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SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL

Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee

Councillor K G Basson (Chairman)
Councillor P M Harman (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Mrs A E D Barham
Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill
Councillor Ms L M Cross
Councillor Ms L M Hall
Councillor J A Hayes
Councillor Ms L C Howes
Councillor Mrs M B Kelly
Councillor D J Mote
Councillor B R Parry
Councillor B E Read

To all other Councillors: For information only

A Meeting of the above Committee will be held on

Thursday 21 September 2017 at 7.00pm

at: The Council Offices, The Grove, Swanscombe, Kent, DA10 0GA.

Graham Blew
Town Clerk

Due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the Press and Public will be excluded from the Meeting for item 7.6 onwards.

Should any member have any questions regarding the content of the agenda or attached papers, please put them to the clerk's office 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Dated: 15 September 2017

The Council Offices, The Grove, Swanscombe, Kent, DA10 0GA.
Tel: (01322) 385513 Fax: (01322) 385849

A G E N D A

1. To receive Apologies for Absence.
2. Substitutes.
3. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda.

At the Chairman's discretion the meeting will be adjourned at this point to accept questions from the public.

4. Items as Deemed Urgent by the Chairman / matters arising from previous minutes and their position on the Agenda (for discussion/information only, not for decision).
5. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 June 2017 (*Town Council 21 September 2017*).
6. **SENIOR GROUNDSMAN/GARDENER'S REPORT (p).**

Please see the attached report.

A – Benches in Parks/Play Areas.

Further to minute 78/17-18 the x4 benches were delivered on Tuesday 5 September 2017 and will be installed by the Parks Department in due course.

B – Back Pack Sprayers – Chemical Training.

Further to minute 74/17-18 x2 back pack sprayers have been purchased (7 August 2017) and the Senior Groundsman/Gardener is making arrangements for employee 63 to undertake the final element of his formal Chemical Spraying training. This should help eradicate/reduce incidents of weeds being allowed to grow in areas causing damage that could result in expensive repairs being required (example photographs attached).

Recommended: That the report be noted.

7. TOWN CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

7.1 UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENT (UE).

Members will be aware that on Thursday 3 August 2017 (approximately 9pm) the Town Council were victims of an UE at Swanscombe Park (approximately 20 caravans and associated vehicles). Council Officers worked with the Local Police and the Enforcement Team at Dartford Borough Council (DBC) to ensure this matter was resolved at the earliest opportunity and this resulted in the UE vacating the park on Friday 4 August 2017 (approximately 5.30pm) with the park only being closed to the public for 2 hours on Saturday 5 August 2017 whilst the area was cleaned and declared safe. The financial implications incurred by the Town Council as a result of this incident were minimal.

Recommended:

1. That the actions taken by the Town Clerk in dealing with this matter be endorsed.
2. To discuss and advise accordingly.

7.2 PRUNUS (CHERRY) TREE – BROOMFIELD PARK (p).

Unfortunately the tree previously planted in Broomfield Park (minute 167/14-15) has died and will require replacing.

Recommended:

To approve the replacement of this tree.

7.3 NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT – BROOMFIELD PARK (p).

Further to minutes 317/16-17, 16/17-18 and 76/17-18 Ebbsfleet Academy undertook a survey of their students regarding the x3 options for new equipment, selected by the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee from the x6 options previously provided, and the results are attached. Members will see that "*Rota Glide, City Adventure Trail and Air Rider*" proved to be the most popular receiving 59.78% of the votes cast.

To expedite the installation process, and in consultation with the Chairman of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee the equipment has been ordered and an installation date is awaited.

Recommended:

To endorse the order being placed for the installation of the "*Rota Glide City Adventure Trail and Air Rider*" in Broomfield Park (location previously agreed – minute 76/17-18).

7.4 STRATEGIC REVIEW OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S BUILDING PORTFOLIO (p).

Further to minute 75/16-17 members are asked to further consider this project.

When/if a Working Group is established members are respectfully reminded that they need to set out clear Terms of Reference.

Recommended: To approve the use of the available funds as detailed above and to agree the location of the equipment.

7.5 COUNCIL OFFICE AND CAFÉ CHRISTMAS OPENING ARRANGEMENTS (p).

Attached is a calendar for the Council Offices and Café over the Christmas and New Year. Members are asked to consider when they wish the office and café to be closed over the festive period. Officers have been consulted and have no objection to using annual leave entitlement to cover any periods of closure.

Recommended: To agree the opening days of the offices and café over the festive period with a notice being displayed, in advance, advising Members of the Public of the closures. As per previous years a relevant message would also be recorded for the Council Office answer machine for this period.

7.6 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

TO RESOLVE: Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the press and public leave the meeting during consideration of the following item.

7.7 INGRESS PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE – UPDATE (p)

Please see the attached confidential update and confidential notes of the Working Group meeting with Crest on the 20 July 2017.

Recommended: To note.

7.8 EAGLES ROAD PLAY AREA – UPDATE (p)

Please see the attached confidential update.

Recommended: To note.

7.9 GROVE CAR PARK – UPDATE (p)

Please see the attached confidential update.

Recommended: To note.



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Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council Website:
<http://www.swanscombeandgreenhithe town council.gov.uk>

