



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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Amenities Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at 7pm on 16th June 2016
Council Chamber, Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere

Chairman	Cllr David Round*
Vice Chairman	Cllr Libby Piper*
Councillors	Abeyesundara*, Carter, Dover, Hewett*, King*, Odell*, Peel

*Present

Meeting clerked by: Sarah Nash, Deputy Town Clerk.
In attendance: None

29/16 Election of Chairman

Cllr Round was nominated by Cllr Hewett and seconded by Cllr Abeyesundara.

Recommended: That Cllr Round is the Chairman of the Amenities committee for 2016-2017

30/16 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr Piper was nominated by Cllr Abeyesundara and seconded by Cllr King.

Recommended: That Cllr Piper is the Vice-Chairman of the Amenities committee for 2016-2017

31/16 Apologies for absence

Councillors Carter, Dover and Peel.

32/16 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Cllrs Odell and Round declared non-pecuniary interests in item 9(v) of the agenda as Cllr Odell is a member of the Food Festival committee which hires Lion Green.

33/16 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held 14 April were agreed and signed as a true record.

34/16 Matters arising from those minutes not otherwise stated in the agenda

17/16: A working party has now been formed to produce the specification for the playground improvements and tender process.

17/16: Cllr Odell has been speaking with the Post Office, they are meeting with an experienced postmaster imminently about the possibility of taking over a premises in Wey Hill.

25/16: Cllr Abeyesundara confirmed that there are no HTC budget implications for offering Christmas lighting harnesses to retailers, the expense will be incurred by the retailers themselves. Cllr Abeyesundara also confirmed that he has spoken with the chairman of the Beacon Hill Light Brigade who is supportive of this scheme being offered to retailers in Beacon Hill and Hindhead.

26/16: The Deputy Clerk confirmed that a letter has been sent to Waverley requesting assistance with eradicating the pigeon problem in town.

35/16 Representations by the public

None

36/16 Allotments

Some warning letters have been sent to ploholders at Clammer Hill, The gate has also now been fixed and the footpath and car park have also been strimmed by our contractor.

The Deputy Clerk and Chairman will meet with the tree consultants shortly to set out the requirements for the allotment hedgerow management plan.

37/16 Lion Green

- i. The application made by Haslemere Border Athletics to hire Lion Green on Wednesday 13th July was considered.

Recommended: That the application is approved with no charge.

- ii. Cllr Abeyesundara presented plans for the installation of BBQ surfaces on Lion Green. There was much discussion but it was finally agreed that a fully costed proposal should go to July Council, however only two surfaced areas should be considered.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk to seek revised quotes from Transform, Commercial Groundscare and one other contractor for two surfaced areas, on the play area side of Lion Green, away from the road (nearer to the stream)

Action: Deputy Town Clerk to consult with Haslemere Fire & Rescue Service, the local Policing team and Weysprings Association regarding this proposal.

- iii. The committee discussed damage to Lion Green. There is no damage being caused at present outside M&S however Cllr Abeyesundara confirmed that cars are driving onto the green further up near the youth shelter. It was agreed that this situation should be monitored over the summer period. If it continues to be a problem preventative measures such as a low post and rail could be given consideration in the future.
- iv. The recent annual playground inspection was considered. It was noted that the swings are being replaced. It was agreed that all non-urgent repairs are stalled until the working party has convened to consider the play area upgrade, after which it will be know which pieces of equipment are being replaced.
- v. The issue of charging on Lion Green was discussed. Feedback has now been received from regular hirers such as the Fringe Festival, the Food Festival and the Classic Car Show who have advised that charges may become prohibitive so alternative locations may need to be investigated if charges are imposed.

The issue of the definition of 'commercial' was discussed. It was stated that neither the Fringe Festival or Food Festival make any profit for any private individuals, and that any profits made are put back into future events in the town.

Cllr Odell confirmed that despite HTC donating £4000 to the Charter Fair, it still only made £187 profit.

Action: Chairman and Deputy Town Clerk formulate a proposal regarding charging on Lion Green to circulate to the Amenities Committee. Once agreed, proposal to be put on July Council agenda for discussion.

38/16 Grayswood

- i. The Deputy Town Clerk has again written to the landowner of the Grayswood War Memorial requesting permission to access the land to maintain the memorial and surrounding grass, and permission to cut back the trees to restore the view.
- ii. An application has been made to Waverley for S106 funding for the installation of some steps from Lower Road to the recreation ground. Waverley have stated that they would be happy with the proposal.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk to seek written permission from the National Trust for the installation of the steps.

39/16 Pocket Park

The maintenance and ownership of the Pocket Park was discussed.

Recommended: That HTC no longer pursues taking over ownership of said land but continues to maintain it to an acceptable standard to ensure it is neat and tidy.

40/16 25th Anniversary – German Twinning

The Haslemere and District Twinning Association would like to plant a tree to mark the 25th anniversary of the German twinning.

The Committee suggested that the replacement of the recently felled tree on Lion Green would be suitable. Although a Chestnut was removed a Lime is preferred for its replacement.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk to follow up with both the Twinning Association and Commercial Groundscare.

Cllr Hewett also raised the issue of the Twinning tree on the memorial green on the High Street. It needs substantial lopping.

Action: Deputy Town Clerk to seek advice from Arno Spaarkogel at Waverley.

41/16 Council Chamber Fees

The internal auditor recommended that HTC should review its Council Chamber hire charges.

Recommended: that the hourly rate is increased to £18 per hour with the deposit of £50 remaining the same.

Action: If approved by Council, Deputy Town Clerk to notify existing hirers and honour any bookings already in place at the original charge of £15 per hour.

42/16 Asset Register

The asset register was noted. No further items were suggested.

43/16 Haslemere Conservation Area Appraisal

Cllr Round updated the committee on the outcomes of the recent meeting. Issues such as the tall planters, uplighting of trees, bins and benches were discussed.

44/16 Next meeting

11th August 2016

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairman of Amenities