



RAYLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL
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Minutes of the Environment and Open Spaces Committee held on Monday 23rd May 2022 at 7.30pm at the Pavilion, King George V Playing Field

EOS33/22 Those present and apologies for absence.

Present – Cllrs D Belton (Ex-officio), J Burton, C Stanley, R Dowell, E Callis, D Sperring, J Lumley, C Roe, B Smart, D Mercer (Ex-Officio) and C Callis
Also in attendance – Miss K Gaiger, Deputy Town Clerk
Apologies – Cllrs R Milne and J Sawford.

Motion. The committee accepted the apologies from Cllrs Milne and Sawford.

EOS34/22 Election of Chairman

Cllr C Roe proposed, and Cllr R Dowell seconded that Cllr D Belton be Environment and Open Spaces Chairman. There were no other nominations.

8 voted in favour and Cllr C Stanley did not participate in the vote.

Motion. Cllr D Belton be Environment and Open Spaces Chairman

EOS35/22 Nomination of Vice Chairman

Cllr D Sperring proposed, and Cllr C Roe seconded that Cllr R Dowell be Vice Chairman of the Environment and Open Space Committee. There were no other nominations. 8 voted in favour and Cllr C Stanley did not participate in the vote.

Motion. Cllr R Dowell be Environment and Open Spaces Vice Chairman.

EOS36/22 Public Forum

There were no members of public present.

EOS37/22 Substitutes

There were no substitutes.

EOS38/22 Non-Committee Members Attending

Cllr C Callis attended as a non-committee member.

EOS39/22 Declaration of Interests

Cllrs D Belton, C Stanley, D Sperring, J Lumley and C Roe declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Rochford District Council by virtue of being a member of the council

Cllr J Lumley declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Essex County Council by virtue of that council.

Cllr J Burton declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Rayleigh FC.

EOS40/22 Correspondence

None received.

EOS41/22 Committee Budget

Members to received and approved the committee budget. A member queried Community Safety Working group and budget, this working group reports directly to Full Council.

RESOLVED that the above information be noted.

EOS42/22 New Bookings

None received.

EOS43/22 Football Pitches

a) Training

Members noted that the weekly Saturday morning training continues to take place and will finish at the end of July.

b) Season 2021/2022

Members to noted that all fixtures have been completed for the 2021/2022 season.

c) Season 2022/2023

Members noted that the current clubs are being contacted to find out if they wish to continue to hire for 2022/2023. There have been no reported issues with any club during the last season. Rayleigh FC, Ralee FC and Myton FC have confirmed that they wish to continue to hire for Season 2022/2023. Member agreed these requests and that the office may accept the bookings from the one remaining existing club for next season once received.

RESOLVED that the above information be noted.

EOS44/22 Bowls club

Members noted that Cllrs R Dowell, E Callis and C Stanley and the Deputy Town Clerk visited the Bowls Club to view the area they wish to extend. The proposed building works would incorporate a small area of land into the existing refreshment kiosk. All members present agreed to the proposal.

RESOLVED that the proposal for the Bowls Club to extend the refreshment kiosk be accepted.

EOS45/22 Play Area

Members noted that the offer of engagement has been extended and a company have been expressed an interest. A site visit will be arranged for Tuesday 31st May and all members of this committee will be informed of the time in due course.

The wet pour under the older children swings has been repaired and both swings are now in use.

RESOLVED those members of this committee will be informed of the time for the site visit on Tuesday 31st May 2022.

EOS46/22 ELM

Cllrs D Belton, C Stanley and D Sperring volunteered to attend a meeting with the ground contractor of the King George V Playing Field at the Pavilion. All members of the committee will be informed to the date and time. Due to covid-19 these meetings have not taken place, therefore it will be good to re-introduce regular meetings with them and discuss any issues. These meetings will take place during office working hours.

Members noted that issues had been reported by a member concerning the condition of the playing field at the weekend. This was reported to the contract manager who is investigating. Members were informed that there are two groundstaff one works Monday to Thursday and the other Friday to Sunday.

RESOLVED that a meeting will be arranged with the contractor and date and time will be forwarded to all committee members in due course.

EOS47/22 Petanque

Members noted that the specification to install one petanque rink in the rose garden has been sent to companies to gain quotes. A quote has also been requested for an a groundworker who has installed a petanque rink for Basildon Council. These details were provided by the gentleman, who approached the Town Council regarding this proposal.

Members suggested that that initial ground work could be conducted by themselves however it was pointed out that the playing field is a public area and groundworks needs to be conducted to a high standard in line with health and safety and meet the relevant insurance cover. The proposed petanque rink is to be used for league matches and therefore needs to be built to a specified standard.

A member had informed that they had contact details for a company that may be able to assist. These will be forwarded to the Town Council office in order to arrange site visit and receive the quote.

RESOLVED that the above information be noted.

EOS48/22 John Fisher Open Space

Members were informed of that the lease is with the Town Council's Solicitor and that meeting will be arranged with the interested football club.

RESOLVED that the above information be noted.

EOS49/22 Essex Youth Service

Members to note that Essex Youth Service continue to carry out the weekly detached sessions in the playing field. Going forward reports will be produced on a quarterly basis. This will provide a more detailed review of their work and actions.

Essex Youth Service are unable to attend this meeting due to a prior commitment but will attend the next committee meeting.

RESOLVED that the above information be noted.

EOS50/22 Floral Displays in Playing Field

Members noted that Cllr C Stanley has arranged for the purchase of the plants for the pavilion planters. Members will be informed of the date of delivery in order to assist Cllr Stanley with planting. Members queried if the purchase of plants had saved the Town Council money this year, however it was noted that due to the increase in cost of plants there had been little difference, however it was about the quality of plants and the final display. Members mentioned that products used for planting going forward should be peat free to endeavour to be carbon neutral.

RESOLVED that the above information be noted.

EOS51/22 Allotments

Members noted that an allotment inspection was due to be carried out by office staff on 19th May, however due to weather conditions was postponed. An inspection will be conducted in due course. An allotment meeting will then be arranged to discuss any arising matters. A container company have also been asked to assess the access for installing a unit at Sweyne Park Allotment site.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm

Chairman

Signature..... Date