

BRACKNELL TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
26th January 2016

Present: Chairman: Cllr. Clive Harrison.
Cllrs: Diane Finch, Sandra Ingham,, Mark Phillips, Paula-Elizabeth Pooler
Michael Skinner, Mary Temperton, Jo Woodcock.
Co-Opted Cllrs: Roger Meakes (Sub)
Apologies: Cllr: Ash Merry.
In Attendance R Reeve TC, Burgess OSM, A Moffat RFM.

The Meeting opened at 7.30pm and closed at 8.45pm

- 1232 **Declarations of Interest**
None
- 1233 **Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Services Committee held on 20th October were proposed by Cllr Mark Phillips and seconded by Cllr Mary Temperton as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
- 1234 **Matters Arising not to be considered elsewhere on the Agenda**
1153 – Street naming – The process for Street naming for the Town Centre had been completed, and further names (trees and sea areas) had been added to the Names Bank, providing sufficient names for now.
1165 – Football Summit – The minutes of the last two meetings to be circulated.
- 1235 **2016/17 budget/ fees and charges**
The Committee recommended that the fees and charges for 2016/17 as listed, with an average increase of 2%, be recommended for adoption by Full Council.
- 1236 **Pavilion rebuild – Great Hollands**
Progress was being made towards securing a design/ construction supervision team. Funding was being sorted and the result of an application to Sport England towards a grant was awaited.
- 1237 **Softball baseball – Great Hollands**
Approval for playing this game adjacent to the cricket ground at Great Hollands park was given. with the hope it will become a permanent fixture at Great Hollands.
- 1238 **Parafit – Great Hollands**
Terms for allowing Great Hollands park to be used for ‘bootcamp’ style fitness sessions run by Parafit were agreed. It was proposed to allow May, June and July for free on the grass, but then charge court hire after that for five months, for six months useage during the first year.
- 1239 **Park Run – Great Hollands**
The Park Run was continuing to be very popular on Saturday mornings. Grounds staff had taken further steps to alleviate recent muddy conditions through more wood chip and some drainage, and also reminded runners to be considerate to dog walkers. Councillors did have some concerns that the ground is being worn away and tree roots are being exposed which the RFM will investigate. It was also felt that it was the runners with buggies who were causing the damage to the ground during the wet weather – the organisers to be told to ban buggies during wet conditions.
- 1240 **South Hill Park (SHP)**
An offer had been had been made to SHP outlining the terms for allowing some controlled parking on the North field for a large event being scheduled at the end of July.
Remedial works to the sides of SHP North Lake were still being investigated, together with funding a solution to the erosion. Thames Water have had contractors visit to estimate the cost of the repairs.
The MIF funded trees being provided by Cllrs Heydon and Iain McCracken were to be planted Thursday at North Lake.
Armed Forces Day was agreed, with use of the North Field on 25th June 2016.
- 1241 **Mill Pond**
Remedial works had been completed on the path near the inlet from Great Hollands and the RFM was pleased to report that the new bins were working well.
McDonalds were still looking at the entrance traffic flow, but timing of action was uncertain as they are also looking to further revamp the restaurant. Councillors were concerned that if the restaurant changed to a ‘cook to order’ restaurant this could exacerbate the traffic problems.

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BTC had provided disabled parking bays and signs denoting 'in' and 'out' for our BTC car park.

Proludic had agreed to replace the two broken pieces of equipment at Mill Pond.

It was noted McDonalds had been given permission to run an Easter Egg hunt event again, around Mill Park.

1242 Bracknell in Bloom (BIB)

Early plans for 2016 were to focus on again achieving 'gold', and to again aim to represent the Region in the RHS National Competition in 2017.

1243 Jocks Lane facilities - Tennis

The tennis lighting and surfacing was complete, together with a water supply for the railway but with a few elements such as a drinking fountain still to be sorted.

BTC was implementing the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Clubspark computer system, to provide an online bookings and payments system for tennis - initially at Jocks Lane but also planning to do so later at Great Hollands. Some LTA assistance was being provided with funding both computer system and door entry system to the courts. A more formal tennis coaching scheme at Jocks Lane was being tendered for, so generating extra BTC income and ensuring the appointment of coaching team provider(s) that are appropriately qualified.

The facility would operate from April, with an official opening during the Woodland Event on 17th April.

1244 Jocks Lane facilities - Other

The installation of the Thames Water pipeline at the end of the Cut was completed at the end of October. Thames Water contractors have re-seeded the grass area and planted the three mature trees as was required.

Crazy golf – following receipt of the design suggestions from Fusion workshops, grounds staff were planning to build some of these designs as a project in the coming weeks.

Café: improvements had been made to the café layout and new furniture ordered, to make this more attractive and appealing. The café will be selling Mr Whippy ice cream in future.

1245 Other Play areas

The 'Hedgehog' themed item of play equipment had been recently installed at Hedgehog Park.

Proposals had been obtained from suppliers for improvements at both Stoney Road and Yardley, prior to consultation now planned. Yardley will be aimed at children under the age of 7.

Concerns were raised over the location and safety of the large slide at Birch Hill. The RFM is looking at lifting and moving the slide away from the Cedar Tree and also will be looking at ways to make the climb up to the slide safe but interesting.

Home Farm – The RFM will investigate planting some Willow trees at Home Farm.

Jurassic Park – The RFM was asked if the end of the slide could be made longer. RFM reported that it would be better to extend the rubber area at the end of the slide.

Plans for 2016/17 had been included within the 2016/17 budget submission, with a continuing focus on remedial works for existing play areas, and further re-surfacing.

BTC had had a positive outcome from the annual playground external inspections, with findings presented to the workforce.

Cllrs asked about the recent reports on the news about play equipment and lead paint. The RFM reported that the Town Council has not used lead based paint for many years, and in fact used water based paint. Councillors suggested that this information be put on the Town Council website.

1246 Brooke House

A response was awaited for building improvements in Brooke House.

1247 Clean for the Queen Event.

BTC would be leading the national 'Clean for the Queen' campaign in Bracknell, with mass litter picking on the weekend of 12/13th March. The TC and RFM are hoping that McDonalds will sponsor the event. BFC and BFH are both involved and it is hoped to start at various locations around the town and work in towards SHP finishing there with the litter collected for a photo opportunity. Once the day and times have been finalised information will be sent out to Councillors and put on the Town Council website.

1248 Other

The **Woodland Activities** day was being scheduled for 17th April, to align with the RHS launch date for 2016 'In Bloom'.

The Scouts had made good progress in moving to their Ringmead site, leased from BTC, with ground works complete, and fitting out of the building and landscaping well progressed. The opening will be on 23rd April 2016. The Scouts wished to thank BTC for all their help and also to ask if they can use the open space for the opening.

Fishing at Jeans Pond – the first 'Fishing Club' committee meeting had been held, and good progress made on club formation, with committee members being identified.

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Date of next meeting – 12th April 2016 at 7.30 pm

Signed

Dated