



## **FLEET TOWN COUNCIL**

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

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7pm**

#### **PRESENT**

**Councillors:** G. Chenery, P. Einchcomb, R. Fang, L. Holt, E. May, R. Richmond, S. Tilley, G. Woods.

**Also Present:** Susanna Walker – Committee Clerk  
Alex Robins – Harlington General Manager  
Ben Crane – Facilities and Open Spaces Manager  
Sian Taylor – Cemetery Officer  
Mike Bye – Friends of Oakley Park (FoOP)  
Dave Harrison – Friends of Basingbourne Park (FoBP)

#### **RLA June 2022 ITEM 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Einchcomb welcomed everyone to the first RLA meeting of the new council year. He then called for nominations for the office of Chairman. One nomination for Councillor Einchcomb was received and seconded. Members then agreed that Councillor Einchcomb be Chairman of the RLA Committee for the municipal year.

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Einchcomb be elected to the office of Chairman of the RLA Committee for the government year 2022/2023.

#### **RLA June 2022 ITEM 2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman then called for nominations for the office of Vice-Chairman. One nomination for Councillor Fang was received and seconded.

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Fang be elected to the office of Vice-Chairman of the RLA Committee for the government year 2022/2023.

#### **RLA June 2022 ITEM 3 APOLOGIES**

Members received and accepted the apologies from Councillor Oliver due to work commitments, Councillor Schofield who was on holiday and Councillor Willcocks who had a prior engagement.

#### **RLA June 2022 ITEM 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **RLA June 2022 ITEM 5      QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public. Dave Harrison, Chairman of Friends of Basingbourne Park, made members aware that the Scouts and Guides are planning on doing community service in the park from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022. It was also noted that the current development plan for Basingbourne Park has now expired. Mr Harrison was advised for the FoBP to add notes into the existing plan, with the intention to draw up a new draft plan once the new Council was underway.

## **RLA June 2022 ITEM 6      MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Members received and approved as a correct record the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022. The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting. It was noted that the new burial area in the Cemetery could potentially have up to 100 plots.

## **RLA June 2022 ITEM 7      THE CEMETERY OFFICER'S REPORT**

Members received the report of the Cemetery Officer, with the following matters being discussed:

- **Parking**
  - Ongoing issue of cars parking along Cemetery Road outside the Cemetery.
  - The road is a private road that FTC own.
  - Parking restrictions on Cemetery Road have been included in a parking order with HDC. FTC are awaiting the parking order to be reviewed.
- **Cemetery Pathways**
  - Pathways are deteriorating and need repairing.
  - 2 quotes have been received:
    - Rejuvophalt    £23,150.20
    - Tarmac            £120,598.00 + VAT
  - Surplus money from the Cemetery should be reinvested back.
  - Propose to Council that the money be taken out of General Reserves.

Members noted that the current budget has a deficit of £81,000.00, which will be taken out of reserves. A lively discussion took place, with the following matters being raised:

- Budget to include higher staffing wages.
- Harlington is currently not balancing its books, with a monthly running cost of £20,000.00.
- FTC's insurance policy for business interruption was turned down by the High Court, therefore reserves have been used.
- Quotation from Rejuvophalt could be split into repair phases to spread the cost, but with a potential cost impact in splitting it rather than doing it all in one go.
- Pathway repairs do not qualify for S106 money.
- Cost of repairs should be a decision put forward by RLA to Full Council.
- Expectation for the Clerk and General Manager to prepare a full budget for Council before Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July, allowing Council a full picture of the budget before decisions are made regarding Cemetery pathways.

The following proposal was put forward:

1. FTC to consider the funding in full for the Cemetery pathway repairs.
2. FTC to consider the funding in parts for the Cemetery pathway repairs, based on costs provided by the Cemetery Officer.

This was seconded and agreed by all Councillors.

Members **RESOLVED** to recommend the following to Full Council.

1. FTC to consider the funding in full for the Cemetery pathway repairs.
2. FTC to consider the funding in parts for the Cemetery pathway repairs, based on costs provided by the Cemetery Officer.

