

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

The Mayor
Cllr Martin Crane OBE
28 Cottrell Close
Hungerford
Berkshire
RG17 0HF
Tel: 01488 684804
martincrane41@sky.com
www.hungerford-tc.gov.uk



The Town Clerk
Mrs Claire Barnes
The Library
Church Street
Hungerford
Berkshire RG17 0JG
Tel: 01488 686195
townclerk@hungerford-tc.gov.uk

MINUTES of the Recreation, Amenities and War Memorials Committee held on Tuesday 18th April 2017 at 7.00pm in the Corn Exchange Complex, Hungerford

Present: Cllrs Small, Brookman, Winsor, Bumbieris, Crane, Knight and Wood
Also present- Ted Angell and Geoff Greenland (HAHA).

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Simpson and Farrell
- 2. Declarations of interest.** Cllr Knight (Friends of Hungerford Library), Cllr Crane (Allotments), Cllrs Small, Knight and Winsor (TFMC - Triangle Field Management Committee)
- 3. Agreement of minutes of meeting held on 21st March 2017.** Cllr Small proposed version 2 of the minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Knight, all in favour.

- **Update on actions – Action:** Cllr Small will speak with the Deputy Clerk to agree a shortened version of the TORS. The Rugby Club have signed the Floodlight agreement but only have 3 trustees rather than 4. All agreed that this was acceptable. To do list – **Actions** - Town Clerk to: - obtain a quote for a replacement safety surface for the roundabout at Smitham Bridge. Chase up maintenance man for repairs to the Triangle Field doors now weather has improved. Arrange for gaps around safety surfaces to be infilled with turf/top soil. Obtain quote for repointing of St Saviour's wall. Chase up draft lease for Tennis Court from Sarah House.

4. Hungerford Allotment Holders Association – Thanks were given for the new lease at Marsh Lane however the signed lease has not been received yet. **Action:** Cllr Crane to chase M Norgate.

HAHA have painted the container, applied for a certificate of lawfulness for the compost toilet and will apply for a £5k grant. The new toilet will save £1400 a year on portaloos costs. The compost toilet can be moved if required.

Fairfields allotments currently have 4 empty plots. At Marsh lane two/three plot lettings have been made this week. **Action:** Town Clerk to chase Alex Swan at Sovereign for response to HAHA's concerns over the Ash trees that are very large, leaning at an angle and producing seedlings. Fairfields rent was due 1/4/17 and HAHA are dealing with late payers. Marsh Lane rent is due 1st May, invoices and new tenancy agreements, with new date, have been issued. The annual accounts have been handed to the Town Clerk for auditing. HAHA has protected their reserves by keeping their expenses down in line with their reduced income.

HAHA were disappointed in WBC agreeing to the 100 houses as they hoped to get a permanent site at Marsh Lane. Will HTC pursue the permanent allotment site offer under clause 83? Will HTC support the calling in of the decision or be encouraging another planning application to HUN011? Have developers included allotments in their plans? **Action:** Clarify what is proposed by the planners for the recreation area.

There is a link in Penny Post promoting the allotment plots but not yet in the resident's handbook distributed by Estate Agents.

HAHA planned events are as follows:-

3rd June – Plant Sale

4th July – AGM, 8pm British Legion – Councillors welcome

15th July – Marsh Lane open afternoon

19th August – Royal British Legion & HAHA handicraft show

Clause 6a of the Heads of Agreement, allows flexibility on how often HAHA should report to HTC. HAHA would like to change their attendance at the R&A meeting from once a month to every quarter, where they will provide a short report against the Heads of Agreement. This was agreed by all and it was suggested HAHA attend the June, Sept, Dec and March, R&A meetings. Ted Angell is standing down from HAHA and was thanked for his work.

- 5. Triangle Field – Consideration of outside gym** – Brochures were handed around giving an indication of the prices of the gym stations and what is available. Installation costs are in addition, no safety surface is required but quarterly maintenance checks would be needed. **Action:** Clerk to ask other Town Councils if the gym equipment has proved popular. To obtain grants, a demand/need should be identified and market research should be carried out. Opinions of the public are required. The equipment would be for age 14 upwards and for any ability. Signage would be required to this effect. Cllr Wood is interested in helping with this project and can advise what equipment would be preferable. **Action:** Cllr Small to take this to TFMC as next step.
- 6. Croft Field Centre – Update on improvements** – Some improvements to the shower leaks have been made. Building regs have been received for the garden room and planning permission has been granted. **Action:** Town Clerk to invite tenders for building work using the Contracts Finder website and will send a copy of building regs to C Broughton (WBC). The Town Clerk has applied for a £4k grant. Centre is well used. **Action:** Put review of prices on next agenda. Cllr Farrell is putting together sketches of ideas for restructuring the internal layout of the Croft Field Activity Centre. This includes entering into a front hall with access from there to both main halls. The store room would be altered slightly and a disabled wet room included in the new layout.
- 7. Library –Update from FOHL and Working Party meetings** – A library working party meeting took place today. **Action:** Town Clerk to chase Paul James on unanswered questions on the asset transfer. 4 trustees have signed up and to set up the CIO will take 2 months. WBC is looking to set up new working models from July. It is anticipated that Hungerford will take longer, (anticipated timescale Sept/Oct) and we need to seek clarity on how the interim period will work.
Update on the re-siting of Hungerford Post Office – The post office is closing on 21st April. The outreach service is due to start on Tuesday 25th April in the small room in the Library building. The Town Clerk has been chasing the Post Office ltd for advertising of the change in service and venue. This is supposed to happen in the next day or so. **Action:** Town Clerk to put up poster and chase for signage.
Action: Cllr Crane will speak to the estate agenda to find out details of the new tenancy at Martin McColl's.
- 8. Youth & Community Centre – Tennis Court lease renewal update** – **Action:** Town Clerk to chase up draft lease from WBC legal department. We have requested removal of the existing break clause.
- 9. Consideration of allowance of burial plot reservations and associated fees** – A new computer system to record the graves is in the process of being set up. Can it cope with reservations? Do we wish to allow reservations for interments/and or cremations? What

would the revised fee be? After lengthy discussion and based on previous experience it was decided that the HTC would **not** allow reservations of any type unless there are very exceptional circumstances. Reservations create complications both administratively and practically. **Action:** Check that the regulations reflect this decision and amend if necessary.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Date.