

Present: The Chairman, Councillor Mrs J Wood
The Vice Chairman, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Akehurst
(ex-officio)
The Mayor Councillor S Gawrysiak (ex-officio)
Councillor Mrs J Bland
Councillor D Clenshaw
Councillor Miss S Evans
Councillor I Reissmann

In attendance: Mr M Kennedy – Town Clerk
Ms J Brazil – Committee Administrator/Minute Taker

Also Present: 1 member of the press
1 member of the public

80. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the Councillors Miss K L Hinton, D Silvester and apologies for lateness from Councillor Mrs J Bland.

81. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None received.

82. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

None received.

83. MINUTES

- i. The minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 18 March 2014 were approved and then signed by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs J Wood as a true record.
- ii. The Committee received and considered the minutes of the Henley in Bloom and Civic Pride Sub Committee held on 27 March 2014.

Page 4 – Minute 79 – Item Twinning Sign. A member noted it had been RESOLVED to purchase new (chelmer) signage at a cost of £926.93 and sought clarification as to which budget this expenditure would be applied. The Chairman explained this signage was to celebrate the three separate towns twinned with Henley and the Henley in Bloom Committee had delegated powers over its budget, particularly as its income is derived from sponsorship.

After a discussion it was **RESOLVED**

that the Henley In Bloom Committee identifies how projects are to be funded and makes recommendations to this Committee when large expenditure items are incurred.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the minutes of the Henley in Bloom and Civic Pride Sub Committee held on 27 March 2014, be received, approved and adopted.

- iii. The Committee received and considered the minutes of the Christmas Decorations and Events Sub Committee held on 14 March 2014.
Page 1 – Minute 61 – Item Infrastructure electrification within the town. It was noted that again it had been RESOLVED to spend £11,739.20, and a member sought clarification on funding arrangements for this capital expenditure.

After further discussion it was **RESOLVED**

that the Christmas Decorations and Events Sub Committee will make recommendations to this Committee, enabling decisions of this nature to be fully debated when large expenditure items are to be spent.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the minutes of the Christmas Decorations and Events Sub Committee held on 14 March 2014, be received, approved and adopted.

- iv. The Committee received and considered the minutes of the Mill Meadows and River Sub Committee held on 10 April 2014.

Members acknowledged the work undertaken on this Sub Committee by Mrs S Rankin and requested a formal letter be sent from this Committee to thank her.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the minutes of the Mill Meadows and River Sub Committee held on 10 April 2014, be received, approved and adopted.

84. BUDGET

The Committee received, considered and noted the management accounts to March 2014.

85. PROGRESS REPORT

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

Makins Recreation Ground – Pram Walk – The Committee discussed the request to transfer this item to the Town and Community Committee. The Chairman explained this section of the Pram Walk wall in question is where the garages are situated and actually is in the ownership of SOHA. It was confirmed SOHA will be undertaking the repairs to the wall in due course. Members agreed the entire Makins Recreation

area should be considered as a whole to enable joined up governance. As such, the Pram Walk and associated areas should continue to be reported to the Recreation and Amenities Committee. This will enable continuity and cohesion between all stakeholders involved within the locality of this recreation area.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the Makins Recreation Ground - Pram Walk item remains on the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

Councillor Mrs J Bland entered the meeting at 8:13pm

Makins Recreation Ground – Skatepark – The Committee received a verbal report on the further developments on the Skakepark project. The Committee were informed that the Environmental Officer had requested a noise study be submitted before the planning application could be considered. Members were advised the Henley Skatepark Initiative had commissioned an independent company to undertake a noise survey and produce a report to be submitted to SODC. This could effect the funding application to SODC’s Community Investment Fund. After further discussion it was agreed that a further update on the situation be presented to the next meeting of the Full Council on Tuesday 6 May 2014.

Toilet Refurbishment – Mill Meadows – The Committee noted the progression of the refurbishment of the Mill Meadows Toilets and members were pleased the completion date would be before the Spring Bank Holiday at the end of May.

