

Present: The Chairman, Councillor Mrs J Wood
The Vice Chairman, Councillor D Clenshaw
The Mayor – Councillor M Akehurst
Councillor Mrs J Bland
Councillor Miss S Evans
Councillor S Gawrysiak
Councillor Miss K Hinton
Councillor I Reissmann
Councillor D Silvester

In Attendance: Mrs N Taylor – Senior Committee Administrator
Mrs B Walker – Minute Taker

Also Present: 1 Member of the Press

69. APOLOGIES

None received.

A member attempted to provide information on attendance levels of members at this Committee however it was felt this was not an appropriate topic of discussion under this agenda item.

70. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

71. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

None

72. MINUTES

- i. The minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 10 March 2015 were approved and then signed by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs J Wood as a true record.
- ii. Members received and considered the minutes of the Henley in Bloom and Civic Pride Sub Committee held on Thursday 24 March 2015.

The Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the Minutes of the Henley in Bloom/Civic Pride Sub Committee held on Thursday 24 March 2015 be received, approved and adopted.

The meeting was suspended whilst the recording equipment was set-up. Recording of the meeting commenced at 7.39 pm.

- iii. Members received and considered the minutes of the Christmas Decorations Sub Committee held on 12 March 2015.

A member congratulated the Living Advent Calendar for the amount raised for charity and felt the event got better and better each year.

The Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the notes of the Christmas Decorations Sub Committee held on 24 February 2015 be received, approved and noted.

- iv. Members received and considered the notes of the Jubilee Park User Group meeting held on 25 February 2015.

The Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the notes of the Jubilee Park User Group meeting held on 25 February 2015 be received, approved and adopted.

73. BUDGET

The Committee received, considered and noted the Management Accounts to 31 March 2015.

A member noted the Mill Meadows Car Park income is on track and this provides an important income for the town. It was also noted there had been a problem with two of the car parking machines over the Easter weekend but credit card payments were not affected.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the Management Accounts up to 31 March 2015 be noted.

74. PROGRESS REPORT

- I. The Committee received and considered the progress report on and made the following comments:-
Concrete Table Tennis Tables at Makins Recreation Ground – a member queried whether the Gainsborough Residents Association had the funds to contribute to this project – an update to be sought.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the progress report be noted.

- ii. The Committee received and considered the Makins progress report. A member suggested the Chair of the Henley Skatepark Initiative, Mr Colin Brathwaite, be invited to provide an up to date report of the skate park project to the next meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the progress report be noted and Mr Brathwaite be contacted forthwith.

75. REGATTA PARKING – FAIRMILE

- i. The Committee received and considered a request from the Lions Club of Henley to use the Fairmile verges for parking during the Henley Royal Regatta to raise money for charity as in previous years.

After discussion the Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the Lions Club of Henley be granted permission from Wednesday 1 July 2015 to Saturday 4 July 2015, to organise car parking on the Fairmile Verges (between the town and up to Lambridge Wood Road) to raise money for charity. The terms and conditions be as in previous years and as listed in their letter to the Town Clerk dated 31 March 2015.

- ii. The Committee considered giving delegated powers to the Town Clerk to grant this permission in future years (subject to the same conditions). Members observed that the Regatta car parking has taken place for a number of years with no problems, extra car parking is needed in the town during Regatta and it provides a good fundraising opportunity for the Lions. It was therefore felt there was no need for this to be a Committee decision in future years.

The Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the Town Clerk be given delegated powers to grant permission when the Lions of Club of Henley request using the Fairmile verges (between the town and Lambridge Wood Road) for charity parking during Henley Royal Regatta (subject to the existing terms and conditions).

76. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

It was moved by the Chairman and **RESOLVED**

that the public and the press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

At 7.49 pm the member of the press left the Council Chamber.

MINUTES OF THE CONFIDENTIAL SESSION OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 21 APRIL 2015

77. CONFIDENTIAL

i. MILL MEADOWS CAR PARK

The Committee received and considered a report by the Accountant, Mrs L Jones regarding the contracting out of the collection of Excess Charge Notices at the Mill Meadows Car Park. The Committee noted there had been issues with the current supplier and investigations had taken place to identify an alternative.

Members also considered the instalment of a cashless payment service at Mill Meadows which would operate in addition to the car parking machines (which take coins and card payments). A member commented that investigation should be made to ensure this system is user friendly.

After discussion the Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that Councillors approve the appointment of Chipside to provide the service of collection of ECNs as soon as the three months' notice (or less if possible) to VPS has expired;

that Councillors approve the purchase of a hand held device for park services staff to issue ECNs, the upfront cost of £1,500 to come from capital and the ongoing costs to come from car park expenditure where the savings in charges (£3.49 per ECN down from £6 per ECN) will be made;

that Councillors approve the instalment of cashless payment service on all three parking meters at Mill Meadows.

that the Accountant continue to pursue the £272 from Vinci

that thanks be extended to the Accountant for a well investigated report.

ii. **TOILET REFURBISHMENT**

Members received and noted the notes of the Toilet Refurbishment working Group held on 27 March 2015 and made the following comments:-

- a hot water heater in the utility area will be installed and the cost deducted from the retention sum
- the boxing under the sink in the family and toilet for the disabled will be replaced/made good – the architects to arrange for this work to be done as a priority
- rising bench – the architects to arrange for improvements to the profile of the existing fixed bench as an interim measure

It was noted the 12 months defects liability period terminates on 20 June 2015 and a meeting would be arranged for a final inspection in mid-May and also a pre-meeting with the architects regarding the works, costs, their fee etc.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank her Deputy over the last 4 years, Cllr David Clenshaw, who is standing down, for his loyal support and for deputising so ably when called upon.

The meeting closed at 8.09 pm

bw

Chairman