

BRACKNELL TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th October 2017

Present: Chairman: Cllr. Clive Harrison.
Cllrs: Gill Birch, Sandra Ingham, Paula-Elizabeth Pooler,
Mary Temperton and Jo Woodcock.
Apologies: Cllrs: Diane Finch, Roger Meakes and Michael Skinner.
In Attendance J Burgess TC, A Moffat RFM, L Boorman FAO.

The Meeting opened at 7.32pm and closed at 8.40pm

1892 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

1893 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Services Committee held on the 25th July 2017 were proposed for agreement by Cllr Gill Birch and seconded by Cllr Sandra Ingham. These were agreed as a true record of the meeting and then signed by the Chairman.

1894 **Matters Arising not to be considered elsewhere on the Agenda**

1751 – Sandy Lane School is yet to be contacted in regards to involvement in the wall mural at Braybrooke.

1813 – Apprenticeships have been put on hold until the return of the ARFM.

1816 – Birch Hill Pre School have settled in well and councillors have been invited to the official opening the following week.

1818 – It was confirmed BTC are happy with the 6ft solid fence works carried out at Larges Lane Cemetery.

1819 – Praise and thanks were given for the prevent works carried out to deter unauthorised encampments.

1821 – The Gymnastic Club at South Road are pushing ahead with their planning application submitted yesterday. It was confirmed the Gymnastic Club will cover the costs for our solicitor to prepare the lease contracts.

1822 – The proposed firework display by the Pines School has been cancelled.

1824 - Appreciation was given for the prompt response of the cutting back of overgrown foliage at Crowthorne Road Allotments.

1825 – Appreciation was given for the prompt response of the cutting back of foliage at Dryden Woods.

1895 **Bracknell in Bloom**

An update was given that Bracknell received a Silver Gilt certificate and a 1st in Category at the awards event on 28th September. A Silver Gilt was also received in the parks category for Mill Park and Jocks Lane; this has first time Jocks Lane has been entered. Next year Bracknell can look at different categories such as the town centre category to enter now the Lexicon has opened.

The Your Gardens Gala evening is scheduled to be held on 25th October 2017 at Bracknell and Wokingham College. An update was given on Bracknell Your Gardens Competition.

Councillors gave thanks for all the hard work undertaken to achieve these awards and suggested a breakfast morning was held in thanks for Bracknell Town Council staff and Bracknell Forest Homes staff involved as gratitude for their hard work.

Officers Report

1896 **Potential patch of Japanese Knotweed** – The Town Council were notified of a potential area of Japanese Knotweed. A specialist company visited the area and have professionally controlled the Japanese Knotweed. NOTED.

1897 **Cycle Path** – BFBC have approached BTC regarding a potential cycle route through Jocks Lane at no cost to BTC. After a discussion in which councillors aired their views it was agreed that on the provision of clear signage and a clear divide on the path for cyclists and pedestrians councillors were happy to proceed with the cycle route. AGREED.

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- 1898 **Jocks Lane – The Cut** – An update of works being carried out to install 10 new fishing platforms; two of these will be suitable for people with disabilities. Further work will be carried out later in the year to install a ramp to make access to the accessible platforms easier. Trees will also be trimmed and work will be carried out on the water flow. Funding for this work has been obtained through a grant from the Angling Trust for the fishing Platforms and the Environment Agency for the improvement to the habitat. Councillors gave thanks to the Environment Wardens on working on this project and pulling all this work together. NOTED.
- 1899 **Works at Harmans Water/ Great Hollands** – Following the unauthorised encampments during the summer further works have been carried out at Harmans Water and Great Hollands Recreation Ground. The grounds staff have recycled the material from the new Depot build at Great Hollands to build bunds at both sites. These areas have now been planted up and will eventually become a pleasing feature of the area. Further bulbs to be planted at Great Hollands in relation to the 50th Anniversary of Great Hollands. NOTED.
- 1900 **Events** – Three Summer of Fun activity days went well if were rather damp, residents still attended in support and appreciation of Bracknell Town Council. Councillors were all in favour of continuing the Summer of Fun Events, Teddy Bears Picnic and the Woodland Day events. A new community working group is to be formed to discuss options for wet weather plan during these events. AGREED.
- 1901 **Volunteers** – Staff from Bracknell Hilton helped to dig the new shrub and tree beds along the front edge of North Lake along Ringmead. These beds will help to stop any unauthorised vehicles gaining access to North Lake whilst keeping the area open to all. S106 monies will be investigated for contribution towards these works.
GE Power staff will be helping at Great Hollands in cutting back the rhododendrons. The rhododendrons are an invasive non-native plant that harms the area by destroying habitat for native wildlife. The rhododendrons will be cleared back to allow other shrubs to compete for light and space. NOTED.
- 1902 **Great Hollands Bowls Club Meeting** – The Town Clerk, Recreational Facilities Manager and Cllr Mrs I Mattick met with Interim Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the Great Hollands Bowls Club. The Interim Committee will be in place until the Great Hollands Bowls Club AGM in November. The meeting was very positive and allowed both sides to update each other on matters in hand. Work will start towards a new lease after the Clubs AGM. It was agreed that the RFM would send a schedule of maintenance to the Club and during the playing seasons there would be regular meetings (6/8 weeks) between the RFM and the Club. NOTED
- 1903 **Small Grant Application**
Crown Wood and Forest Park Good Neighbours Scheme have applied for a small grant application. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that subject to the Town Clerk verify the number of Bracknell Town Council residents the grant be approved . *After meeting note Crown Wood + Harmans Water + Birch Hill + Hanworth = 64%, and Forest Park - 36% Grant approved*
- 1904 **Items of Interest**
Cllr Sandra Ingham raised information of BTC parks having wireless internet. This matter is to be put forward to the new Community working group.

Date of next meeting – 23rd January 2018 on 7.30pm at Council Chamber Brooke House

Signed

Dated