

Minutes of the meeting of the OPEN SPACES & LEISURE COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks on Monday 10 March 2014 at 7.00pm

Present:

Committee Members

Cllr S L Arnold	Present	Cllr Mrs M A London	Present [left 8.22]
Cllr C L L Baker	Present	Cllr R J Parry	Present
Cllr J M Canet	Present	Cllr S G Raikes	apologies
Cllr A Eyre - Chairman	Present	Vice Chairman - Cllr P E Towell	Present
Cllr R M C Hogarth [ex-officio]	Present [left 8.05]	Cllr Mrs P C Walshe	Present

Also present:

Town Clerk
Deputy Town Clerk
Open Spaces Manager

9 Members of the Public

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Several questions concerning Quakers Hall Allotment site and the consultation questionnaire regarding evidence base, cost and scale of proposal were raised by allotment holders and local residents [Dr Geoffrey Brown, Dr Bakker, Heather Wiffen, Claire Johnson, Roddy Sinclair, Peter Ashwell, Ron Sullivan and Pam Walshe]

The Chairman confirmed that an interactive version of the questionnaire would be available in the next 48 hours and the questionnaire was being delivered door to door this week to residents, organisations and businesses in the area.

446 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests from Members to enable participation in discussion on items on the agenda in which the Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. [S 31 & 33 Localism Act 2011 refers].

447 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J M Canet declared a Non Pecuniary Interest in allotments.
Cllr Mrs P C Walshe declared a Non Pecuniary Interest in St Johns Primary School
Cllrs Eyre and Towell declared Non Pecuniary Interest as SDC Councillors
Cllr R J Parry declared Non Pecuniary Interest as KCC Member

448 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED that** the minutes of the meeting of the Open Spaces & Leisure Committee held on 16 December 2013 previously approved at Council on 13 January 2014 be received and signed.

449 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

It was **RESOLVED that** the Statement of Accounts from April 2013 to 31 January 2014 be received and adopted.

500 QUAKERS HALL ALLOTMENTS - CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

The Committee received and considered the report and questionnaire circulated with the agenda concerning the Quakers Hall Allotment site. Councillors noted that an

interactive version of the questionnaire would be available in the next 48 hours and a copy of the questionnaire would be distributed door-to-door to residents, organisations and businesses in the area
After a comprehensive debate.

It was **RESOLVED** that

Responses to the questionnaire be accepted up to 4.30pm on 17 April 2014.

501 SEVENOAKS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

The Committee received and considered Town Clerk's report.

It was **RESOLVED** that

i). Increased Parking Area

Further investigation be undertaken to develop proposal and a report and plans be submitted to the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

ii). Installation of Drainage and Water Tank

Further investigation be undertaken and reported to the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

iii). Extension to Balcony of SRFC Clubhouse

SRFC produce information relating to number of club users/analysis to support any planning application and report and plans be submitted to the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

iv). 3G Synthetic Pitch

Further investigation into whether Town Council could support the proposal for a 3G pitch. A comprehensive report and plans be submitted to the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

v). Overall Planning Matters

noted.

vi). Pedestrian Bridge

This is a longer term objective and to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan discussion.

502 SEVENOAKS LAWN TENNIS CLUB

The consideration of the rent review due in March 2014 was discussed and

It was **RESOLVED** that

The rent be increased by 3%

503 RALEYS CAR PARK

The Committee received and noted a survey recently undertaken in relation to the progress of the recent changes to the Raleys car park which included the implementation of designated areas and parking permits. The majority of respondents considered the new arrangements an improvement and did not wish to revert to the previous system

504 GREATNESS ENVIRONS GROUP

The Committee received and noted the report of the meeting held on 4 February

2014. It was noted that the use of the current sports pavilion would be extended to provide additional non sport community use (subject to any funding or planning matters).

505 FOOD FAIR

The Committee received and noted the proposal of a Food Fair Event on the Vine on Sunday 6th July 2014 and agreed delegated authority to the Town Clerk in relation to arrangements

506 SEVENOAKS TOWN SPORTS STRATEGY

The Committee received and noted the

- a) Summary of key projects coming from consultation within the Sports Strategy
- b) 'progress in work' document
- c) The notes of the Sports Strategy working party held on 13 February 2014

It was noted that the meetings had been very well attended and

It was **AGREED that**

Representatives of golf, sailing, horse riding and carriage driving be invited to future meetings

507 OPEN SPACES & CEMETERY MANAGER'S REPORT

The Committee received and considered the Open Spaces Manager's report

Staff

Noted

Knole Paddock and Raleys Field

Noted

Knole Paddock and Raleys Fields Historic Costs and Income.

The Committee noted a breakdown of costs and income (bracketed) for the last 5 years, this year's costs and income for cricket, rugby and football [rugby & football have been estimated]

Year	Rugby	Football	Cricket
13/14	15229 (10219)	3230 (1300)	8109 (5481)
12/13	16035 (10756)	3050 (1333)	8431 (4367)
11/12	14825 (11683)	3078 (1566)	8416 (4398)
10/11	16350 (10506)	4100 (1248)	9266 (5227)
9/10	16016 (9928)	3270 (1116)	7879 (4724)

It was **RESOLVED** that

The breakdown of income and costs should also be circulated to the sports strategy group for information

Winter Storms - Tree Maintenance Including Sevenoaks Common

The Committee thanked members of the Open Spaces team for dealing with storm damaged trees at short notice at weekends

It was **AGREED** to

Arrange a new date in Spring for councillors to visit Sevenoaks Common after the planned tour of the Common in January had to be cancelled.

It was noted that it is proposed to instruct a specialist to carry out regular inspection of our trees, particularly in view of the large mature trees which fell unexpectedly this winter in the storms.

Other Works

Noted

508 TOWN WARDEN'S REPORT

The Committee received and noted the Town Warden's report

It was **AGREED** that

In future the Town Warden's report could be incorporated within the Open Spaces Manager's report

509 KENT MINERALS & WASTE LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

The Committee received and considered a report concerning the Kent Minerals & Waste Local Plan Consultation

It was **RESOLVED** that

The Town Council's response to the consultation on the Draft Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013 – 2030 be modified to reflect the Town Council's strong objection to any future waste or mineral developments or extensions within urban centres.

510 VINE PROJECTS FOR 2014

The Committee received and noted a report concerning the improvements to be made to the Vine during 2014, including provision of café, improvements to vine toilets, additional band events and arts and craft stalls.

511 OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT AT GREATNESS RECREATION GROUND

The Committee received and noted a report concerning the installation timing and opening of the outdoor gym equipment at Greatness Recreation Ground

512 SOUTH EAST IN BLOOM COMPETITION 2014

The Committee received and considered a report concerning the 2014 South East in Bloom Competition 2014

It was **RESOLVED** that

- a. Sevenoaks Town Council enters the town centre category for the South East in Bloom 2014.
- b. A Sevenoaks In Bloom Sub Committee is created to arrange the practical aspects of the entry and encourage community involvement. Cllrs Canet, Eyre and Mrs Walshe agreed to be on Sub Committee and it was agreed to approach Town Councillors who were not present at meeting to ask if they would also wish to participate in Sub Committee

513 CURRENT MATTERS

The Committee received and noted the list of current matters

514 PRESS RELEASE

The Committee considered news releases should be issued concerning the sports strategy and the allotment consultation

The meeting closed at 9.12pm

Chairman