



# Bracknell Town Council

## Environmental Services Committee Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

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| Date      | Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2024   |
| Time      | 19:32 - 20:30   |
| Location  | Council Chamber   |
| Present   | Councillors: Ellen MacHale, Helen Purnell (Sub), Mary Temperton, Jenny Penfold (Sub), Ryan Frost, Donna Sidebotham (Sub), Kathleen Nugent, Simon Carter, Graham Firth (Sub), Imara Wright, Lucy Young |
| Apologies | Jeffrey Gillbe, Gerry Webb, Janet Cochrane, Jodie Watts, Caroline Egglestone  |
| Officers  | Rachel Gordge   |

## Minutes

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### ES1/24 ATTENDANCE

Apologies received from Councillors Jeffrey Gillbe, Gerry Webb, Janet Cochrane, Jodie Watts and Caroline Egglestone. The following Councillors attended as substitutes: Councillors Graham Firth, Helen Purnell, Donna Sidebotham and Jenny Penfold.

### ES2/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

### ES3/24 MINUTES

The minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 were proposed for approval as a correct record by Councillor Mary Temperton and seconded by Councillor Imara Wright APPROVED

### ES4/24 MATTERS ARISING

ES28/23 - Mill Park Access Road – McDonald's are assessing the access road and then will confirm a date to meet. When a date is confirmed Councillor Carter and Nugent will be informed to attend the meeting.

ES1038 - Birch Hill Toilets – The door is being replaced on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January as the last part of the handover of the toilets. Once this is done the damage to the décor will be assessed. Councillors would like the provision of CCTV cameras and signage to be investigated at this site and would like a report back at the next meeting.

### ES5/24 CLERK'S REPORT

To note the following updates from the Town Clerk:

- South Berkshire Hockey Club – A proposal has been received from the sub-tenant which will be taken for discussion to the next Strategy and Finance Committee meeting. The Committee would like to recommend that the Strategy and Finance Committee are open to all lease applications

- SHP Food Festival – SHP have been offered the use of North Lake for parking at the event and are looking for parking marshals. It was confirmed that the event is now being run by the arts centre and not the catering company. It was proposed by Councillor Kathleen Nugent that BTC support the event by making a financial donation. This was seconded by Councillor Lucy Young and will be requested at the next Strategy and Finance Committee **APPROVED**
- Cross Country Event – The event will take place at Great Hollands on the 8th of February 2024 and will include local schools. Parking marshals will be in place to assist and the Lead Environment Warden and Pavilion Supervisor will be on site.
- Funfair – A green clause has been added to the Funfair contracts regarding less usage of single-use plastics. The dates of the fairs are 2<sup>nd</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April (7<sup>th</sup> May start if poor weather) and 14<sup>th</sup> July. A letter stating all dates will be delivered to residents by Councillors at the beginning of March.
- Decarbonisation Grant - our energy consultant is continuing to work on compiling data on our sites in anticipation of the next Decarbonisation Grant becoming available
- School Trip - 22 Year 6 students from St Michael's Easthampstead to learn about the changing landscape of Bracknell on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February
- Arson at Jocks Lane Recreation Ground – The large climber at Jocks Lane was set alight on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. The Town Clerk is meeting with the insurance company to discuss a replacement.
- Break in Mill Park Boathouse – There was a break-in at Mill Park but only managed to access a trimmer and a blower. There is damage to the shutter and this will need to be replaced. The Town Clerk is working with the police and Insurance company to resolve this.

#### **ES6/24 ONGOING PROJECTS**

The following completed and ongoing projects were NOTED:

- Hedgehog Corridor at Ringmead has been completed
- Solar panels have been installed at Jocks Lane
- The boiler has been replaced at Jocks Lane
- Installation of play area at Ullswater
- Repairs to Yardley are complete

The following projects are ongoing:

- Pump Track Consultation - to be held at Mill Park at a Skateboarding Competition to encourage responses from a range of residents
- Clearing Crowthorne Road Allotments
- Guttering and fascias at Jocks Lane are being replaced
- Arson damage at Jocks Lane is being assessed by the Insurance Company
- Work is underway on a five-year plan for play area refurbishment
- New boilers for Braybrooke and Birch Hill are being researched
- Biodiversity Audit/Biodiversity Action Plan is being quoted

**ES7/24 BIODIVERSITY STATEMENT**

The Environmental Services Committee reviewed the Biodiversity Statement and Councillor Mary Temperton proposed that the adoption of the document be recommended to Full Council. This was seconded by Councillor Kath Nugent APPROVED

**ES8/24 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER VISIT**

The PCC is visiting BTC on Friday 16th February in the afternoon, to see the benefits of the Youth Work Grant awarded in August 2023 was NOTED  
Councillors were invited to attend.