## **RLA June 2022 ITEM 8      FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACES MANAGER'S REPORT**

Members received the report of the FOSM for the March - May 2022 quarter. The following matters were discussed:

- **Ancells Farm – Green Gym**
  - Friends of Ancells Farm are keen to have a green gym installed in the park.
  - Fill the gap for older teenagers and young adults.
  - Potential to benefit local businesses.
  - More information required regarding the cost of installation and ground preparation works.
  - FTC will be required to manage and fund the maintenance of the green gym.
  - Green gym to be added to Capital Projects list.
  - Concern over vandalism.
- **BBQ Sites – Calthorpe Park**
  - Potential fire risk and concerns over not being put out properly.
  - Research suggests local parks are removing their BBQ sites.
  - Frimley Lodge Park has BBQ sites but are in a closed off area and must be pre-booked. FTC does not have the capacity to manage this.
- **Oakley Park – Footpaths**
  - Oakley Park Summer Fete to be held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 1200-1500.
  - Footpaths are deteriorating badly and need repairing.
  - FoOP have raised approximately £7,000.00 towards the cost of repairs, which will be donated to FTC.
  - Rejuvophalt, as quoted for the Cemetery paths, is suitable for park paths as well.
  - FoOP have obtained quotes to install trim trail equipment in the park, which includes all installation and ground preparation work.
  - Oakley Park does have a playground for the under 12 age group and a few pieces of equipment for teenagers, however there is no exercise equipment suitable for adults.
  - Local residents have requested exercise equipment and is fully supported by The Friends of Oakley Park. The proposed trim trail equipment would be made of wood at an approximate cost of £11,300 +VAT.
  - The trim trail equipment to be added to the Capital List programme and funded by S106 money.
- **Leawood Road – Amenity Land**
  - Approximately 30m of path to be repaired through the amenity land from new Barn Close to Leawood Road.
  - Currently only £1144.00 in the budget, with estimated repairs costing £3691.00 + VAT.
  - Rejuvophalt not suitable for this repair.
  - Recommendation for cost of repairs to go to FTC for approval, as money not included in current budget.
- **SIDS**
  - As discussed at Council in March 2022, a suggestion was made that the SIDS boards be used in one location without the speed display for a week and then displayed with the speed, to see if there was any influence on the speed of traffic with or without the speed display.
  - HDC has advised against this suggestion, due to the safety aspect of the screen being turned off.
  - Further information is being obtained to find out if this is still a possible option.
- **Caleb's Coffee – Calthorpe Park**
  - The opening of the refreshment kiosk has been very successful.

Members **RESOLVED** to

**a. Ancells Farm – Green Gym**

- Consult with the Friends of Ancells Farm and approve that the green gym be added to the capital expenditure list.

**b. BBQ Sites – Calthorpe Park**

- Reject the request that BBQ sites should be installed within Calthorpe Park.

**c. Oakley Park – Footpaths**

- Approve repairs to the damaged areas of the paths on both sides of the park.
- Accept the donation from the Friends of Oakley Park.
- The trim trail equipment to be added to the Capital List programme and funded by S106 money.

**d. Leawood Road – Amenity Land**

- Approve the improvement works to the existing pathway.
- Approve the material SUDS Bond as the material to use.
- Recommend to Full Council how the path could be funded.

**e. Note the report of the Facilities and Open Spaces Manager.**

## **RLA June 2022 ITEM 9 THE VIEWS - SENSORY GARDEN REPORT**

Members received and considered The Views Sensory Garden report containing agreed actions from the Open Spaces Working Group meeting in April. The following points were raised:

- Support the planting of trees in Autumn / Winter.
- Fleet and Church Crookham in Bloom wish to donate £500.00 to purchase 2 cherry trees.
- The time scale for the grounds work to begin would be 12 weeks lead time from the order being placed.
- A plaque to be on display in memory of Councillor Sharyn Wheale.
- Reminder to be sent out to residents and Campbell Place residents regarding confirmed works in The Views.

