



## HAYLE TOWN COUNCIL

### AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER 2021

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held at Hayle Day Care Centre, on Thursday 14 October 2021 at 7.30pm.

#### **PRESENT**

Councillors

S. Benney (Mayor), E. Brown, S. Johnson, J. Lawrenson-Reid (Reserve), J. Martin, J. Pollard (Reserve), AM. Rance (Deputy Mayor) and D Raymer,

Non-voting Councillors

B. Capper and J. Bennett

Facilities and Contracts Manager P Drew

Senior Support Officer M Costello

#### **7.30PM MEETING COMMENCED**

The Mayor announced that as the full committee was present except for the chair, he proposed that a vice-chair should be nominated and appointed.

**It was resolved** unanimously to elect Councillor Johnson as Vice-Chair of the Amenities Committee.

#### **AM30 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Coad and Gordon.

#### **AM31 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

There were none.

#### **AM32 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 9 SEPTEMBER 2021**

The Mayor explained to members that an error had been made in the minutes regarding apologies which after clarification was agreed to amend.

**It was resolved** to approve the minutes of 9 September 2021 as amended and be taken as a true and accurate record with the Chair to sign each page before placing them in the record book.

As the guest speakers were not yet in attendance it was agreed to move to agenda item 5.

## **AM33 SWIMMING POOL**

### **a) To consider and note the end of season operational report**

The Facilities and Contracts Manager explained that this was to follow. (See AM33c).

### **b) To consider and note the end of season financial report**

Members discussed the difficulties experienced during the season due Covid-19 and staff shortages, they expressed their thanks to Phil Drew and the Swimming Pool team.

The Facilities Manager explained that some figures will improve as the café is yet to be charged for their use of electricity during this period, although their usage will naturally increase during the winter. Members asked some questions about the café and agreed it was a fantastic asset which appeared to be very successful, and they were hopeful that the lease would be renewed.

The end of season financial report was NOTED.

### **c) To consider plans for the 2022 season and to consider employing a seasonal Pool Manager**

The Facilities Manager apologised that as he had been on annual leave, he did not have any information on this agenda item. He believed that the Clerk hoped that employing a pool manager would relieve some of the strain on him.

Councillor Bennett asked whether this role was not already included in the Facilities Manager's job specification, to which he responded by telling them that his role included multiple tasks and that he expected to oversee the new role which would be paid at a seasonal hourly rate.

It was agreed to ask for a report on the potential benefits and drawbacks of employing a seasonal pool manager, to be prepared by the Clerk and Facilities Manager and presented at the next Amenities Committee meeting.

Finally, Councillor Pollard asked when the end of season report would be ready, as it was an item on the agenda, they were expecting to receive it that evening.

Phil Drew explained that since returning from annual leave he had not had the time, but would be happy to give a verbal report as follows:

He explained that he felt the pool had run well despite 2.4 incidents of closure due to Covid-19.

He told members that there had been issues with chemicals due to a national chlorine shortage leading to the cost of a barrel doubling and consequently supplies being diluted which led to having to double dose, but that the new chlorine pump had worked well, saving costs.

He explained that the café had worked well throughout the season and had stayed open later to service the pool's late-night slots.

Phil also told members that there had been some security incidents and despite GSD's best efforts there was nothing to stop people climbing over the fence but luckily there had not been any vandalism. He said that he had reported every incident to 101 online.

Members asked whether CCTV was or could be installed?

A discussion followed about the potential concerns for the privacy of members of the public and that even a dummy camera could potentially cause problems in the event of an incident, should footage be requested.

The Mayor reported that this matter had been discussed at the full council meeting of 15 July 2021 and that the Clerk had been tasked with investigating.

**AM34            HAYLE SKATE PARK**

- a) To consider the request for the Council to update and improve Hayle Skatebowls and to receive a presentation from Messrs Shilton about their initiative and ideas for the park

Mike Shilton apologized for being late and explained that his son Zach, had originally emailed Hayle Town Council (HTC) to ask if the skatebowl could be improved. He told the committee that the bowl was now tired and not fit for purpose as the concrete was degrading and could potentially cause accidents which meant that many local users were travelling to other towns such as St Ives and Penzance to use their new facilities. He explained that as the sport was included in the Olympics, it had grown in popularity and there could be funding available to apply from, for instance the Lottery. He explained that the facility at the Recreation Ground could be a great focal point for the community but currently there were issues with anti-social behaviour, he told members that he had support from his watch manager at the Fire Service, local police and the Community Link Officer, Vanessa Luckwell with whom he hoped to put together a working party.

