



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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Amenities Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at 6pm on 13 October 2022
Council Chamber, Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere

Chairman	Cllr Peter Nicholson*
Vice Chairman	Cllr Simon Dear*
Councillors	Cole*, Davidson*, Dullaway*, Hewett*, Keen*, Matthes*, Odell, Robini* and Round

*Present

Meeting clerked by: Pippa Auger, Deputy Town Clerk.

35/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The committee accepted the absences of Cllrs Odell & Round (prior arranged meetings).

36/22 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None.

37/22 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held 11 August 2022 were agreed and signed as a true record.

38/22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES NOT OTHERWISE STATED IN THE AGENDA

The Chairman updated the committee on the bell tower survey. Town Hall officers are in receipt of quotes for a structural survey but not for scaffolding or, alternatively, a cherry picker to enable the surveyor to access the bell tower. On receipt and consideration of those quotes, the Clerk and Chairman of Amenities are authorised to progress this matter.

39/22 REPRESENTATIONS BY THE PUBLIC

None.

40/22 LION GREEN COMPLAINTS

The complaints were noted and the committee was advised that a number of measures were being put into place, such as Fringe organisers checking sound levels at Homegreen House.

41/22 LION GREEN AGREEMENT

There were a number of amendments proposed to the Lion Green agreement as it appeared at appendix 3.

5.3 The parking of vehicles and erection of temporary structures by the trees is prohibited. A virtual exclusion zone of the area the spread of the canopy is to be imposed.

As a number of events rely on the space provided under the trees for space and shade it was felt this was an onerous clause which wasn't being adhered to in any event.

RECOMMENDED: this clause be removed.

5.8 In an acknowledgement that Lion Green sits within a residential area, the Licensee will cease all amplified live and recorded music by 9pm Sunday through to Thursday during school term time.

The committee debated this as some length and agreed that it would incorporate this clause into the agreement.

RECOMMENDED: this clause is incorporated into the agreement

6.4 The Licensee must put cancellation insurance in place in the event that the Landowner terminates the licence with immediate effect. Further the Licensee acknowledges that by signing this contract it is taking all steps to indemnify itself against loss of earnings.

Some committee members liked this clause, others felt it would be impossible to insure against an unusual and exceptional decision and such insurance probably didn't exist.

RECOMMENDED: this suggested clause be removed but clause 12 to now read "Either Party may terminate this Agreement immediately by giving notice to the other Party. The liability to each party to not exceed the hire charge of the green for the particular event."

RECOMMENDED: The clerk to ask the Council's solicitor to review the agreement

10.1 The Licensee will arrange for the provision of toilet facilities for any event exceeding a day in length.

Most events do provide toilet facilities for the general public but the committee agreed that for any day to evening, and events exceeding a day in length it was appropriate for the licensee to provide toilet facilities for the public.

RECOMMENDED: this clause is incorporated into the agreement

42/22 CIRCUS COMPLAINT

The committee felt the right course of action had been taken to ask the circus to stop trading during the weekend following Queen Elizabeth II's death. Premiership football matches had been cancelled across the weekend and other local Town Councils had cancelled their events as a mark of respect. The local Operation London Bridge group for Surrey had discussed cancelling events across the county on council owned land in this exceptional circumstance.

The committee felt the offer already made to the circus was fair, and it wasn't prepared to increase it to £1,800 and let the circus have free use of the green next year.

RECOMMENDED: the Council reissues its offer of £900.

43/22 TREE INSPECTIONS

RECOMMENDED: The essential work identified in the tree inspection report for Town Meadow to proceed in the sum of £1,700 and be paid from the Haslemere Community Fund budget.

44/22 TREE WORK REQUESTED BY NEIGHBOURS OF TOWN MEADOW

Councillor Dear put forward an alternative proposal to the recommendation contained in appendix 6 and the committee agreed.

RECOMMENDED: Given the demonstrable harm and inconvenience to neighbouring properties in this particular case the Council offers to pay 50% of the tree surgery work. There is no money in the current budget so it will have to be put into the budget for 23/24. A Council contractor will be instructed by the Council and funds from the residents will have to be paid in advance.

ACTION: Deputy Town Clerk to arrange site visits with contractor and neighbours to obtain quote to put in budget.

45/22 TOWN HALL ELECTRICAL SURVEY

RECOMMENDED: Further quotes are obtained to do the work set out in the survey at appendix 7. On receipt of those quotes, the Clerk and Chairman of Amenities authorised to instruct a contractor.

46/22 NEXT MEETING

1st December 2022

Meeting closed at 6.51pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairman of Amenities