



## **FLEET TOWN COUNCIL**

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

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7pm**

#### **PRESENT**

**Councillors:** P. Einchcomb, R. Fang, L. Holt, K. Jasper, A. Oliver, R. Richmond, 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

Mike Bye – Friends of Oakley Park

#### **RLA March 2022 ITEM 1 APOLOGIES**

Members received and accepted the apologies from Councillor Chenery due to health reasons, Councillor Schofield due to being on holiday and Councillor Wright due to work commitments.

#### **RLA March 2022 ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **RLA March 2022 ITEM 3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public. Mike Bye, Chairman of Friends of Oakley Park (FOBP) made members aware that the public footpath in Oakley Park, from Albany Road to Burnside is deteriorating and there has been one reported incident of a member of public falling on the path. A short discussion followed, where members discussed funding for the repair of the path.

#### **RLA March 2022 ITEM 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Members received and approved as a correct record the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

#### **RLA March 2022 ITEM 5 THE CEMETERY OFFICER'S REPORT**

Members received the report of the Cemetery Officer, which included the Cemetery and Garden of Remembrance Fees for each structure for 2022/2023. The following matters were discussed:

- **New Burial Area**
  - The contractor is on track to start the work on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022.
  - There are currently 8 plots remaining.
  - The new burial area will provide approximately 70 new plots.
  - Between 5 – 20 plots are sold each year.

- **Cemetery Fees**

- Prices have not increased for the past 3 years.
- The new fees are increased by 4%.
- The cost for a Sanctum is greater, due to the installation cost. These prices are in line with Aldershot Crematorium.
- There has been a proposed increase in costs for the Garden of Remembrance for non-Fleet residents.
- Members noted that the difference in costs for a resident and non-resident was £100.00, which covered the cost of grounds maintenance at the Cemetery.
- Fleet residents already pay for the Cemetery maintenance through their Council Tax.
- Members suggested a greater difference in price between a Fleet resident and non-Fleet resident for the Garden of Remembrance fees. It was proposed that the Fleet resident fee stay as the current price and the non-resident fee increase to the proposed fee.
- FTC need to ensure that the Sanctum is not overpriced.
- Aldershot Crematorium does not differentiate costs for residents and non-residents.
- Sales of the sanctum over the past year total 11 Fleet residents and 12 non-Fleet residents.
- The cost of a mushroom disc for children is £125.00, whether a Fleet resident or not. (In the report, it had been noted as £225.00 for a non-Fleet resident).
- It was suggested that the Cemetery and Garden of Remembrance Fees be included in the Cemetery Policy.

After the discussion, the following proposal was moved and seconded:

- To approve the Cemetery and Garden of Remembrance Fees for 2022/2023.
- Members agreed to approve the Cemetery Fees for 2022/2023.

The following counterproposal was then moved and adopted:

- To amend the Garden of Remembrance Fees for 2022/2023 to reflect the following:
  - There be no increase to the resident's fees, therefore the Garden of Remembrance fees for a Fleet resident remain as the current price.
  - The Garden of Remembrance fees for a non-resident be increased as proposed.
- The new substantive motion was passed.

## **RESOLVED**

1. To note the report of the Cemetery Clerk.
2. To approve the Cemetery Fees for 2022/2023.
3. To approve the Garden of Remembrance Fees for 2022/2023 with the following amendments:
  - There be no increase to the resident's fees, therefore the Garden of Remembrance fees for a Fleet resident remain as the current price.
  - The Garden of Remembrance fees for a non-resident be increased as proposed.

## **RLA March 2022 ITEM 6 FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACES MANAGER'S REPORT**

Members received the report of the FOSM for the December 2021 – February 2022 quarter. The following matters were discussed:

- **Calthorpe Park**
  - Public Liability Insurance for Friends of Calthorpe Park.
  - Several residential properties are encroaching into the park. Letters from FTC will be sent to the relevant properties in the next week.
  - FOSM to talk to John Elson at HDC regarding capturing public land illegally.

- **Trees**
  - Only 1 tree in Basingbourne Park fell during the storms towards the end of February.
  - Testament to the tree survey carried out every year and the work done to make sure trees are safe.

## **RESOLVED**

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

## **RLA March 2022 ITEM 7 THE HARLINGTON AND ANCELLS FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT**

The report of the General Manager of the Harlington for the period December 2021 – February 2022 was presented. Members discussed the following:

- Several shows were cancelled or rescheduled in January, due to members of the band having COVID.
- The vaccination centre has been extended until March 2023, with 28 days' notice. It will operate 3 days a week from April 2022.
- An approach has been made for this to include a diagnostics and screening option, something which is being investigated. A possible space for this is the RVS.
- The new brochure for the 2022 season is available.
- Sales of tickets have been increasing, but some shows still have low attendance.
- Hall hire is back to expected levels.
- Ancells Farm Community Centre car park cost is approximately £8,500.00 + vat, which is 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the annual bill charged out. The pub pays 1/3<sup>rd</sup> and the other 1/3<sup>rd</sup> is paid by the local shops and flats.
- Concerns were raised over the maintenance of the car park.
- A suggestion was made that if FTC are paying a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the car park fee, then 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the car park spaces should be allocated to the Community Centre.
- Another suggestion was that the car park be changed to pay and display.