Some local skaters spoke about the possible solutions to renovating the existing facility and their knowledge of other local skate parks and funding options. Members discussed the potential cost implications of renovating the current skatebowl with them, the likelihood of securing funding and discussed the possibility of adding a new facility at Ellis Park to address the problems of anti-social behaviour at this location. They considered the recently completed project at St. Ives which had apparently received £25million government funding.

Vanessa Luckwell spoke to confirm that she believed that Hayle would receive some levelling up funding via our MP George Eustice, she also suggested the Lottery Fund and agreed that a working party was the next step.

Members discussed potential issues regarding damage at Ellis Park and their understanding that there are two issues to be considered which are: repairing the existing skatebowl or creating a new one and are the provision of these a responsibility of HTC?

The Mayor thanked the guest speakers, particularly Zach for bringing the matter to the council's attention and that we would be more than happy to support this great concept and asked Mike Shilton to keep the committee informed of his progress.

**It was resolved** that HTC will support this project and help in any way possible and that a letter would be sent to Zach Shilton commending him on his inspiration in highlighting this matter.

**AM35 RELOCATION PROJECT UPDATE**

- a) To consider and approve the recommendations of the Relocation Working Party (meeting of 12 October 2021)

A summary of the recommendations of the Relocation Working Party supplied by the Clerk, was read out by the Mayor as follows:

It was recommended that whilst it would be 'nice' to accommodate the GP's wishes if possible other options needed to be explored and it shouldn't be at the detriment to the project, so it was agreed to defer making a final decision until such time as members/officers have met with key representatives of Cornwall Council and the NHS, who have also expressed interest.

It was recommended that the Council continues to progress with the project.

It was recommended that selling the Community Centre and cover the shortfall by way of a loan (from the Public Loans Board), the cost of which would be added to the Precept or, if available, grant funding, is the preferred way to proceed.

**It was resolved** to approve the recommendations of the Relocation Working Party (meeting of 12 October 2021).

**AM36 ALLOTMENT SITE UPDATE**

- a) To receive an update regarding the plans to provide further plots and to agree, in principle, to a new 20 year lease to include existing and new plots

The Facilities Manager explained that the current allotment plots have 14 years remaining on the lease. Should HTC take on the additional area for plots, a completely new lease for the whole site will be implemented for a term of 20 years.

Members were concerned that 20 years was not that long and asked about the potential requirement for further cemetery plots (in addition to the site already owns by HTC) and they agreed that HTC may need to begin negotiations to purchase the allotment site for these future cemetery plots.

**It was resolved** to agree, in principle, to a new 20-year lease to include existing and new plots.

**AM37 HAYLE RECREATION GROUND**

- a) To consider the request from the café operators:  
i) For permission and/or financial support to extend and cover the external eating area

Members discussed what this request entailed and that they would need to have more information before agreeing to offer support as there were plans to replace the whole building at some point.

**It was resolved** to give permission for the café operators to extend and cover the external eating area.

- ii) To reinstate the putting green, with a view to it being run from the café

Members discussed whether this proposal was for a new putting green or for crazy golf and if

a financial investment was being sought.

**It was resolved** to agree in principle and to request more detailed information.

- iii) To reinstate a booking system for the hire of the tennis courts (and rackets), with bookings being taken at the café

Members considered the operational logistics of this request and the potential requirement to re-develop the tennis courts.

**It was resolved** to agree in principle and to request more detailed information.

- iv) To hold a Christmas Market (with a marquee) and a Christmas Trail over a weekend in December, in partnership with the Hayle Lions Club and Hayle Christmas Lights

The Facilities and Contracts Manager explained that permission for this event can be sought via the normal route of application.

The Mayor discussed the potential to incorporate these ideas and improve the whole Recreation Ground area, should HTC receive the expected government funding.

**AM38 FORMER HAWKINS MOTORS SITE UPDATE**

- a) To note a) the planning permission for the car parking spaces for the houses has been granted, b) the S106 Obligation has consequently been signed off and c) the formal transfer of ownership should occur imminently and to agree next steps

The Facilities and Contracts Manager briefly explained the history of the former Hawkins Motors site, for the benefit of new members and that the decision had previously been made to redevelop the site, once the transfer of ownership was completed, to provide the community with an open space garden with places to sit.

Updates a), b) and c) were NOTED.

**AM39 TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

**It was resolved** that the next meeting will take place on Thursday 11 November 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.52pm