



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION, LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 7pm

PRESENT

Councillors: P. Einchcomb, R. Fang, L. Holt, K. Jasper, R. Richmond, B. Schofield, S. Tilley, G. Woods.

Also Present: Janet Stanton - Town Clerk

Susanna Walker - Committee Clerk

Alex Robins - Harlington General Manager

Ben Crane - Facilities and Open Spaces Manager

Sian Taylor – Cemetery Officer

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 1 APOLOGIES

Members received and accepted the apologies from Councillor Chenery due to health reasons, Councillor Oliver due to a prior engagement and Councillor Wright due to ill health.

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public.

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 15th September 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman, with the following amendment:

- Page 4, Item 8, Queen's Jubilee Extended Bank Holiday.

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 5 THE HARLINGTON AND ANCELLS FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT

The report of the General Manager of the Harlington for the period September – November 2021 was presented. Members discussed the following:

THE HARLINGTON & COVID UPDATE

- The Government's updated COVID restrictions, in response to concern over the Omicron variant. Including:
 - From Friday 10th December, mandatory face coverings for most indoor public venues including theatres.
 - From Monday 13th December, NHS Covid pass or a negative lateral flow test to gain entry to nightclubs and indoor unseated venues with more than 500 people.

- Members noted that once the full report regarding restrictions had been confirmed by the Government, events at The Harlington would follow the mandatory advice from the dates given.
- Following advice from the Health & Safety Officer, at present any members of public attending events at The Harlington are currently advised to wear face masks when moving around the building and take a lateral flow test prior to the event.
- Following the updated restrictions, mask wearing will now be mandatory in the Harlington and people will not be allowed in if they refuse to wear a mask.
- Concern over physical and verbal abuse from members of the public.
- Event policies will be constantly reviewed and take advice where necessary.
- Ticket sales have increased but the number of people attending does not reflect the number of tickets sold.
- Record sales for Pantomime this year.
- NHS Thank You event scheduled to be held on Saturday 22nd January 2022 has been cancelled. There are no plans to reschedule a public event on this date.

Members noted the following update:

- FTC has received a letter from HDC regarding the lease. FTC will need to go back to HDC for further discussions.
- The HDC Civic Quarter Development public engagement is expected to be held in January / February 2022. The brief for The Harlington is still to be a community entertainment venue with office space for FTC.
- The HDC Civic Quarter Working Group is meeting on Monday 13th December 2021.

RESOLVED

To note the report of the General Manager of the Harlington

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 6 THE CEMETERY OFFICER'S REPORT

Members received the report of the Cemetery Officer. A lively discussion took place, with the following points discussed:

1. CEMETERY PRICES

- Dual pricing for Fleet Town and non-Fleet Town residents for main cemetery area, including burial plots and interment of ashes.
 - 50% discount to Fleet Town residents, due to contributions to the cemetery through their Council Tax.
 - Prices reflect ongoing maintenance costs and administration costs in the cemetery.
- Garden of Remembrance fees proposed to remain one cost irrespective of residency.
 - Smaller maintenance costs for Garden of Remembrance.
 - Costs for Sanctum £1800.00 for 25 years
 £2400.00 for 50 years
- Concern over one cost and not dual pricing for Garden of Remembrance. Fees should reflect Fleet Town residents' contributions to the cemetery through Council Tax, regardless of whether they choose a burial, interment of ashes or Garden of Remembrance.
- Instances have occurred where plots have been purchased by Fleet residents at a reduced price and then transfer of ownership to a non-Fleet resident.
- Data to be collected to look at the number of Fleet residents purchasing plots or Garden of Remembrance versus non-Fleet residents.
- Dual pricing for Garden of Remembrance to be explored, with the core cost of a Sanctum to be covered, with an additional fee for maintenance for non-Fleet town residents.

