

- Present: The Chairman, Councillor Mrs J Wood
The Vice Chairman, Councillor D Clenshaw
The Mayor, Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor S Gawrysiak
Councillor Mrs J Bland
Councillor Miss S Evans
Councillor Miss K Gehrman
Councillor I Reissmann
Councillor D Silvester
- In attendance: Mrs N Taylor – Senior Committee Administrator
Mrs B Walker – Committee Administrator/Minute Taker
- Also Present: 4 members of the public
1 member of the press

75. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

77. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Ms Maggie Atkinson, Queen Street spoke in support of Councillor S Gawrysiak's initiative "Music on the Meadows" and believed it would be a great community event and would provide an excellent opportunity to showcase the artistic skills of the youth of the town. It was also hoped it could lead to, and encourage, further activities eg master classes, art and instrumental workshops for the young being developed.

Councillor Mrs J Bland arrived at 7.38 pm.

78. MINUTES

- i. The minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 12 February 2013 were approved and then signed by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs J Wood as true record.
- ii. The Committee received and considered the minutes of the Henley in Bloom/Civic Pride Sub Committee held on 19 February 2013.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the minutes of the Henley in Bloom/Civic Pride Sub Committee held on 19 February 2013 be received, approved and adopted.

- iii. The Committee received and considered the notes of the Jubilee Park User Group held on 27 February 2013.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the notes of the Jubilee Park User Group held on 27 February 2013 be received, approved and adopted.

- iv. The Committee received and considered the minutes of the Christmas Events and Decorations Sub Committee held on 12 March 2013.

Minute 91 – page 2 – a member asked for clarification as to which budget the expenditure of £2,640 for the replacement of tree lights was coming from. The Chairman confirmed clarification would be sought from the Accountant and members would be advised by email.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that, with the addition of Councillor Miss S Evans to the list of those present, the minutes of the Christmas Events and Decorations Sub Committee held on 12 March 2013 be received, approved and adopted.

79. MAKINS WHEELED SPORTS FACILITY WORKING GROUP

- i. The Committee received and considered the minutes of the second Henley Skatepark Working Group meeting held on 21 February 2013 and during discussion the following points relating to the report were made:-
- following concerns regarding the name of the group it was confirmed the group had re-considered the name however felt the term “wheeled sports” did encapsulate the range of users of eg bmx, bikes, scooters and skateboards, .
 - funding/match funding for the facility by the Town Council may need to be considered in the future
 - this could be a flagship project for the Town Council and officer expertise should be provided as required
 - the research in the report was recognised as detailed and thorough and the Working Group should be congratulated
 - it was noted the report covered a wide-ranging discussion and these would be narrowed down in due course
 - evidence of tenure is required to apply for Sport England’s Inspired Funding – it was questioned whether this would be in place were the proposed facility to be increased in size
 - the timetable for funding and construction was queried

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the minutes of the Henley Skatepark Working Group meeting held on 21 February 2013 be received, approved and adopted.

ii. The Committee received and noted an email supporting the project.

80. BUDGET

The Committee received and noted the budget report to February 2013.

81. CHARGES FOR PERMANENT MOORINGS 2013 – 2014

The Committee received, considered and noted a report proposing the annual rent for the White Hart and River Terrace moorings be reduced from £2,800 to £2,400 per annum plus vat for 2013 – 14. This proposal is put forward by the Town Council Accountant with the aim to retain moorers and to remain competitive in light of below budget occupancy rates, despite extensive advertising.

The Committee noted nearby moorings provided by Sorbonne Estates are charged at £2,800 plus vat, have improved walkways and provide both water and electricity. It was suggested investigations be made into not only reducing prices but also increasing the facilities the Town Council moorings offer.

The Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the Town Council agreed the reduction in charges for permanent moorings at White Hart and River Terrace to £2,400 + vat per annum (from £2,800 + vat) for 2013 – 14.

that investigations be made into the viability of increasing the facilities the Town Council offers on the moorings and a report be taken to the Mill Meadows and River Sub Committee.

82. PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee received and noted the progress report and made the following comments:-

A Sculpture in Henley (Mermaid) – the Committee was advised the proposed date for installation is Thursday 6 June 2013 (to be confirmed). It was suggested a ceremony/reception be held marking the receipt and installation of the statue and also marking the refurbishment of Red Lion Lawn – the Town Clerk to be asked for his comments which will be reported back to this Committee. The day of installation would be appropriate as the sculptor, Amaryllis Dierks, and representatives from Koh-i-Noor will be in Henley.

Park Service Compost Area – the Committee noted planning permission had been given for the access onto the Reading Road.

Mill Meadows Management Plan – the Committee noted the plan is available on the Town Council's website

Horticultural Contract – the Committee noted the Park Manager had carried out the two year review of the Horticultural Contract by Windowflowers and was happy with the standard of provision. The Contract will continue to run until 2016.