Members were made aware that the Harlington has had a request to hold a fundraising concert for Ukraine on the afternoon of Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2022, with all profits going to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) Ukraine Appeal. Members discussed the following:

- All artists appearing have agreed to perform for no fee.
- Big I Am is the promotional company who has offered all artists.
- The box office company have been approached to waive their fee, with a possible gift aid and donation option available.
- Bar will be open, and all profits will go to DEC, once staff costs have been covered.
- The Harlington will be donated free of charge for the event.
- The event has the potential to be live streamed.
- Security will not be needed.
- Tickets will go on sale on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- Approximate cost of the tickets will be between £20 - £25.
- Audience capacity is 260 people – 60 standing and 200 seated.
- This is a one-off event and members noted that this will not set a precedent for any future events.
- FTC to support the Harlington with this event.
- Donation buckets to be on site during the event.
- Need to make audience members aware that all profits will go to DEC.

Members noted that the 8 RLA Committee members did not make up the majority of the Council, and so one more Councillor would be contacted, in order the majority vote of approval. This would then be brought to Council in April 2022, for further updates.

## **RESOLVED**

1. To note the report of the General Manager of the Harlington.
2. To approve the fundraising concert in the Harlington in aid of DEC Ukraine Appeal on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2022, subject to one more councillor being contacted.

## **RLA March 2022 ITEM 8 DONATION FOR A COMMEMORATIVE BENCH AND PLAQUE FROM FLEET AND CHURCH CROOKHAM SOCIETY**

Members were reminded that at the February Council meeting, approval was given to the installation of a bench to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, as provided by The Fleet & Church Crookham Society. Members discussed suitable locations for the bench and the following locations were suggested:

- The Views – potentially 12 new picnic benches to be installed.
- Outside the Oatsheaf pub.
- Durnsford Avenue overlooking the canal.
- By the War Memorial.
- Basingbourne Canal Car Park

Members agreed that the green space in Basingbourne Canal Car Park would be an ideal place, as many people stop there to have picnics. It was agreed that permission would be needed from Basingbourne Canal regarding the possibility of the installation of the bench.

## **RESOLVED**

1. To approve the location of green space in Basingbourne Canal Car Park for the commemorative bench, subject to permission, and advise Fleet & Church Crookham Society accordingly.

## **RLA March 2022 ITEM 9 USE OF PARKS FOR PERSONAL PRIVATE EVENTS**

Members were made aware that FTC has had an application from a local family to hold a private birthday party in one of the FTC parks. This party would include a bouncy castle and music. Members noted that currently the parks, which are funded by the residents of Fleet, only allow for community events and approved activities that promote health and well-being to take place in the park.

Following a brief discussion, it was decided that FTC cannot allow private and personal parties to be held in local FTC parks. It was also noted that the Open Air Civic Event Policy would be updated with the relevant changes, and brought back to Council in April 2022.

## **RESOLVED**

1. To determine that the FTC parks should not be used for private events which are not open to the whole community.
2. To amend the Civic Events policy in line with the decision of the Council and bring to Council in April 2022.

## **RLA March 2022 ITEM 10 1ST CROOKHAM SCOUTS SPORTS DAY**

Members considered and discussed a request from 1<sup>st</sup> Crookham Scouts to hold a Sports Day in Basingbourne Park on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022. Members noted that the event is a fundraising event and will be open to all. It was noted that the Scouts provide their own insurance for the event.

Members **RESOLVED** to Approve the request from 1<sup>st</sup> Crookham Scouts to hold a Sports Day in Basingbourne Park on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022.

### RLA March 2022 ITEM 11 FUTURE EVENTS

Members noted the following events and noted that the Open Air Cinema dates are confirmed as 10<sup>th</sup> June and 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

20 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	Calthorpe Park	Fleet Half Marathon
26 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	Calthorpe Park Ancells Farm Park	Queens Jubilee “Green Canopy” Tree Planting
16 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Basingbourne Park	Easter Egg Hunt
CANCELLED	Ancells Farm	Falkner’s Arms Fun Day
18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2022	The Views	Circus Wonderland
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Fleet	Queen’s Platinum Jubilee
10 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	The Views	Open Air Cinema
25 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Ancells Farm	Table Tennis Event
2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2022	Calthorpe Park	Fleet Carnival
10 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	The Views Skate Park	ScamJam
16 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	Oakley Park	Summer Fete
25 <sup>th</sup> July – 28 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	The Views Skate Park	ScamJam
10 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	The Views	Open Air Cinema
5 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Calthorpe Park	Fleet Lions Fireworks

### RLA March 2022 ITEM 12 CLERKS REPORT

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

- FTC have received £3,000.00 from the Lengthsman Scheme.
- Members are asked to consider any possible areas that the money can be used for, such as road sign cleaning.
- The Jubilee Committee have received a £2,000.00 grant from the National Lottery Awards from All. This money will be used to purchase cherry trees to be planted in the sensory garden.
- Special thanks were given to Councillor Tilley for all her efforts with the Jubilee Celebrations.

### RLA March 2022 ITEM 13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7.00pm at the Harlington. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

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

**Chairman**