2. SURFACING OF ROADS AND PATHWAYS

- The roads and pathways in the cemetery need resurfacing when funds allow.
- Rejuvophalt have visited and surveyed the area.
- The following two quotes have been received:
 - Rejuvophalt £23,150.20
A spreadsheet has been received with a breakdown of paths and costs associated with each path and area.
 - Tarmac £120,598.00 plus VAT
- Concern was raised over placement of Rejuvophalt slurry and variation in the levels of the path.

Members also noted that:

- The cemetery extension tender document is live on Contract Finder and will close on Tuesday 4th January 2022.
- Councillor Schofield and Councillor Einchcomb volunteered to help with the cemetery extension tenders.
- A Friends of the Cemetery group has now been established, meeting on the first Saturday of the month between 10.00-12.00.

RESOLVED

1. To defer a decision regarding Cemetery Prices, until the RLA meeting on 16th March 2022, when further data has been presented.
2. To consider resurfacing the cemetery roads and pathways with Rejuvophalt and include in future budget discussions.
3. To note the report of the Cemetery Officer.

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 7

FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACES MANAGER'S REPORT

Members received the report of the FOSM for the September - November 2021 quarter. The following matters were discussed:

ANCELLS PLAY PARK

- It has been noted that adults have been using the zip wire.
- Suggestions were made for signage to be put up following the manufacturer's recommendation, stating that it is for children only.

ANCELLS FARM GENERAL

- The birch tree saplings removed from Basingbourne woodland are not suitable to be replanted.

TREE SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

- Fleet Lions have approached the local schools to be involved in a tree sponsorship scheme.
- Parents will be encouraged to sponsor a tree, to then plant at an organised weekend in local parks and green spaces.
- Proposed date for planting weekend is the middle of March 2022.
- An event application will be required from Fleet Lions for this proposed event.
- Graham Drayton from Fleet Lions to be invited to speak at the Full Council meeting on 5th January 2022, to provide further information

SPEED INDICATOR DISPLAYS

- The Speed Indicator Displays (SIDS) were successfully installed in the first location on Ancells Farm Road and have been located there for the allowed 2 weeks.

RESOLVED

To note the report of the Facilities and Open Spaces Manager.

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 8**QUEEN'S JUBILEE JUNE 2022**

Members noted that the first meeting of the Jubilee Committee Working Group took place on Tuesday 7th December 2021, with representatives from FTC, local schools, churches, HDC, and Fleet Lions attending. The following points were raised:

- FTC Working Group to co-ordinate all the groups and events within Fleet.
- All Saints Junior School to run an inter-schools competition to design the programme cover for the Jubilee celebrations.
- Proposal for a marquee to be erected in The Views over the duration of the celebrations.
 - Need to look at cost and safety of the marquee.
- Proposal for a 2 day road closure on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th June 2022.
 - Application to be submitted to HCC as soon as possible.
- Celebrations to include:
 - Beacon lighting in Calthorpe Park.
 - Fun fair.
 - Small fireworks display.
 - Open air service to be held by the local churches.
- Fleet Carnival to be held 2nd July 2022.
- Concern over insurance of event, due to difficulties acquiring any insurance.
 - Should the event be cancelled, there is no insurance.
 - Any funds invested into the event would not be returned.
 - Buckingham Palace will advise on any potential changes at the time.

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 9**FUTURE EVENTS**

Members noted the following events. It was pointed out that the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration dates were 2nd – 5th June and not 2nd – 3rd June as originally stated.

25 th December 2021	The Harlington	Christmas Lunch
20 th March 2022	Calthorpe Park	Fleet Half Marathon
Delayed until May 2022	Ancells Farm	Falkners Arms Fun Day
2 nd – 5 th June 2022		Queen's Platinum Jubilee
2 nd July 2022	Calthorpe Park	Fleet Carnival

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 10**CLERKS REPORT**

Members received an update from the Clerk, and noted the following:

VACCINATIONS

- The CCG is exploring extending vaccinations until March 2022.
- The current set up is in the coffee shop, with 4 vaccination stations and a resting area.

RLA Dec 2021 ITEM 11**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee will be held on Wednesday 16th March 2022 at 7.00pm at the Harlington. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.47pm.

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

Chairman