

HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
Environment & Leisure Committee
22nd February 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: T McMahon Chairman
D Dixon-
Wilkinson
Y Farrell
S Goodchild
R Morgan
A Slough

Officers: Clare Evans Town Clerk
Tony Luff Head of Grounds Operations

Public: 3

Also present: Councillors: J Carroll
D Jones

11511 APOLOGIES

None.

11512 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

A member of the public suggested that as the works along Houghton Brook had been completed it would be an ideal time to complete a litter pick along the bank prior to the Spring vegetation growth. This was generally supported, factoring in Covid related restrictions and associated risk assessments. This would be followed up.

11513 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

11514 MINUTES

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16th November 2020.

Resolved: To confirm the minutes of the Environment & Leisure Committee meeting held on 16th November 2020 and for these to be signed by the Chairman.

11515 TITHE FARM ALL WEATHER UPDATE

Members were updated on the following matters:

- Implications of the sewer line
- Design of the pavilion

To maintain the scope of the project and to reduce the risk to the council it was suggested that Option 2 be supported. This reduced the risk as the pitch was sited off any man hole covers, but the assurance to the FF was still required as the 3G remains over the line of the sewer.

Some preferences were expressed for Option 1 as it was felt that this location provided greater opportunity for grass pitches on the remainder of the site and for community events.

Design of the pavilion

Members considered some preliminary designs and provided feedback. It was requested that the design be revisited based on this feedback and represented along with costs for subsequent consideration.

Recommendation 1: To support Option 2 site layout as shown in drawing 324-1 FS-010.R2

Proposed Cllr Goodchild, Seconded Cllr Slough

5 in favour

1 against

Carried

Proposed amendment to Recommendation 2: To confirm to the Football Foundation that should Anglian Water need to dig up part(s) of the pitch, the Council would ensure best endeavours to make certain that reinstatement works were undertaken (over the course of the 21-year clawback period) to ensure that the 3G FTP remains on the FA's 3G Pitch Register

Proposed Cllr Morgan, Seconded Cllr Farrell

3 in favour

3 against

The Chair of the Committee used the casting vote and voted against the proposed amendment.

Not carried.

Second Proposed amendment to Recommendation 2: To confirm to the Football Foundation that should Anglian Water need to dig up part(s) of the pitch, the Council would ensure best endeavours to make certain that reinstatement works were undertaken (over the course of the 21-year clawback period) to ensure that the 3G FTP remains on the FA's 3G Pitch Register. Should this not be accepted by the Football Foundation, to confirm to the Football Foundation that should Anglian Water need to dig up part(s) of the pitch, the Council would make certain that reinstatement works were undertaken (over the course of the 21-year clawback period) to ensure that the 3G FTP remains on the FA's 3G Pitch Register.

Proposed Cllr Goodchild, Seconded Cllr Slough

6 in favour

0 against

The proposed amendment became the substantive and was voted on accordingly.

Proposed Cllr Goodchild, Seconded Cllr Slough

6 in favour

0 against

Carried.

Proposed resolution: to defer consideration of the pavilion design until further work had been done on the design and costing.

Proposed Cllr Slough, Seconded Cllr Goodchild

6 in favour

0 against

The proposed amendment became the substantive and was voted on accordingly.

Proposed Cllr Slough, Seconded Cllr Goodchild

6 in favour

0 against

Carried.

- Resolved:**
- 1. To support Option 2 site layout as shown in drawing 324-1 FS-010.R2;**
 - 2. To confirm to the Football Foundation that should Anglian Water need to dig up part(s) of the pitch, the Council would ensure best endeavours to make certain that reinstatement works were undertaken (over the course of the 21-year clawback period) to ensure that the 3G FTP remains on the FA's 3G Pitch Register. Should this not be accepted by the Football Foundation, to confirm to the Football Foundation that should Anglian Water need to dig up part(s) of the pitch, the Council would make certain that reinstatement works were undertaken (over the course of the 21-year clawback period) to ensure that the 3G FTP remains on the FA's 3G Pitch Register;**
 - 3. To defer consideration of the pavilion design until further work had been done on the design and costing.**

11516 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

Members were provided with the Income & Expenditure report to date for the Environment & Leisure Committee.

