

**LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES of the meeting held on Wednesday 8 January 2020 at 7.45pm at Loughton Library & Town Hall.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** D Wixley (in the Chair)  
R Brookes J Jennings (as substitute for Cllr B Cohen)  
S Murray M Stubbings

**Also in attendance:**

**Councillors:** CC Pond  
J Mahoney

**Officers:** M Squire (Town Clerk)  
P Hoy (Services Manager)

**RC155 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Cohen and Jogia. The Town Clerk reported that Cllr Jennings had been nominated as substitute for Cllr Cohen for this meeting.

**RC156 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Wixley declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 5.1, Hillyfields Open Space Flood Alleviation, as he is a Fairmead Ward District Councillor. Councillor Pond also declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 5.1, as he is a County Councillor.

**RC157 Confirmation of Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2019 were CONFIRMED as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**RC158 Public Representations**

None were received.

**RC159 Matters for Report**

**159.1 Hillyfields Open Space Flood Alleviation Scheme – Min no RC150.1.1**

The Services Manager reported that contractors working on behalf of Essex County Council had returned to site on Thursday 12 December 2019 to increase the height of the new bund, and that the additional works had made the site more secure.

The Town Clerk reported that notices had been placed at the top of the hill warning of the new ground layout and asking for caution to be exercised when sledging and snowboarding in the event of snowfall.

**159.2 Community Events**

**159.2.1 Christmas Events – Min no RC150.2.2**

The Committee NOTED that £262.54 was raised for St Clare Hospice at the annual Light up a Life service, held at Kings Green on Saturday 30 November 2019.

The Countdown to Christmas event, planned for Friday 6 December 2019 was cancelled following the tragic events at Debden Park High School on Monday 2 December 2019. The Town Clerk will provide further administrative details at the next meeting.

**159.3 Loughton Cricket Club (LCC) – Min no RC150.3**

The Committee NOTED that the Fields in Trust application had been submitted, and that Fields in Trust officials were due to visit the site on 28 January 2020. Furthermore, it was NOTED that the Town Council's solicitors had confirmed that the Land Registry had completed registration of the transfer of the freehold title of the Cricket Club land to the Town Council.

The Town Clerk reported that a further meeting to discuss arrangements for the 'Loughton Day' event on 19 September 2020, was to be arranged with the Chairman of LCC.

**159.4 Roding Valley Recreation Ground**

**159.4.1 Green Corridor – Min no RC149**

The Town Clerk reported that he was waiting for a response from Epping Forest District Council's Land Drainage Engineer, to confirm a suitable date for a site visit with members of the Committee.

Cllr Pond left the meeting.

**159.4.2 Play in the Park Easter and Summer Holidays 2020**

The Committee AGREED to approve payment of £1,020.00 for 12 sessions (at £85.00 each) in 2020, two in the Easter holidays and 10 (including five at Jessel Green) in the summer holidays.

**159.4.3 Rotary Club of Loughton, Chigwell and Buckhurst Hill, Loughton Family Feel Good Fair 2020**

The Services Manager reported on a meeting he had attended with the organiser on 7 January 2020. Following the success of the 2019 event, a formal permission request was received to hold a further event in July 2020. The Committee AGREED to allow the Fair to take place, but stated that as the preferred dates fell within the cricket season, full consideration should be given to South Loughton Cricket Club. Discussions are ongoing and the Services Manager will report to the next meeting.

**159.4.4 Dog Bins on the Recreation Ground – Min no RC150.4.2**

The Services Manager reported that in light of ongoing concerns of dog litter, awareness of the issue has been raised by way of a poster campaign on site. There will also be an article in the next edition of Think Loughton.

The Committee also AGREED that the Town Clerk should write a formal letter of complaint to Epping Forest District Council regarding the ongoing issue of missed dog waste bin collections on the recreation ground and around the town in general.

**159.4.5 Request for a Memorial Bench – Min no RC150.4.4**

The Services Manager reported on the site visit he carried out with Councillors Murray and Wixley on Tuesday 17 December 2019, at which a suitable location was identified. Prices from relevant contractors are awaited and the requestee will be contacted once the full cost is known.

**159.4.6 Roding Valley Recreation Ground Improvements Project - Min no RC150.4.5**

A site visit between the Architect, Fund Raising Manager and LTC Recreation Committee members has been arranged for Thursday 13 February 2020.

**159.4.7 Cycle Paths – Min no RC150.4.6.1**

The Committee NOTED that the Epping Forest Transport Action Group (EFTAG) had been invited to attend the full Town Council meeting on 11 February 2020 to make a presentation.

**159.5 Community Halls**

**159.5.1 Kingsley Hall – Min no RC150.6.1**

The Services Manager and Town Clerk reported that final details were still outstanding from the consultant regarding the window replacement project. A full report will be made to the next meeting.

**159.5.2 Murray Hall**

The Committee Noted that a tree was planted in the rear garden of Murray Hall on Monday 16 December 2019 to commemorate former Town Councillor Monty Juniper. A plaque was also laid and the planting was attended by the Juniper family and the Services Manager.

**159.6 Tree Survey**

The Services Manager reported that the tree inspection report was received in late December and the findings are currently being evaluated. A full report will be made to the next meeting.

**RC160 Committee Priorities for 2020/21 - Gate at Hillyfields**

The Committee AGREED to place the Kingsley Hall window replacement project and the provision of a gate at Pyrles Lane to provide access to Hillyfields at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the priority list respectively.

It was NOTED that (as per RC min -153.1) priority items 9,10,12 & 13 should not have appeared on this current list as they already had been removed. Similarly the on-going activity listed for Millennium Remembrance Grove should also be removed.

**RC161 Financial Position**

The Committee NOTED the report.

**RC162 Future Work of the Committee**

It was NOTED that for the forthcoming Fun Run the office would be

- looking to increase advertising, media coverage and general promotion of the event and
- advocating ways of making the event more attractive to increase larger community participation.

**Signed:** .....

**Date:** 19 February 2020