

MINUTES of the MEETING of the RECREATION, LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL OFFICES, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2018 at 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor K G Basson
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 Ms L M Howes
Councillor B R Parry

ALSO PRESENT: Graham Blew - Town Clerk
Martin Harding – Assistant Town Clerk/RFO
Ann Duke – Walk Tall
Michael Sears – Walk Tall

ABSENT: There were none

297/18-19. 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.

298/18-19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

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

299/18-19. SUBSTITUTES.

There were none.

300/18-19. 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.

301/18-19. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

302/18-19. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2018.

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 September 2018 were approved and signed as a true record.

303/18-19. SENIOR GROUNDSMAN /GARDENER'S REPORT.

The Town Clerk 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, vehicles and staff.

Recommended: That the report be noted.

TOWN CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

304/18-19. ANNUAL REPORT – THE SWANSCOMBE CENTRE 2017 – GRAVESHAM COMMUNITY LEISURE LIMITED (GCLL).

As per the Management Agreement GCLL had supplied the annual report for members' information. The Managing Director had also confirmed that he was more than happy to attend any meetings if members wished to put any questions to him directly.

Recommended: That the report be noted.

305/18-19. EBBSFLEET GARDEN CITY (EDC) – GREEN CORRIDORS.

Further to minute 111/18-19 (Town Council 5 July 2018) the EDC had approached the Town Council requesting an informal meeting to discuss their next phase of Green Corridors across the Town. A meeting was arranged with Paul Boughen (EDC) and Helen Coster (EDC) for 1 November 2018 and the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee and the Planning, Major Developments, Transportation & the Environment Committee were all invited to attend.

Members were provided with the information supplied at the meeting and were asked to consider, and advise of their priorities regarding Ebbsfleet Green Corridors and Wayfinding. Members went through the information provided and agreed the levels of priority for each item.

Recommended: That the responses agreed by members be submitted.

306/18-19. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2018.

When the Town Council applied to Kent County Council (KCC) in the normal manner, for a permit to put up the Christmas Lights KCC had informed that the columns would require a load testing report to be carried out (at the Town Councils expense). This was duly arranged and undertaken but, unfortunately the report highlighted that x2 (x1 in Greenhithe High Street and x1 in Swanscombe High Street) of the 19 columns now had dents in them and had failed the load test which meant they could not be used for Christmas lights this year.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

307/18-19. GANG MOWING.

Further to minutes 353/14-16, 419/16-17 and 177/18-19, and in accordance with Financial Regulation 11.1 (iv) and in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, a continuation of the contract for gang mowing in 2019 had been signed.

Recommended: That, in accordance with Financial Regulation 11.1 (iv), the contract for gang mowing of the Town Councils areas for 2019 be approved.

308/18-19. ESTIMATES FOR 2019 – 2020.

Officers had begun work on the Annual Estimates for 2019 – 2020 earlier in the year and members had first been asked for any suggestions in July (minute 114/18-19), with an agreed deadline of 31 August 2018. The Town Council meeting on 13 December 2018 would need to make a decision on the continuation of current ongoing projects, these would be detailed within the draft Annual Estimates 2019 – 2020.

The draft Annual Estimates 2019 – 2020 were required to be approved and endorsed by the full Council in January 2019 before setting the Council Tax Base for the 2019 – 2020 financial year.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 7.35 pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Chairman)