

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Recreation, Amenities and War Memorials Committee** held on Tuesday 17th June 2014 at 7.00pm in the Corn Exchange Complex, Hungerford

Present: Cllrs Small, Farrell, Thompson, Podger, Leach, Bumbieris. Cllr Holmes arrived late)

Also: Ted Angell and Geoff Greenland (HAHA)

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Wilson, Benneyworth and Crane
2. **Declarations of interest.** None
3. **Agreement of minutes of meeting held 20th May 2014.** Cllr Thompson proposed minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Leach, 1 abstention, rest in favour
4. **Allotments - HAHA report on Chairmanship and site meeting.** The new Chair is Geoff Greenland. Accounts have been formally signed off. The general reserve is £1600. It is projected accounts will remain healthy this year as income exceeds expenditure by £1,800 so far. Rent collection is complete for both sites. 2 o/s fees will be collected by instalments. Geoff helped set up HAHA initially. The success of the allotments was noted with a high occupancy of plots. There is a need to continue to pursue other allotment sites as the extension on the lease ending 2016 at Marsh Lane approaches nearer. DPD sites allocation is due by end of year. HAHA are keen to speak with Mr Clothier on future as it is unlikely the site will be built on for long time and HAHA believe can stay there longer without prejudicing plan applications. Ideally a 1 year rolling lease is required. Sites have been identified. Next step is to contact land owners. Cllrs Hudson, Benneyworth and Rupert Thompson will forward notes on the discussion and copy in clerk. **Action:-** Firm up on alternative sites before next R&A. Cllr Thompson to speak to LDF members and put them in touch with Ted. Ted to see if boundary has been moved as neighbour promised.
5. **Triangle Field project update following site visit.** Cllrs Small and Farrell attended a site meeting. Nigel Pateman, John Kingham and Steve Lyford were present. Mins of May were checked through. Cllr Farrell had concerns. Why wasn't the depth of the manhole known? Was contingency figure not set by builders? What has prelims figure been spent on as no safe storage put in place. **Action:** Refer queries to architect. The builders need to give 21 days' notice to Sovereign so legal documents need to be signed by all 3 parties quickly. Cllr Thompson proposed authorised signatories sign, licence, Deed of Grant and Method Statement, seconded by Cllr Farrell, all in favour.
6. **Leases – Cllr Small**
 - **Letter of Licence of Delegation to Community Centre Committee.** Cllr Small needs copy of constitution first. Cllr Podger to look for.
 - **Town & Manor update on partial surrender.** Was agreed in principle but finalising of lease is still outstanding. **Action:** - Clerk to chase.
 - **Croft Field update;** HTC are working towards a lease. Heads of terms are to be agreed first with WBC which needs to include a 5 year break clause. DDA officer Valerie Witten from WBC advised

compliance is moveable as some buildings can't comply. HTC need to have a 5 year plan for DDA improvements. One reason T&M didn't pursue is because a 99 year lease is not allowed under charity law. HTC do not want to see it developed into housing. It should continue to be open space for the town. A users meeting is being set up to find out demand and Cllr Leach has prepared a survey. A surveyor is compiling a list of improvements. DDA improvements could include hard standing/ramp/disabled toilet. Fire and health & safety need looking at. **Next steps:** prioritise building works at a working party meeting and pursue costings. Hard copies of surveys should be made available. Perhaps hold an open day to publicise the building. Speak to Canal River Trust regards opening the gate to the canal tow path.

7. **Report following Swimming Pool House site meeting.** Roger Ballard, Cllr Thompson and Warren Scarlett met on site. The car park, drive and fence need repair. The turning circle is a mess. Quote received for Swimming pool house drive of £4k, 2nd quote £3,400 + VAT, 3rd quote on its way. Car park resurface will cost around £6k. At present the fence is double skin (wire mesh one side and wooden on the other). Consider one solid fence however this could invite graffiti. Are grants available for skate park fence? **Action:** Contact Playground Services & Warefencing for fence prices. The edge of tarmac along the War memorial Avenue also needs looking at.
8. **Signs requested for Tragedy Garden.** **Action:** Cllr Thompson to investigate by-laws to see if they would support NO BALL GAMES signs.
9. **Bridge St War Memorial area**
 - **paving maintenance.** It was agreed to proceed with repairs needed as the present a trip hazard and also to power wash to rid of weeds and moss which are slippery.
 - **consider inscription.** RBL suggested another soldier's name should be inscribed on the memorial.**Action:** Cllr Holmes will find out if he was a resident. What about others? Cllr Benneyworth to investigate and take to WW1 memorial meeting.
10. **Bulpit Park playground equipment maintenance- Proposal of expenditure** Quite a lot of work needs doing to play equipment at Bulpit Lane. Comparative quotes are being sought. **Action:** - Cllr Farrell to have a site visit to look at the piece of equipment which has been quoted at £7K to replace.
11. **St Saviour's Cemetery**
 - **Cemetery fees review:** Round up by inflation and then to nearest 0 or 5 and bring to next meeting.
 - **Request for memorial miniature flowering cherry.** Request agreed, to be planted in meadow area
 - **Cemetery Management Software.** Find out more information and another quote.
 - **Tree safety as St Savours and annual tree audit.** Get quotes, approach local contractors.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm