

HAXBY TOWN COUNCIL

The Memorial Hall, The Village, Haxby YO32 3HT

**Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 24th July 2023
at 8.15 p.m. in the Oakengrove Community Centre, Haxby.**

Present: Cllr. E. Pearson – Chairman
Cllr. G. Cockburn
Cllr. I. Cutherbertson
Cllr. R. Pearson
Cllr. J. Secker
Cllr. G. Stow

Also present: Anne Wilson, Locum Town Clerk
Cllr. I. Thompson

A19/2023 Apologies for absence

RESOLVED to receive apologies from:

- Cllr. L. Henley – personal commitment
- Cllr. T. Richardson - unwell

A20/2023 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

A21/2023 Declarations of Interest.

RESOLVED to note that there were no declarations of interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with The Local Government Act 2000 Part III and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

A22/2023 Public Question Time and Participation

A local resident asked the Council about their plans for the allotment given the lack of care shown to them by the Council and the fact that the paperwork and rents are not up to date.

Members explained to the resident about the current issues with the administration within the council and agreed that a site meeting be held on the allotments. They confirmed that it would be a high priority to resolve this matter.

RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 26th June 2023

A24/2023 EWPF Deeds

It appears that there is no issue with the pavilion and surrounding areas being used for the community, through joint use of sports clubs and residents/visitors to the site.

It is understood that some clubs may feel that the sports pitches belong to them and no one else can play on those pitches. A booking system on the site may relieve the problem.

The clubs have asked for leases, as none have been issued previously or for some time. New leases would need to be negotiated with each club in terms of longevity, number of times pitches/pavilion to be used per year etc, cost and whether they wish to carry out e.g. line marking themselves, use of pavilion, pavilion cleaning etc. Other matters may need to be taken into consideration.

RESOLVED to confirm that:

- The sports clubs may have a long lease up to a minimum of ten years on the site, with a review clause after five years. The lease would be subject to legal advice – in the meantime a letter indicating in principal that a lease would be agreed with the clubs
- Meetings be set up with each club to consider the needs of their clubs and the lease needs
- A site visit be arranged to the pavilion
- A small working group be set up to look at the future of the pavilion, what works may need to be carried out etc

RESOLVED that Standing Orders be suspended.

Volunteers had noted that there was still some of the equipment from the nursery still in the pavilion and asked the Town Clerk to contact the last owners to get it removed.

Two local companies had offered work on the pavilion as part of their working in the community brief. Work was due to start in September, the Council had not been made aware of this offer and the Locum Town Clerk, on behalf of the Council thanked the two companies, but stated that to enable work to go ahead then their insurance and risk assessments were needed by the Council.

RESOLVED that Standing Orders be re-instated.

Members also spoke about the need for more dog poo bins and purple bags on the EWPF.

The Locum Clerk had spoken with play equipment companies about the list of repairs needed but it is felt that there is a lot of work to carry out at a considerable cost.

The most important matter short term is to get swings back in site with the summer holidays upon us.

RESOLVED that the Locum Town Clerk to receive three quotes from local Yorkshire companies and go ahead with the works.

A25/2023 Allotments

Members received a verbal update from the Locum Town Clerk noted:

- That there is a complete piece of work to be carried out in establishing who has an allotment and who still tends their allotment
- That the contracts need to be updated and issued as appropriate
- That the Town Council consider purchasing a bespoke software package to assist the administration and management of the allotments going forward
- That a working party be set up to consider the maintenance of the allotments, agree the new contract and costs of rent (noting that rent should only be charged annually on the 1st April each year

RESOLVED that a Working Party was to be made up of Councillors E. Pearson, Cuthbertson, R. Pearson and Richardson. Allotment Holders would be involved at Stage 2.

Further **RESOLVED** that the Chairman would arrange the first site visit.

A26/2023 Outdoor Matters

Members are asked to note that there is currently no update on litter bins and future requirements in the parish and noticeboards. These matters will be brought back to the next meeting.

A27/2023 Defibrillator

Members were asked to consider the location of existing defibrillators in the parish and the siting of new ones.

RESOLVED that there should be a cohesive approach going forward and that a list be available for all locations in the parish, which was currently unknown.

Members noted that the Parvan Indian Restaurant was willing to have one. Councillors offered to look for other locations in their wards as there were some needed that were not in the centre of Haxby.

A28/2023 Christmas Lights

It was pointed out that there was an Events Committee to talk about Christmas Lights so they were not sure why there needed to be a discussion on this committee. The Christmas Lights were due to be turned on on 30th November 2023 at 6 p.m.

Cllr. Jessie Secker had asked for this item to go on Amenities Agenda and spoke about the concerns of the traders about the number of people attending and the safety of them as many stood in the road.

It was felt that local builders in the vicinity of the High Street may be able to be approached to pay for a road closure at the roundabout – about £500.

A29/2023 Date of next meeting.

RESOLVED to note that the date of the next meeting of the Amenities Committee will be held on a date yet to be determined.

Signed **Date**

Chairman