

MINUTES of the MEETING of the HERITAGE PARK / SKULL SITE SUB-COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL OFFICES, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE, on TUESDAY 26 JULY at 10.00 AM

PRESENT: Councillor B E Read (Chairman)
Councillor R J Lees
Councillor D J Mote
Councillor Mrs C K Openshaw

ALSO PRESENT: Martin Harding, Assistant Town Clerk & RFO

ABSENT: None

130/16-17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors' Mrs S P Butterfill, Ms L C Howes and Brenda Bobby (Friends of Swanscombe Heritage Park)

131/16-17. SUBSTITUTES

There were none.

132/16-17. 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.

133/16-17. URGENT ITEMS / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES.

There were none.

134/16-17. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE 2016.

Recommended: The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2016 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

135/16-17. HLF BID – PROGRESS TO DATE.

The ATC/RFO gave an update on the second meeting of the Project Management Board. It was explained the bid process needed to be stimulated in order to prevent any further delays.

The Board had decided on a final submission of November 2016, this deadline would be absolute and would need to be met.

The ATC/RFO also mentioned the wider implications of not submitting a successful bid. Members discussed the Town Council investing some funding at this point to secure consultant time to ensure the bid is prepared and ready for submission.

Recommended: That the ATC/RFO be delegated authority to spend funds from within the FRA up to a ceiling of £5000, to secure time from outside bodies to prepare and submit a bid for the November 2016 deadline.

136/16-17. **NATURAL ENGLAND – SWANSCOMBE NNR MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

The ATC/RFO informed members that Natural England had concerns regarding the Town Council being able to fulfil its requirements without the commitment to the HLF bid. Members discussed the wider implications of losing the lease and what contingency should be in place.

Recommended: That the ATC/RFO update Natural England on the Town Councils commitment to the site and its agreement to invest in the infrastructure needed regardless of a successful bid.

137/16-17. **FRIENDS OF SWANSCOMBE HERITAGE PARK (FOSHP) REPORT OF ACTIVITIES.**

No member of the FOSHP was present but members were reminded that the Teddy Bears picnic would be taking place on Wednesday 27 July 2016 at 2.00pm

Recommended: That the item be noted.

138/16-17. **HERITAGE PARK WEBSITE**

This item reminded everyone that any items to be included on the website needed to be forwarded to the ATC/RFO.

Members discussed and suggested an article be placed on both the Heritage Park and Town Councils website explaining the HLF bid and progress

Recommended: That the ATC/RFO draft an article for both websites.

139/16-17. **ANY OTHER ITEMS RELATED TO THE HERITAGE PARK / SKULL SITE.**

The Chairman updated on the significance of the park within the wider issues facing social cohesion with the developments within Eastern Quarry. Councillor Read hoped to have a meeting with senior officers from EDC to discuss this matter further

140/16-17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Recommended: That the next meeting be scheduled for Tuesday 13 September 2016 at 10.00am.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 10.50am.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Chairman)

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