

MINUTES of the MEETING of the HERITAGE SUB-COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL OFFICES, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE, on TUESDAY 1 MAY 2018 at 10.00 AM

PRESENT: Councillor Ms L C Howes (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill
Councillor Ms L M Hall
Councillor R J Lees (substituting for Councillor B E Read)

ALSO PRESENT: Brenda Bobby - FOSHP
Martin Harding, Assistant Town Clerk & RFO

ABSENT: None.

633/17-18. **ARRANGEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS REGARDING FILMING OR RECORDING THE MEETING.**

The Chairman explained the arrangements and constraints relating to the filming or recording of the meeting.

634/17-18. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors' Mrs A E D Barham, D J Mote and B E Read.

635/17-18. **SUBSTITUTES**

Councillor R J Lees substituted for Councillor B E Read.

636/17-18. **TO DECLARE INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were none.

The Chairman gave the opportunity for the meeting to be adjourned at this point to accept questions from the public.

637/17-18. **URGENT ITEMS / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES.**

There were none.

638/17-18. **TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 MARCH 2018.**

Recommended: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2018 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

639/17-18. **HERITAGE PARK IMPROVEMENTS.**

The ATC/RFO gave a verbal update on ongoing work being undertaken for improvement to the Heritage Park.

Members were informed of the progress being made by North Kent Countryside Partnership on securing the funding for both the meadow and pond projects.

The ATC/RFO confirmed that he had chased Ebbsfleet Development Corporation regarding funding but would begin to consider other appropriate channels.

Members were provided with an update on the recent inception meeting for Heritage Watch led by Historic England. A second meeting was scheduled for 4 June 2018 at Leeds Castle to further the plan. An invitation had been extended for a community representative to attend with the ATC/RFO. Members felt that the Chairman, Cllr Ms L C Howes, would be appropriate given both her position on the Sub-Committee and her role within the Local History Group.

Recommended:

1. That the ATC/RFO continue working on the current funding projects.
2. That the Chairman attend the next Heritage Watch meeting with the ATC/RFO.

640/17-18. **NATURAL ENGLAND – SWANSCOMBE SKULL SITE NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE (NNR) AND SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC (SSSI) – VISUAL MANAGEMENT PLAN/LEASE.**

It was confirmed that the Lease had been signed by the Town Mayor and had been returned to the Solicitor acting for Natural England.

The ATC/RFO confirmed that he was due to organise an update meeting with Natural England in the next 3 months.

Recommended:

That the item be noted.

641/17-18. **ADOPT A KIOSK**

Members were provided with correspondence from British Telecom regarding the usage and regular maintenance costs for the kiosk in Pier Road, Greenhithe.

Members discussed the community benefits of the kiosk and felt it appropriate to liaise with the members of the public who had originally raised this issue via social media.

Councillor R J Lees agreed to contact the members of the public and report back to the Sub-Committee for the next meeting.

Recommended:

That Councillor R J Lees liaise with the members of the public who originally raised this matter and report back to the next Sub-Committee meeting.

642/17-18. **REPTILE SURVEY RECEPTOR SITE.**

The ATC/RFO confirmed that Middlemarch Environmental had agreed to provide further survey work to the Town Council and would obtain the appropriate licences for the relocation work to be undertaken.

The relocation work was scheduled to begin around mid-May.

Recommended:

That the item be noted.

643/17-18. **FRIENDS OF SWANSCOMBE HERITAGE PARK (FOSHP) REPORT OF ACTIVITIES.**

Brenda Bobby provided an update on their recent Easter Egg Hunt and confirmed the next event would be the Teddy Bears Picnic.

The issue of access problems around one of the gates within the Heritage Park was raised by Brenda Bobby. The ATC/RFO confirmed that the Town Council were already aware of this and were investigating a resolution.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

644/17-18. **HERITAGE PARK WEBSITE**

The ATC/RFO reminded members that any items to be included on the website needed to be forwarded to him.

Members were informed that the domain for the Swanscombe Heritage Park website was owned by the Town Council but at present no saving would be made by transferring hosting to the Town Councils IT supplier.

Members briefly discussed the creation of a new more informative website. The ATC/RFO confirmed the potential costs and administration associated with this and that this would be more appropriate as part of a funding application once further improvements to the site had been made.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

645/17-18. **ANY OTHER ITEMS RELATED TO HERITAGE.**

The Chairman reminded that the planning application for the demolition of Alkerden Farm was still ongoing and that comments should be submitted directly to the Ebbsfleet Development Corporation.

646/17-18. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Recommended: That the next meeting be scheduled for Tuesday 3 July 2018 at 10.00am.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 10.45 am.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Chairman)