Use of Land for Fitness Activities – Mill Meadows – The Committee received the Town Clerk’s suggested guidelines for people undertaking fitness activities, either individually or with a fitness instructor. The Committee requested the wording to point 3) be changed from ‘Please do not attached resistance equipment’ to read ‘Please do not attached any equipment’

After further discussion the Committee **RESOLVED**

that the form of words from the Town Clerk regarding the use of Council land for fitness activities as amended be adopted.

86. CAR PARKING FOR THE TODDLER PLAYGROUND

The Committee received a report regarding the ten parking spaces adjacent to the Toddler Playground at Mill Meadows and discussed the issue of keeping the ten spaces for those parents using the playground facility. It was acknowledged that while the custom has been to allow free parking for up to one hour, the signage made no reference to this.

After a long discussion the Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the 10 car parking bays currently with one hour “free” parking by the Toddler Playground are incorporated into the normal pay and display parking scheme once the new Mill Meadows playground has been constructed, that sufficient signs are displayed to inform the

public of these changes, but that the spaces remain designated for parents with toddlers.

87. DONATION OF A SCULPTURE

The Committee received a report regarding the donation of a sculpture to the town by Mr and Mrs Vince Hill in memory of their son, Athol Hill. The Chairman explained the donors had kindly offered the large bronze sculpture measuring 6'6" x 11'6" entitled "Wild Deer Leaping" to the Town and asked, if the statue be accepted in principle, for suggested locations. The Committee agreed with the idea in principle and applauded more art for the town. The Committee discussed the possible locations for such a large structure and suggested Gillotts Field, Gillotts School or Marsh Meadows.

The Committee **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the offer of a donation of a sculpture to the Town from Mr and Mrs Vince Hill be agreed in principle and the local community be invited to suggest a suitable location for its permanent display.

88. TESCO STORES LTD

The Committee received a verbal update from the Town Clerk regarding a meeting with the manager of the Tesco Stores Ltd in Henley on Friday 11 April 2014. He explained the meeting had been very beneficial and a number of possible sponsorship opportunities had been explored, including Tesco sponsoring the liquid refreshments at Mayor Making, taking part in the Christmas Festival and town events. In return the Town Clerk had suggested Tesco staff could possibly use the Jubilee Park facility during lunchtimes when it was presently under utilised. The Committee thanked the Town Clerk for undertaking the liaison with Tesco and suggested he contact the other major supermarkets in the town also. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should maintain his links with Tesco and coordinate meetings every 6 months to ensure a dialogue remains open when the managers of the stores change.

It was **RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

89. TODDLER PLAYGROUND

The Committee received a verbal update from the Chairman regarding the Toddler Playground. The Advisory Group had undertaken two further site visits and received a presentation from Komplan earlier today. It was confirmed there would be a further meeting of the Toddler Playground Advisory Group on Monday 28 April at 9 am when members would reconvene to make their decision.

After further discussion the Committee **RESOLVED**

that not withstanding the fact that Full Council had granted the delegated powers, the Toddler Playground Advisory Group be asked to record and present their recommendation as to the preferred contractor to the next meeting of the Full Council on 6 May.

Post Meeting Note:

The Toddler Playground Advisory Group met on 28 April 2014 and considered the matter in great detail. The Advisory Group decided that since its members had been

fully involved in the whole process from short listing, to receiving presentations from the shortlisted companies, to site inspections of playgrounds recommended to them by the two companies and yet further deliberations, and while recognising that Full Council had granted them full delegated powers to appoint, it was

RESOLVED by the Toddler Playground Advisory Group that Kompan be appointed as the preferred company to undertake the scheme, and that their quotation in the sum of £120,367.12 be accepted subject to modifications to the design in the safety surface as presented.

90. REGATTA PARKING ON THE FAIRMILE

The Committee received 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.

The Committee **RESOLVED**

that the Lions be granted permission from Wednesday 2 July to Saturday 5 July 2014 only, to arrange charity parking along the service road and the Fairmile Verge as far as Lambridge Wood Road on the right hand side, on the south west side, in accordance with their letter to the Town Council dated 10 March 2014.

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm

jb

Chairman