



## **FLEET TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE RECREATION, LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday 21st June 2023 at 7pm**

#### **PRESENT**

**Councillors:** G. Chenery, L. Holt, E. May, A. Oliver, R. Schofield, S. Tilley, K. Cottrell, G. Woods, R. Fang (Chairman for the meeting) and D. Taylor

**Also Present:** Rochelle Halliday – Executive Officer  
Alex Robins – Harlington General Manager  
Ben Crane – Facilities and Open Spaces Manager  
Sian Taylor – Cemetery Clerk  
Louise Rogers – Administration Support Officer  
Leigh Wallace – Hart District Council Countryside Manager  
Mike Bye – Friends of Oakley Park

#### **RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 1                      ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Paul Einchcomb was nominated and seconded for the position of Chairman. There were no other nominations.

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Einchcomb be re-elected to the office of Chairman of Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee for the local Government year 2023/2024.

#### **RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 2                      ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Roy Fang was nominated and seconded for the position of Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations.

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Fang be re-elected to the office of Vice Chairman of Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee for the local government year 2023/2024.

Councillor Fang chaired the meeting in Councillor Einchcomb's absence.

#### **RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 3                      APOLOGIES**

Members received and accepted the apologies from Councillor Paul Einchcomb.

Councillor Wildsmith and Councillor Willcocks were absent.

#### **RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 4                      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made for any item on the agenda.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 5****QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 6****MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Members received and approved as a correct record the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

Members agreed to take items 8, 9 and 16 next.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 7****THE HARLINGTON AND ANCELLS FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT**

Members received an update on events, hiring's, and operational activities. Members were encouraged by the show performances over the last few months.

**RESOLVED**

Members noted the report of the General Manager of The Harlington.

The Harlington General Manager left the meeting at 7:45pm

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 8****THE CEMETERY CLERK'S REPORT**

Members received and noted the report of the Cemetery Clerk Officer.

**RESOLVED**

Members approved the installation of a Commonwealth War Graves Commission sign at Fleet Cemetery.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 9****BADGER ACTIVITY AT FLEET CEMETERY**

An update was provided on the badger activity at the Fleet Cemetery, where several graves have been disturbed. Members considered the desired approach to managing the badger setts. The Council's appointed ecology consultants had visited the site and submitted a selection of options for the Council to consider.

**RESOLVED**

Members agreed to apply for the relevant licence from Natural England to infill and make good any surface damage to the graves and block the entrances resulting from badger activity.

The Cemetery Clerk left the meeting at 7.13pm.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 10****FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACES MANAGER'S REPORT**

Members received and noted the report of the Facilities and Open Spaces Manager.

## **RESOLVED**

- 1) Members agreed to waive the casual tennis court fee for the period from 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 until 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023 during Wimbledon.
- 2) Members agreed spending £100 for the application of three tennis courts to be painted on the event field adjacent to the tennis courts, to allow free play.
- 3) Members noted the report of the Facilities and Open Spaces Manager.

### **RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 11**

### **SECTION 106 ANCELLS FARM GREEN GYM**

Members received an update of costs for the installation of a Green Gym.

Members requested that a formal quotation request is made to all interested parties. This can then be taken to the next Council meeting for final consideration.

It was noted that the approximate cost is under the threshold for a formal tender through Contracts Finder.

## **RESOLVED**

- 1) To submit a formal quotation request to all interested parties associated with the project.
- 2) To select the appropriate contractor at the next available Council meeting.

### **RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 12**

### **SECURING THE OPEN SPACE NEAR ANCELLS FARM PARK**

Members discussed the suggestions required to prevent vehicle access along the land leading up to Ancells Farm Park, which includes the installation of wooden bollards.

If the Committee wishes to remove the parking area and reinstate the area to a green space, this will cost approximately £3,740.

The Committee to further consider how to design the green space, which could include some form of planting.

## **RESOLVED**

To install 26 bollards in a straight line to remove the parking area and to re-secure fallen bollards at a cost of £2,730 + VAT. Work to be undertaken by the Council's main grounds maintenance contractor.

### **RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 13**

### **CRICKET CLUB SIGNAGE**

Members received the request from Fleet Cricket Club for the installation of new signage at Calthorpe Park.

It was suggested that it would be more appropriate to have a smaller sign, perhaps measuring 2000mm x 500mm.

## **RESOLVED**

To approve the installation of a sign for Fleet Cricket Club based on the design presented, subject to further discussions by the Facilities and Open Spaces Manager with the Club regarding reducing the size.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 14**

**THE VIEWS - SENSORY GARDEN PROJECT**

Members reviewed the proposal for the final stage of the Sensory Garden project.

It was noted that a project plan is already in place and Members asked that this be reviewed in line with the funds available.

**RESOLVED**

To review the options in the original plan and bring to the next meeting for consideration.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 15**

**EVENT APPLICATION - OAKLEY PARK**

Members received the request for a brass band event to be held in Oakley Park in September 2023, to be organised by Friends of Oakley Park.

**RESOLVED**

To approve the event at Oakley Park.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 16**

**HART DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNTRYSIDE  
ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

The Hart District Council Countryside Manager gave a brief introduction to the engagement plan and outlined items to note:

- For the Parish Council to have quarterly meetings with Hart District Council.
- To share social media posts and help each other during events.
- To have joint volunteer days.
- For the Parish Council to connect with Hart District Council regarding biodiversity.
- To understand what projects Hart District Council are doing for biodiversity, and to not duplicate effort.
- Parish Council to line up projects and sharing of resources.

A member questioned whether there are any rules regarding what land can be leased or passed over to the Parishes and asked if the Countryside Manager could find this out.

A member questioned about the what the District Council's expected outcomes from the engagement are after a year of the project and whether the plan is to develop more engagement with the District Council regarding decision making.

The Countryside Manager responded that the aim is working together more effectively, sharing of views of the local community and for the parish to have an influence on the management of sites.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 17**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Members received and noted the report from the Executive Officer.

Members agreed that the Council's duty to have regard to preserving biodiversity should be considered through the Climate Change Working Group.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 18**

**FUTURE EVENTS**

Members received and noted the upcoming events.

The Christmas Festival date has now been confirmed for the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023.

The South and South East in Bloom judging is to take place in June and July.

The date for the Open Air Cinema needs to be checked, as it usually two separate dates.

**RLA JUNE 2023 ITEM 19                      DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7pm at The Harlington.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

**Signed:** .....                      **Date**.....

**Chairman**