

MINUTES of the MEETING of the RECREATION, LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL OFFICES, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2018 at 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor P M Harman (Vice Chairman in the Chair)
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 M Howes
Councillor B R Parry

ALSO PRESENT: Graham Blew - Town Clerk
Martin Harding – Assistant Town Clerk/RFO
Dan Usher – Senior Groundsman/Gardener

ABSENT: Councillor Mrs M B Kelly

191/18-19. **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.

192/18-19. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors' K G Basson, D J Mote and B E Read.

193/18-19. **SUBSTITUTES.**

There were none.

194/18-19. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 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.

195/18-19. **ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.**

There were none.

196/18-19. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JUNE 2018.

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 June 2018 were approved and signed as a true record.

197/18-19. SENIOR GROUNDSMAN /GARDENER'S REPORT.

The Senior Groundsman/Gardener went through the report which updated members on the work undertaken, by the Parks Department and also the work planned for the future which included:

Swanscombe Park, Broomfield Park, Knockhall Park, Heritage Park, Grove Hall, General and staff.

Recommended: That the report be noted.

TOWN CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

198/18-19. COUNCIL OFFICE AND CAFÉ CHRISTMAS OPENING ARRANGEMENTS.

Members agreed that the Council Offices and Café should be closed on 24, 27, 28 and 31 December 2018.

Recommended: That the Council Offices and Café be closed on 24, 27, 28 and 31 December 2018 with a notice being displayed in advance, advising Members of the Public and a relevant message being recorded on the Council Office answer machine.

199/18-19. HERITAGE COMMUNITY HALL – BOOKINGS.

The Town Clerk advised members that a regular hall hirer for the Heritage Community Hall had recently confirmed the cancellation of their booking. The Town Council would continue to actively promote the hall for availability but, members needed to be aware this may/will affect the level of income received when considering the budget going forward.

Officers advised members of a possible alternative use, linked to another proposal the Town Council were considering, and after discussion members' agreed that the organisation associated with this proposal be contacted and be considered at the Town Council meeting on 11 October 2018.

Recommended: That the item be noted and that the organisation who made the proposal be contacted for further discussion with this being considered at the Town Council meeting on 11 October 2018.

200/18-19. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

MOVED BY Councillor J A Hayes and seconded by Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill;

RESOLVED:

That, 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 public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following item(s).

No members of the press or public were present during discussion of the following item of business.

201/18-19. **INGRESS PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE WORKING GROUP – UPDATE**

Further to minute 72/18-19 members were asked to consider and give a definitive decision, on the Town Councils position, regarding this matter, as a whole.

Members were provide with an update, received from Crest on 20 September 2018, on the current parking offer.

Members discussed this and accepted the parking provisions offered on the update and recommended that this be endorsed at the next full meeting of the Town Council.

Recommended: That the parking provision offered by Crest in the update dated 20 September 2018 be accepted and the Town Councils furtherance of this be endorsed at the next Town Council meeting on 11 October 2018.

202/18-19. **INFORMAL MEETING WITH CAMLAND / EBBSFLEET FOOTBALL CLUB (EFC)**

Two informal meetings had been held with Camland and at the most recent representatives from EFC were also present. Members had previously been supplied with the confidential notes from the meeting on 29 August 2018.

At the current time these meetings were being held as fact finding exercises and no details had yet been provided.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Planning, Major Developments, Transportation & the Environment Committee; Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee and the Regeneration & Quality Sub-Committee had been invited to attend the 29 August 2018 meeting and, going forward, the Town Clerk suggested that the 3 members' that were at the meeting on 29 August 2018 continue with the discussions, in the first instance, until details were known. Once known these would be reported back to the Council to decide how, or even whether, the Town Council wished to proceed with this project.

Recommended: That the 3 members that attended the meeting on the 29 August 2018 continue to do so on a fact finding basis.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 7.50 pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Chairman)