



Notice is hereby given of

THE RECREATION, LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

on

Wednesday 18th September 2024 at 7pm at The Harlington

All Committee members are summoned to attend.

To Councillors:

G. Chenery, P. Einchcomb, R. Fang, L. Holt, E. May, A. Oliver, R. Schofield, D. Taylor, S. Tilley, P. Wildsmith, B. Willcocks and G. Woods.

Rita Tong, Executive Officer
11th September 2024

AGENDA

1.	APOLOGIES Schedule 12 of the LGA 1972 requires a record to be kept of members present, and that this record forms part of the minutes of the meeting. A resolution must be passed on whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are acceptable.
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Under the Local Authorities Localism Act 2011, members must declare any interest and the nature of that interest, which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting. Members are reminded that they must disclose both the existence and the nature of a personal interest that they have in any matter to be considered at this meeting. A personal interest will be considered a prejudicial interest if this is one in which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the members' judgement of the public interest.
3.	QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (3 min per person maximum 15 minutes) To receive questions and statements from members of the public.
4.	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING To receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the RLA Committee held on Wednesday 19 th June 2024 (<i>copy attached</i>).
Part 1 – ITEMS FOR DECISION	
5.	THE CEMETERY CLERK'S REPORT To receive a verbal update from the Cemetery Clerk. RECOMMENDATION To note the report.

6.	<p>THE HARLINGTON AND ANCELLS FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT To receive for noting an update on events, hiring's and operational activities of The Harlington and Ancells Farm Community Centre from the General Manager (<i>copy attached</i>).</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION To note the report of the General Manager.</p>
7.	<p>NO MOW MAY To consider whether to implement a No Mow May regime for the Council's open spaces.</p> <p>The idea behind No Mow May is that selected areas of open spaces would be left to grow for the entire month of May, thus allowing grass to grow long. There are pros and cons to No Mow May.</p> <p>Pros –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildflowers to thrive within the long-grassed areas. • Longer swards make rich habitat for invertebrates and generate a source of food for insect-eating birds and may contribute greater to biodiversity. <p>Cons –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be counterproductive to create a wildlife habitat and then chop it down. • Some residents may dislike the aesthetic of what is essentially an overgrown lawn. • Leaving grass to grow long and then cutting back may result in patches between grass shoots which may result in the need for over seeding with grass seed. <p>RECOMMENDATION To consider the Pros and Cons of No Mow May and decide if the Council would like to implement this.</p>
8.	<p>CALTHORPE PARK TENNIS COURTS A Member of the public commented that the tennis courts would benefit from a wind break and gave a low-cost solution of a plastic banner. However, given this Council's commitment to being sustainable and its Greening Campaign, a possible long-term solution could be planting a windbreak. Possible plants can be found on the following link:</p> <p>Windbreaks and shelterbelts / RHS Gardening</p> <p>As this option is more costly than the banner, the Council could consider applying to the Hart District Council biodiversity grants (Countryside grants scheme Hart District Council).</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION To consider installing a natural windbreak at Calthorpe Park Tennis Courts.</p>
9.	<p>CALEBS COFFEE BUILDING FRONTAGE SOAK AWAY AND DRAIN WORKS The cycle path and frontage to Calebs Coffee Shop in Calthorpe Park is continuing to flood during heavy rain fall. Attempts have been made to mitigate the problem such as raising the frontage, putting in antiflood devices and increasing the size of the soakaway, with no success.</p> <p>An option has been presented to install an overflow pipe which would run from the inground soakaway to the neighbouring foul sewer line and take any overflow away. This option would be dependent on approval from Thames Water to install the overflow pipe. The cost to Fleet Town Council would be approximately £3,525 +VAT.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION To consider the installation of an overflow pipe from the soakaway in Calthorpe Park.</p>

<p>10.</p>	<p>TABLE TENNIS VANDALISM During April 2024 the Table Tennis in Calthorpe Park was vandalised. A repair / replacement of half the table was made at the cost of £1,240. After this repair, in May 2024, further damage was done at an estimated cost of £925. Before this repair could be made, the table was damaged further forcing Officers to have it removed from site.</p> <p>The table tennis has not yet been replaced, waiting for this Committee to consider at what level of cost and how many instances of vandalism make replacing this piece of equipment unviable.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION To whether to replace the table tennis at Calthorpe Park.</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>MUSIC ON THE VIEWS To consider the report from Cllr Tilley on the Music on the Views event held on 25th August 2024.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION To note the report.</p>
<p>Part 2 – ITEMS TO NOTE</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS To receive any announcements from the Executive Officer.</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>HAMPSHIRE FOREST PARTNERSHIP – COMMUNITY ORCHARD GRANT The community orchard grant application has been approved. An order for a mixture of 92 trees, will be placed once dates are confirmed for planting. Additionally, there will also be around 200 “whips” (trees approx. 50cm tall), various information boards and approx. 400m2 worth of wildflower seed.</p> <p>The locations for planting will be – Ancells Farm Orchard Corner – Amenity land on the corner of Ancells Road and Minley Road. Ancells Farm Central Orchard – Located by the old parking area, rear of the Falkners Arms. The Views – Lower Field. Calthorpe Park – Central strip in the centre, enhancing pre-existing trees.</p>
<p>14.</p>	<p>EDENBROOK PLAY AREA SURVEY Following the results of the recent public survey which revealed what local residents would like to see in the parks and which parks they would like the council to focus on, a secondary survey is being put together to ascertain more details from the results.</p> <p>The survey will give more detail to residents about the cost ranges of the equipment they asked for along with funds available and give options as to how they would like to see the funds spread across the two parks.</p>
<p>15.</p>	<p>ROSPA REPORTS ROSPA inspections have been completed on all FTC owned play equipment. Items which fall under the Grounds Maintenance Contract will be omitted from the list of remedies before being sent out to Play Park Contractors for quotes.</p> <p>A hard copy of the report is available to view at the FTC office upon request.</p>

16. FUTURE EVENTS

To note the future events taking place on Council property, as detailed below.

Bat Walk	14 th September 2024	Oakley Park
Lions Fireworks Fiesta	2 nd November 2024	Calthorpe Park
Remembrance Sunday	10 th November 2024	Gurkha Square & High Street
Christmas Festival	27 th November 2024	Gurkha Square & High Street
Fleet Half Marathon	16 th March 2025	Calthorpe Park

17. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee will be held on Wednesday 11th December 2024 at 7pm at The Harlington.

Part 3 – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Exclusion of the public in accordance with Section 1(2) and by reason of the confidential nature of the business of the Town Council, the Public and Press will be excluded from the Meeting

The following types of business will be treated as confidential:

- a. Engagement, terms of service, conduct and dismissal of employees
- b. Terms of tenders, and proposals and counter-proposals in negotiations for contracts
- c. Receipt of professional legal advice and preparation of cases in legal proceedings
- d. The early stages of any dispute
- e. Matters of a commercial nature.

18. FLEET TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB LEASE

Members to review the recommendations of the Lease Working Group in response to the Fleet Town Football Club counter proposals.

Members to note that the Lease Working Group were unable to resolve the issue surrounding insurance until we get a decision from the Football Club, but that wording for both options are contained within the draft lease.

RECOMMENDATION

To finalise the Fleet Town Football Club lease.

19. EDENBROOK PLAY AREA DRAINAGE

To give a verbal update of potential cost of drainage at Edenbrook Play Area.