Members **RESOLVED** to

- Approve the planting of the trees in Autumn/Winter.
- Approve the order being placed for trees to be delivered during the planting season (Nov/Dec).
- Approve and progress the proposal for the Orchard Ground Works.
- Approve and progress the proposal for The Views, Cherry Tree Walkway.

## **RLA June 2022 ITEM 10 THE HARLINGTON AND ANCELLS FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT**

The report of the General Manager of the Harlington for the period March - May 2022 was presented. Members discussed the following:

- Tickets sales are a lot slower than previously.
- Summer period focuses on less shows and more hires.
- Acts still being cancelled or postponed due to COVID or shows not selling.
- Ticket sales reflect the bar sales.
- 2021/2022 net result was £109,000.00 surplus against budget.
- GPS are looking at using vaccination service for different GP services.

### **RESOLVED**

To note the report of the General Manager of the Harlington.

## **RLA June 2022 ITEM 11      REVIEW OF CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Members received and reviewed the existing capital works programme, dated 14.09.2021. It was agreed that members of the Parks and Open Spaces Working Group would be contacted to arrange meeting date to produce a new / revised Capital Projects Programme for the next 4 years.

### **RESOLVED**

That a date for a meeting of the Parks and Open Spaces Working Group is set up to produce a new / revised Capital Projects Programme for the next 4 years.

## **RLA June 2022 ITEM 12      TRIM TRAIL - OAKLEY PARK**

Members were asked to consider and approve FTC applying for S106 funding for a Trim Trail in Oakley Park. Members noted that this item had already been discussed and approved under Item 8, The Facilities and Open Spaces Manager's Report.

Members **RESOLVED** to

- a. Approve the installation of a Trim Trail in Oakley Park.
- b. Approve progressing an S106 application for the funding for a Trim Trail.

## **RLA June 2022 ITEM 13      LENGTHSMAN SCHEME 2022/2023**

Members received and considered a report on the Lengthsman Scheme. It had been requested that members present their preferences of work to the FOSM, however this was not achieved and so members have now been asked to submit preferences in the next week.

The following points were raised:

- FTC has access to Lengthsman Scheme funds in the amount of £3,300.00 for 2022/2023.
- These funds can be used towards works such as cutting back verges, collecting leaves, washing signage.
- The current grounds maintenance team is used to do this work.
- The clearing of ditches is not the responsibility of FTC but can be done under this scheme.
- Proposed work included clearing tree branches in front of signs on Farm Drive and clearing a ditch by Baker Way.
- Members to fill in the form with preferences and submit to the FOSM in the next week.

Members **RESOLVED** to

Determine the projects to be undertaken within the Lengthsman Scheme by submitting their preferences to the Facilities and Open Spaces Manager in the next week.

**RLA June 2022 ITEM 14 FUTURE EVENTS**

Members noted the following events and noted that the Ancells Farm Table Tennis event is now to be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2022	Calthorpe Park	Fleet Carnival
9 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	Ancells Farm	Table Tennis Event
10 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	The Views Skate Park	Scam Jam competition
16 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	Oakley Park	Summer Fete
29 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	The Views	Open Air Cinema
10 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	The Views Skate Park	Scam Jam Event
25 <sup>th</sup> July – 28 <sup>th</sup> August 2022 <i>every Thursday</i>	The Views Skate Park	Phoenix Summer Project
10 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	The Views	Open Air Cinema
5 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Calthorpe Park	Fleet Lions Fireworks
13 <sup>th</sup> November 2022		Remembrance Sunday
23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2022	Fleet	Fleet Christmas Festivities
25 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	The Harlington	Christmas Day Lunch
26 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Calthorpe Park	Fleet Half Marathon

**RLA June 2022 ITEM 15 CLERKS REPORT**

Members noted the apology from the Town Clerk who was unable to attend the meeting due to ill health. On her behalf, it was noted that the Jubilee Celebration Weekend was very successful, with all the parks being well used. Thanks was also given to all the officers for their support and help over the Jubilee weekend.

**RLA June 2022 ITEM 16 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee will be held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022 at 7.00pm at the Harlington. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

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

**Chairman**