83. MUSIC ON THE MEADOWS

The Committee received and noted a report produced by Councillor S Gawyrsiak seeking permission from the Town Council for a proposed free community music event to be held on Mill Meadows on Saturday 1 June 2013 (or Saturday 20 July 2013 should weather/ground conditions necessitate its postponement).

The idea for the event had stemmed from a letter in the Henley Standard from James Lambert regarding a memorial to George Harrison and the suggestion that Mrs Olivia Harrison may support a community musical event. Councillor Mrs J Bland requested it be minuted that the original request to have a memorial to George Harrison had been hers and James Lambert had followed it up. It was confirmed no approach had been made to date to Mrs Harrison with regard to this event.

The following points were made during discussions:-

- the Town Council had a policy on granting permission for use of Mill Meadows and an exception would need to be made for this event.
- the majority of the organisation would be carried out by an Organising Committee
- certain aspects have to be dealt with concerning the conditions of the Entertainment Licence, application for a licence to collect money for charity, licence to sell alcohol etc
- the full costs are not yet known but the event will be self- funding and will not be funded by the Town Council
- programmes will be sold for £1
- discussions with the tenant of the Henley Piazza should take place to ensure their support and involvement
- the event to be covered by the Town Council's insurance policy

Post Meeting note: clarification is being sought with regard to the insurance implications.

The Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that permission be given for Music on the Meadows - a free music event for the community of Henley on Thames to take place at Mill Meadows on Saturday 1 June 2013 between 2 – 10 pm subject to the following conditions/details to be monitored by the Town Clerk:-

- a. **full details of the event being submitted to the Town Clerk**
- b. **a Risk Assessment being submitted to the Town Clerk**
- c. **the organizing Committee to arrange the entertainment.**
- d. **adequate marshalling to be provided by the organizers. This will be by professional SIA approved marshals and local organisations**
- e. **first Aid to be provided by the organisers**
- f. **it is a free music event for the community of Henley on Thames**
- g. **setting up will be from 10 am. The event will take place during the hours 2 - 10 pm. 10pm close.**

- h. neighbouring residents and businesses be informed prior to the event**
- i. the entertainers to use the bandstand with speakers either side.**
- j. food vendors and the Bar to be situated near the car park hedge – subject to the agreement of the Park Manager.**
- k. the area to be left clean and tidy on the evening with all litter to be collected by the organizers and removed from site.**
- l. police and emergency services to be informed of the event.**
- m. all necessary licences to be obtained from the relevant local authority. Food licences to be provided by the vendors.**
- n. the Parks Services have a responsibility to manage and preserve the Council’s green spaces and to ensure they are not subjected to any activity that may be detrimental. Consequently they have the authority to insist that any activity be modified to prevent damage and to preserve health and safety to the general public using the general area.**
- o. the Parks Services will also monitor sound levels in line with the Town Council’s Entertainment Licence requirements**
- p. the Town Council to have the final say as to whether the event can take place re the ground conditions. This decision to be taken by Mr G Bartle, Parks Services Manager by Friday 24 May 2013.**

that if the event on 1 June 2013 has to be cancelled due to the conditions on the Meadows it will be re-scheduled to take place on 20 July 2013 with the above conditions

that additional staffing costs of the Park Services be covered by the event organisers.

84. RED LION LAWN

The Committee received and considered a report by the Town Clerk regarding the possible commercial use of Red Lion Lawn and made the following comments:-

- strong concern was expressed that access must be maintained for members of the public at all times
- the area is small and structures may not be appropriate
- usage could be restricted to specific times/days
- mooring licences have been offered for this year and any use will need to be compatible with this
- all possibilities should explored in detail before a decision is made
- the commercial use of the area may reduce anti-social use of the area

The Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the Town Clerk be asked to carry out further investigation into the possible commercial use of the area 2014 onwards, ensuring public access at all times, and a further report be brought back to this Committee.

85. TREE POLICY

The Committee received and considered an amendment to the Tree Policy proposed by the Park Service Manager as part of the policy's biannual review and **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the Tree Policy be amended with the following words being added to the last sentence under the section on Tree Felling on page 6 of the document "*unless the tree is covered by a TPO. This will cause a tree to be planted in place of the felled tree*"

86. FAIRMILE CEMETERY – MEMORIAL TO SIR FRANK CRISP

The Committee received and considered a report regarding the memorial to Sir Frank Crisp located at the Fairmile Cemetery which is in a state of disrepair.

The Committee discussed whether the Town Council should fund its repair as the "Exclusive Rights of Burial" has expired and the following comments were made:-

- Sir Frank Crisp, as well as building Friar Park, contributing to the building of church now known as Christ Church on Reading Road and donating the marble pulpit at St Mary's also provided the marble fireplace in the Mayor's Parlour
- the memorial represents an important part of Henley's heritage and should be preserved
- careful consideration needs to be made with regard to spending tax payers money
- the memorial is in a prominent position being located outside the Second Chapel

The Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that quote A (£864 plus vat) be accepted for the restoration of the memorial to Sir Frank Crisp – to be paid from the Programmed Maintenance Budget for 2013/14.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

bw

Chairman