



## **FLEET TOWN COUNCIL**

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

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7pm**

#### **PRESENT**

**Councillors:** G. Chenery, P. Einchcomb (Chairman), E. May, A. Oliver, R. Schofield, D. Taylor, B Willcocks, G. Woods

**Also Present:** Rochelle Halliday – Executive Officer  
Alex Robins – Harlington General Manager  
Ben Crane – Facilities and Open Spaces Manager  
Sian Taylor – Cemetery Clerk  
Friends of Oakley Park representative  
Friends of Basingbourne Park representative

#### **RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 1**

#### **APOLOGIES**

Members received and accepted the apologies from Councillors Cottrell, Holt and Tilley. Councillors Fang and Wildsmith were absent.

#### **RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 2**

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Willcocks declared a personal interest for item 11 Event application due to being an executive member of Hart Football Club.

Councillor Oliver declared an interest for item 10 Hart District Council Dog Fouling Public Space Protection Order Consultation, due to being a member of Hart District Council.

#### **RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 3**

#### **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

The Friends of Basingbourne Park representative asked when the bin and two benches, that were removed due to vandalism, will be replaced in Basingbourne Park. The Facilities and Open Spaces Manager confirmed that one bench is severely damaged but Men's Shed could be asked to see if it can be repaired. The other bench has been taken away due to being damaged and has not been replaced as yet due to budget constraints.

The Facilities and Open Spaces Manager will look into whether the Friends of Basingbourne Park representative can check photos of the bench to see if it could be repaired.

#### **RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 4**

#### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Members received and approved as a correct record the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023, subject to the amendment below:

Item 13 Cricket Club Signage, '2000mm x 50mm' amended to '2000mm x 500mm'.

## RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 5

## THE HARLINGTON AND ANCELLS FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT

Members received an update on events, hirings, and operational activities. Financial performance is tracked against the budget.

Members were informed that there are currently several staff shortages at The Harlington.

It was discussed that it will be useful to see a revenue comparison for this year against last year, which the Harlington General Manager confirmed could be provided.

The marketing of Ancells Farm Community Centre was discussed.

It was discussed that payments for one-off hires should be requested upfront to limit non-payment.

### **RESOLVED**

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

## RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 6

## THE CEMETERY CLERK'S REPORT

Members received the report from the Cemetery Clerk, an update was received regarding the following:

### **Badgers in the Cemetery**

The licence to close access to the badger sett entrance has been granted by Natural England. There is now a new excavation by badgers at the Cemetery. It is being investigated whether the licence can be used for the new area. The cost of effecting the licence will be determined by Officers.

### **Cemetery Pathways**

The condition of the path works will be reviewed again before the 10% retainer is due by the end of October.

### **Cemetery Waste Bins**

Reports of overflowing bins have been received due to the incorrect waste being deposited. Members agreed that the Cemetery Clerk should monitor the situation and report back to the next meeting if any specific action is required.

### **Restricting the New Burial Area to Fleet Residents Only**

Due to space limitations at the Cemetery, Members discussed the restriction of full interments for Fleet residents only. There are many burials from the Church Crookham area but very few from outside the wider Fleet district area.

Members voted against restricting full interments to Fleet parish residents only. The burial policy will, therefore, remain unchanged.

### **RESOLVED**

- 1) That the entitlement to be buried at Fleet Cemetery will remain unchanged from the current policy.
- 2) To note the Cemetery Clerk's report.

The Cemetery Clerk left the meeting at 8pm.

Members received the report of the Facilities and Open Spaces Manager. An update was received regarding the following:

**Green Gym at Ancells Farm Park**

Several members of the public have provided positive comments regarding the Green Gym at Ancells Farm Park. A public induction session for the new equipment will be arranged.

**Basingbourne Park Surface Repairs**

Members discussed whether the emerging surface holes at Basingbourne Park can be repaired at the same time as the damaged wetpour surfacing around the over 8's play area. The Facilities and Open Spaces Manager confirmed that simultaneous repairs are desirable but not always possible due to the materials on site.

**The Views Sensory Project**

The remaining funds in the earmarked reserve is required for ongoing maintenance, in accordance with the section 106 agreement. Members discussed that typically general maintenance is funded from budgeted expenditure.

It was suggested that any extension work for the Sensory Garden is added to the project list for future section 106 claims.

**Tree Works**

- The programming of tree works will need to be reviewed in more detail once the 2023 tree survey has been completed and the information is available.
- Members discussed following the Tree Policy for the purpose of budgeting to ensure the correct amounts are budgeted for the relevant financial years, based on the priority identified in the tree survey. This would mean that priority one works are always carried out in the same financial year as the survey (which takes place in November).

**RESOLVED**

- 1) To follow the priorities schedule in the Council's Tree policy when allocating the budget for tree works.
- 2) To note the Facilities and Open Spaces Manager's report.

Members received a summary of maintenance required following the annual RoSPA inspection in July 2023.

Members discussed the following:

**The Views Skate Park**

To look into getting quotes for the Skate Park repairs as this facility is a well used community asset.

**Basingbourne Park**

The multiplay senior is beyond its useful life and it is also now difficult to obtain replacement parts. Officers were asked to investigate the cost of replacing the equipment.

**Ancells Farm Park Multiplay**

All costs to repair the multiplay have been received and are in budget, therefore repairs can now proceed.

Further information is needed on financial implications of the works at the next meeting and to also look at the full details and costs for the Skate Park repairs.

**RESOLVED**

- 1) To accept the RoSPA playground inspection schedule and the Officer report.
- 2) To convene the Parks and Open Spaces Working Group to complete an overall review of work required at the Council's playgrounds and to recommend the course of action for consideration at the next Committee meeting.

**RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 9**

**FLEET CRICKET CLUB RENOVATION WORKS**

Members received the proposed plans for the internal renovation works at the Fleet Cricket Club pavilion.

Members discussed ensuring that the works do not adversely compromise the existing energy performance and electrical ratings of the building.

**RESOLVED**

To approve providing permission for the internal renovation works at Fleet Cricket Club, as proposed, subject to the works not reducing the Energy Performance Certificate building rating and that any electrical works are suitably inspected and certificated.

**RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 10**

**HART DISTRICT COUNCIL DOG FOULING  
PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER  
CONSULTATION**

Members received the consultation issued by Hart District Council to implement a district wide Public Space Protection Order for dog fouling.

**RESOLVED**

To agree supporting the proposal from Hart District Council to implement a district wide Public Spaces Protection Order for dog fouling.

**RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 11**

**EVENT APPLICATION – CALTHORPE PARK**

Members received the provisional request for a Hart Football Club event to be held at Calthorpe Park next year. The event is likely to be held in June 2024 and be for one day. Approval in principle was being sought to enable planning of the event to start.

The request for using The Views as a carpark for approximately 500 cars was considered to be of significant concern to Members, due to the potential for damage and limiting its recreational use.

It was confirmed that music at the event is optional, as there may be an issue with the covenant of the land.

**RESOLVED**

To provisionally approve the request for a Hart Football Club event at Calthorpe Park subject to further information being provided, particularly on parking arrangements.

**RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 12**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Members received and noted the Executive Officer's report.

Members noted the request to send any comments regarding the Farnborough Airport Consultation to the Executive Officer, to form a comment from the Council.

**RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 13**

**FUTURE EVENTS**

Members received and noted the upcoming events.

The brass band event held at Oakley Park on the 17<sup>th</sup> September was very successful and positive for the community.

**RLA SEPTEMBER 2023 ITEM 14**

**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> December 2023 at 7pm at The Harlington.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm

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

**Chairman**