



HAYLE TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2016

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held in the Assembly Room, Hayle Community Centre, 58 Queensway, Hayle on Thursday 22 September 2016 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Councillors Farrar, Coad (Chairman), Cocks, Ninnes, Mims, Philp and Polkinghorne.

Also present Councillor Capper

Town Clerk Eleanor Giggall

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

A1 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2016-2017

It was resolved to elect Councillor Graham Coad as chairman and Councillor Clive Polkinghorne as vice-chairman for the civic year 2016-17.

A2 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Wills.

A3 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

A4 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING 14 APRIL 2016

It was resolved that the minutes of 14 April 2016 be taken as a true and accurate record, the chairman signing each page before placing them in the record book.

A5 COMMUNITY CENTRE

- a) Tenants and users update

The clerk reported that there had been no changes with regard to tenants and was pleased to inform councillors that there had been a small increase in casual hire bookings.

- b) General Maintenance update

The clerk confirmed that the works to the exterior of the building, which included the installation of new soffits and fascia boards, the removal of the chimney and painting of the walls were now all complete. The clerk confirmed that all work had been carried out to an excellent standard and that several of the regular users had commented on how much better the building looked.

The clerk advised that more routine maintenance and repair work was due to be carried out on the inside of the building. She also added that the new contractors and gardener were maintaining the external areas to an improved level.

Councillors also took the opportunity to comment on the continued cleanliness of the Community Centre. The clerk undertook to feed this back to the cleaner.

c) Carpark update

It was resolved that the clerk should delay obtaining quotations for additional parking to the rear of the building until discussions had taken place with the developer of the Frank Johns Centre. Councillors agreed that there was some merit in discussing options with the new owner as he was intending to carry out improvements to the existing driveway and car park areas and there might be some benefit to carrying out work in partnership.

A6 HAYLE SWIMMING POOL

a) 2016 Season Report, including brief financial summary

The clerk presented a brief, verbal report. She explained that the season had been positive in many ways. The pool took £11,609, excluding VAT, in income against a target of £10,000 and this was probably due to a combination of it being an enhanced facility and good weather. There also was an under spend in salaries and this was mainly down to there being no pool manager in post for the season. A more detailed financial report of the season would be presented at the next Amenities meeting scheduled for November. This had an impact on the office staff who had to take on additional responsibilities. Unfortunately, as there was no pool manager there were minor issues with the organisation and, in particular, the cleansing of the pool's facilities and minor shortcomings with customer interface. The clerk stressed that this was largely attributable to the lack of on site management. The team of lifeguards recruited this year were young, eager and pleasant but sometimes required guidance. There were no major concerns in terms of health and safety and only minimal first aid had to be administered.

Prior to the season a substantial amount of improvement work was carried out. The Friends of Hayle Pool had once again helped to paint, garden and generally improve the appeal of the pool surrounds. The council employed contractors to drain, repaint and refill the pool and also to tile the second changing room. Mid-season the solar covers were installed and as a result the water temperature rose almost immediately. Some days it reached 25 degrees Celsius.

b) To consider the proposals from the operators of Riviere Café regarding the utilisation of the current office for additional kitchen space and the possibility of creating a job share position

The detailed proposals had previously been circulated to all councillors. There was a lengthy discussion. It was generally felt that the existing kitchen was too small but concern was expressed about the proposed location of the lifeguards' office and the need for electricity and a land line telephone.

It was resolved to support the proposals as outlined in principle; it was also agreed that further consideration and plans needed to be worked up for a new or improved lifeguards' office, including the location, electricity and potentially a land line, and that the tenants of Riviere Café needed to draw up detailed/professional plans and obtain requisite permission, if required, for their proposals. Should the work go ahead it must accord with Building Regulations.

It was resolved to ring-fence any surplus or under spent money from this year's swimming pool budget for the purpose of altering/improving the existing shelter or creating a new building for the lifeguards' use.

It was resolved that the issue of creating a job share post, to undertake a combination of kitchen porter and swimming pool ticket sales duties, should be considered as part of the major staff review that was currently underway.

A7 HAYLE RECREATION GROUND

- a) To sign and seal the Kiosk Lease

The clerk explained that this lease had not been before a solicitor, although it was almost identical to the one drawn up by the council's previous solicitor only 15 months previously. The only differences now were the name and contact details of the tenants and one clause pertaining to the management and responsibility of the tennis courts had been removed.

It was resolved to approve, sign and seal the two copies of the lease. The clerk and mayor to sign and retain one copy and the other to be given to the tenants.

It was reported that the council had been successful in its application to the Tesco's Bags of Help Initiative. The council had been shortlisted to receive a minimum of £8,000 with the possibility of being selected to receive either £10,000 or £12,000. The application had been made by the mayor and Vanessa Luckwell, Community Liaison Officer, for an inclusive piece of play equipment for Hayle Recreation Ground. Three projects would be promoted in local Tesco stores and the public would have the opportunity to vote for their preferred project; the number of votes would dictate which project received which sum.

Councillors talked about other potential improvements to the playground and about making the Recreation Ground more appealing to a wider audience. They referred to an opportunity where outdoor table tennis tables had been on offer and recent requests for an area for boules or petanque. The clerk undertook to look for any free or reduced offers and councillors said that they would raise these as 'wishlist' items for the Resource Committee to consider when setting next year's precept and budget.

A8 MILLPOND GARDENS

- a) To receive an update regarding the general management of the site, and more specifically, the wildlife

The clerk outlined in detail issues relating to the management of rats at this site. In response to a number of complaints, advice had been sought from Cornwall Council's Pest Control team. Bait boxes had been placed in various positions at the site. There had been complaints from two residents about these boxes and one had illegally removed the boxes from the site and delivered them to the office, as she had considered them to be a risk to other wildlife, children and pets. The Clerk had thought that she had better provide councillors with an accurate report and the actions taken to date. She explained that she had worked with highly qualified pest control officers and taken advice from Cornwall Wildlife Trust.

It was resolved to fully support the clerk's actions in relation to the management of the rat issue at The Millponds.

A9 WAR MEMORIAL SCHEME UPDATE

The Clerk confessed to not having progressed the War Memorial scheme as much as she would have liked, due to work load, and was anxious that it had been initially hoped that the project would be completed by 2018. She explained that a working party had been formed in 2015 but it had not met for almost a year and she asked if members could consider resurrecting it with the aim of completing the project.

It was resolved to revisit the project and that Councillor Polkinghorne would chair the meetings to help progress the project, with representatives of Hayle Royal British Legion, Hayle in Bloom and local residents. The clerk and team to provide administrative support where possible.

It was further resolved to a) follow up on registering the War Memorial as the property of Hayle Town Council with the Land Registry, b) arrange a working party meeting and re-circulate previous ideas and drawings and c) contact Mike Peters, Highways, to request that 'No Parking' signs be placed on the War Memorial or that another measure be introduced to resolve this issue.

A10 TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was resolved that the next meeting would be held on 10 November 2016 and the focus would be on budget setting.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.