**ES9/24 FOOD TRUCK REQUESTS**

The requests to operate food trucks out of the car parks at North Lake and Jocks Lane were reviewed thoroughly. The Committee refused the requests at both sites due to the following reasons:

- Use of valuable parking spaces in busy car parks, especially North Lake as it is a smaller facility
- Increased litter beyond caterers' control
- Impact on local residents concerning noise and smell
- Jocks Lane car park is locked after the last booking

**ES10/24 METAL DETECTING PERMITS**

The request from a resident asking BTC to review the metal-detecting policy on green spaces was discussed. After a thorough discussion on the topic, it was proposed by Councillor Mary Temperton that the request be rejected and a Bracknell Town Council policy be created rejecting all future metal detecting requests on all BTC sites. This was seconded by Councillor Ellen MacHale. A vote took place, and 3 Councillors abstained. 4 Councillors voted to reject the request for metal-detecting and 3 Councillors voted to allow metal-detecting. The motion to reject metal-detecting on BTC sites was APPROVED and all future metal-detecting requests will be rejected on BTC sites moving forward.

**ES11/24 TENNIS REQUEST**

The proposal to take over the ball courts at Great Hollands Recreation Ground was discussed. After a thorough discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Mary Temperton that the request be rejected due to the following reasons:

- The court is and should remain a community facility
- The prices currently charged for use are controlled by BTC to ensure that it is accessible to all and having private management could mean that prices may not be affordable for all families
- The facility is used by schools and local organisations

This was seconded by Councillor Lucy Young and the motion to reject the request was APPROVED unanimously

## **ES12/24 COMMUNITY EVENTS WORKING GROUP**

The completed and upcoming events were NOTED  
Completed Events since the last meeting:

- 29th September McMillan Coffee Morning
- 1st October Silver Sunday
- 12th November Remembrance Parade

Upcoming Events:

- 6th June 2024 80th Anniversary of D-Day
- 8th & 9th June 2024 SHP Food Festival
- 23rd June 2024 Community and Culture Event celebrating 75 years of Bracknell New Town
- Potential June 2024 Teddy Bears' Picnic
- 29th June 2024 Armed Forces Day
- 13th July Pride Event
- 7th August 2024 Summer of Fun
- 28th August 2024 Summer of Fun
- 3rd September 2024 Merchant Navy Day
- 27th/28th/29th September 2024 MacMillan Coffee Morning
- 6th October 2024 Silver Sunday
- 25th October 2024 100 years of the War Memorial
- 10th November 2024 Remembrance Parade

## **ES13/24 CARBON REDUCTION WORKING GROUP**

The Carbon Reduction Plan 2024 was NOTED

An update from the Working Group was NOTED

- BTC has reduced the year-on-year CO<sub>2</sub> emissions since 2017 by 6.17%
- Research is being done into third-party energy usage for suppliers

## **ES14/24 CIL**

- To CIL report was NOTED
- It was requested that the addition of more high seating in BTC areas be moved into the APPROVED section at the next Strategy and Finance Committee meeting. *After-meeting note: As each bench comes to the end of its life, it is replaced with higher seating, so this item is managed through the street furniture budget and can be removed from the CIL report*
- New ideas were discussed:
  - More equipment suited to teenagers for Braybrooke Rec
  - Trim Trails (easy-to-use equipment)
  - A Consultation could be held at Garth Hill College (via Councillor Anna Keen) and Braybrooke to see what type of equipment is desired by the relevant age group with a choice of:

- Electronic equipment similar to Cantley Play Area (can a video be shown at the next meeting)
- Trim Trail
- Older play equipment similar to the high rotator

**ES15/24 WORK START AND COMPLETED**

To work started and completed was NOTED and the team were thanked for all their hard work

**Proposed date of the next Meeting: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 at 7.30 pm Council Chamber  
Brooke House**

Sign:

Date: