b) check with Cornwall Council's Planning Department to see if the S106 needs to be revisited and c) respond to the request by confirming that the principle is acceptable but that the Town Council will be seeking a professional, independent valuation.

A18 HAYLE RECREATION GROUND

- a) To consider the proposals from the current Café/Kiosk tenant

It was resolved to respond to Dom Wells advising that the Committee is interested in his suggestions in principle but will need to see a) a more worked up, detailed scheme with a supporting business plan, b) an indication of the contribution required from the Council towards the project, c) the length of the lease required and d) the size and scale of the proposed building.

It was further resolved that the Committee would not be in support of a wooden building, for fear of arson and vandalism, and would want to ensure that any new build incorporated toilets, for customers and the general public to use, to replace the facilities currently on the Recreation Ground which are not fit for purpose.

A19 AMENITY SITES TRANSFER UPDATE

A full update had been reported to the last meeting of the Full Council. Members were pleased to note that work had commenced on the Plantation Wall and notices had been displayed at the Recreation Ground advising that work would be commencing there imminently.

There was a brief discussion about the ongoing issues at the Recreation Ground toilets. The Clerk reported that she is dealing with increased vandalism and problems with the drainage. Despite advice that there are no physical issues with the sewerage systems, the toilets are regularly faulty and have to be closed until repairs/clearance work has been undertaken. The major problem is that users continue to flush unsuitable large items, such as nappies, hand towels and wet wipes, causing the toilets to back up and overflow. Notices have been displayed and bins are provided so there is no excuse.

Members considered whether an additional CCTV camera could be installed to cover the Recreation Ground, The Jubilee Walk, King George V Memorial Walk and the eastern end of the town which may act as a deterrent to those behaving in an antisocial manner. The Clerk advised that she would look into this, adding that now that the CCTV system had been upgraded and was wireless it should be fairly straightforward to install an additional camera. This matter would be placed on a future agenda.

A20 WAR MEMORIAL SCHEME UPDATE

- a) To consider the draft drawings and proposals for the scheme

Councillors carefully considered the drawings that Councillor Mims had produced. He explained the reasoning behind the designs and the materials he recommended. The Committee thanked Councillor Mims for the drawings.

It was resolved that a) the proposals were a step in the right direction but need to complement and reflect the Street Scape designs that had already been installed in other areas of the town, to be consistent, b) the residents who currently live near the war memorial need to be consulted regarding the revised parking proposals and c) the Committee supported there being a one way system around the war memorial.

A21 ALLOTMENTS

- a) To consider the correspondence from Colin Finbow

The Clerk advised that the issues of the management of ragwort and the use of chemicals were regularly and currently being debated in on line Council forums and it was clear that both issues, particularly chemicals, are contentious and that most councils seem to leave it to each allotment tenant to make the decision.

Councillor Rance, although not on this Committee, sent views on both issues for the Committee to consider. She supported Mr Finbow's view that ragwort was not a danger to humans, only cattle and horses, and actually is considered a great weed for insects. She added that chemicals should only be used if essential and not excessively.

It was resolved that individual allotment holders make their own choices regarding the removal of ragwort and use of chemicals on their plots. The Council will not offer guidance on these issues.

A22 TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was resolved that the next meeting would take place on 12 November 2015 in the Assembly Room, with the focus being on the budgets for 2016/17.

The meeting finished at 9.45pm.