There was an overspend in 282-4017 but this would be covered by underspend in other codes in cost centre 282.

It was requested that the income and expenditure relating to the energy efficiency measures be checked.

11517 ORCHARD CLOSE PLAY AREA SURFACING

Members considered surfacing options for Orchard Close Playground Area. Surfacing issues had been highlighted in the annual play area inspection. Options included a bark top up or a resurfacing with wet pore.

- Resolved:**
- 1. To replace the bark at the Orchard Close play area with wet pore using contractor 1;**
 - 2. To fund the works out of EMR 327, Play Areas.**

11518 CHALK FIELDS ALLOTMENTS (HRN2 SITE)

Members considered a report on a proposed transfer of a new allotment site within HRN2. Details included the proposed site layout and site facilities, the name of the allotment site and advice on the funding situation.

Members expressed concerns over the layout and design of the site, notably in relation to the plot size which was double the size promoted by the Local Government Association and The National Allotment Society.

In relation to the future name of the site, it was suggested to defer consideration until a later date.

Proposed Amendment to Recommendation 2

To approve the site layout, subject to:

- The provision of 27 plots between 200m² - 250m² in size with a shed base 1.8m x 2.4m in size on each plot
- 3 standpipes to be sited with a concrete base in front of them
- The main internal path being accessible to people with disabilities, wheelchairs and mobility scooters and at least 2.25m wide construction of type 1 MOT with edging to the plots to avoid spill
- The fencing to be green palisade fencing
- The soil being a reasonable quality and free from debris by being screened to 10mm and 45cm -60cm deep
- A new "Proposed Plan Allotments" being submitted by Bellway and approved by the E&L committee incorporating the above

Proposed Cllr Farrell, Seconded Cllr Morgan

All in favour.

Carried

The amendment became the substantive and a vote was taken:

Proposed Cllr Slough, Seconded Cllr Morgan

All in favour.

Carried

- Resolved:**
- 1. To welcome the bringing forward of an allotment site as a community facility.**
 - 2. To approve the site layout, subject to:**
 - **The provision of 27 plots between 200m² - 250m² in size with a shed base 1.8m x 2.4m in size on each plot**
 - **3 standpipes to be sited with a concrete base in front of them**
 - **The main internal path being accessible to people with disabilities, wheelchairs and mobility scooters and at least 2.25m wide construction of type 1 MOT with edging to the plots to avoid spill**
 - **The fencing to be green palisade fencing**
 - **The soil being a reasonable quality and free from debris by being screened to 10mm and 45cm -60cm deep**
 - **A new "Proposed Plan Allotments" being submitted by Bellway and approved by the E&L committee incorporating the above**
 - 3. Subject to these amendments to confirm that HRTC is willing to accept the transfer of this site in due course subject to due legal process.**

11519 MOORE CRESCENT PARKING

Members considered a report / proposal from CBC regarding an altered arrangement for Moore Crescent car park. The proposal suggested a barrier where the current gates were plus drop-down bollards to existing side car park. The project would be funded by CBC and would enable the car park to more appropriately support events in HHP in accordance with the JVA between the 2 authorities for the management of the park. CBC would follow their procurement process and would aim to implement the project this financial year.

Members expressed some concerns over possible unauthorised traveller incursions. It was advised that should this occur the management of the access could be altered.

Resolved: To support the proposed access arrangements for Moore Crescent car park.

11520 COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING PROJECT

Members considered options for a community tree planting project funded through a CBC grant scheme.

It was noted that this project required a quick turn around as applications for funding had to be submitted by end of February and trees planted by the end of March.

Members felt that this project supported the council's Vision in terms of biodiversity, wildlife and edible planting objectives.

- Resolved:**
- 1. To support the application to CBC for their Tree Planting Grant Scheme;**
 - 2. To grant permission for up to 10 trees to be planted on Parkside recreation ground, in a location to be agreed and to request that these trees are selected to assist in meeting the council's biodiversity, wildlife and edible planting objectives.**

11521 VISION

Members received an extract from the approved Vision 2020/2024 as it related to the work of this committee.

Members felt that it was encouraging that the council was beginning to progress its aspirations and objectives despite the circumstances around Covid. .

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.11pm

Dated this 7th day of June 2021

Chairman