

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 30th JUNE, 2016

Present: Councillor: M Eager - Chairman
Councillors: D Baker R Barnes
P Bettington A R Bradford
A Crowe E Fieldhouse
K Francis J Roberts
N Roberts R Yeoman

In Attendance: Mrs K Mitchell - Clerk to the Council
Mrs M Bradman - Deputy Clerk
12 members of the public

E.48-06.16 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Manns and Morris.

E.49-06.16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared at this point in the meeting.

E.50-06.16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident of Hillfield Drive thanked Councillors for the support offered to try to mitigate problems of antisocial behaviour in Dog Hill Wood and hoped that a long term solution would be found.

A local resident questioned the Council's grant policy with regard to future sustainability of projects receiving funding. It was queried whether all grant monies awarded to Love Ledbury for running the Bye Street toilets had been expended and if any unspent funds would be returned to the Council.

E.51-06.16 PRESENTATION

Mr Scott Rolfe, Chief Executive of Halo Leisure, along with two other colleagues attended the meeting to answer any questions regarding the Ledbury Swimming Pool after receiving correspondence from the Town Council on the matter of village style changing rooms. Mr Rolfe summarised the reasons for the move to mixed sex changing rooms, advising that only a small number of dissenting comments had been received. He believed that the change would offer the best use of space, benefits in terms of safeguarding, and a much improved facility. Mr Rolfe and his colleagues were thanked for attending and answering questions from residents and Councillors.

E.52-06.16 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 2016, copies having been previously circulated, were confirmed as an accurate record.

E.53-06.16 DOG HILL WOOD

1 & 2. Members considered the concerns raised by residents of Hillfield Drive regarding antisocial behaviour in Dog Hill Wood. Councillor Eager gave members some background information about the previous meetings held with the residents. Members discussed the possibility of installing CCTV cameras in the wood.

RESOLVED: That a Task & Finish Group investigate the option of installing a CCTV camera in the wood and discuss the problems in depth to arrive at a solution to the issues raised.

That the proposals be presented to Full Council for further consideration.

Members: Cllrs Baker, Barnes, Crowe, Eager, Fieldhouse and Francis.

3. Members considered the installation of a bin at the Green Lane entrance to the wood.

RESOLVED: That this be referred to the Task & Finish group for consideration.

E.54-06.16 TOWN CENTRE

Members considered a request from the organisers of the 'Ledbury Bench Poetry Project' to install plaques on various benches throughout the town. Following a discussion.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the Town Council support the 'Ledbury Bench Poetry Project' and give permission for plaques to be attached to benches under Town Council ownership.

E.55-06.16 RECREATION GROUND

1. Members considered appointing a Task & Finish Group to apply for grant funding for the purchase of picnic tables, a shelter and a solar light on the recreation ground through the Tesco 'Bags of Help' scheme. Members discussed other areas that would benefit from

the Tesco's grant scheme and added benches, bins and landscaping for Dog Hill Wood 'Cricket Pitch' area and the refurbishment of the War Memorial.

RESOLVED: That a Task & Finish Group prepare an application for grant funding for the above items for the recreation ground, to enhance the Dog Hill Wood 'Cricket Pitch' and refurbish the War Memorial. Members being Councillors Baker, Barnes, Crowe, Eager, Fieldhouse and Francis.

2. Members considered giving permission for the benches, solar light and shelter to be sited on the recreation ground.

Recommendation to Full Council: That permission be given to use the recreation ground for the picnic benches, shelter and solar light.

3. Members were asked to consider the maintenance of the additional equipment.

RESOLVED: That this item be referred to the Tesco Grant Scheme Task & Finish Group to assess.

E.56-06.16 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

1. Members received a briefing note regarding indicative costs of materials for replacement gates, stiles, signs etc.

RESOLVED: That the briefing be noted.

2. Members, having been circulated with a written request from Wellington Heath to consider providing a safe walking route into Ledbury and a detailed report from the NDP group of an assessment of various routes, offered the following recommendation.

Recommendation to Full Council: That a formal request be made to Herefordshire Council to consider a white lined pedestrian lane with 'Warning walkers and cyclists' signs on Beggars Ash, especially from the Frith to the Bromyard Road.

E.57-06.16 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

1. Cemetery

Members received the report, copies having been circuated, from the meeting held on 7th June, 2016 and considered the recommendations contained therein.

Referring to Item 1. Cemetery wall

RESOLVED: That a further quote for the repairs to 4 x 10m sections of boundary wall (Oakland Drive area) to include buttresses be obtained.

Referring to Item 4 Recommendation: That the current policy of no wooden crosses or other forms of memorials apart from the traditional stone memorials be looked at with the Clerk/Deputy Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the matter be referred back to the working party.

2. Recreation Ground

Members received the report, copies having been circuated, from the meeting held on 21st June, 2016 and considered the recommendations contained therein.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted

Recommendation to Full Council: That the recommendations contained therein be approved and adopted.

E.58-06.16 CORRESPONDENCE - for information

It was brought to members attention that an email had been received from a local resident expressing disappointment to the Council's decision not to allow memorial plaques to be placed on the Town Council owned benches in the Cemetery.

E.59-06.16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be held on 8th September, 2016.

There were no items raised for inclusion on the next agenda.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.13pm

Chairman Date