

# HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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**MINUTES** of the **Recreation, Amenities and War Memorials Committee** held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7.00pm in the Corn Exchange Complex, Hungerford

**Present:** Cllrs Small, Bumbieris, Crane, Farrell, Simpson, Winsor, Knight. Also present: Geoff Greenland and Ted Angell (HAHA). Mike Saunders & George Ham (St Lawrence's Church)

- 1. Elect Chair.** Propose Cllr Small as Chair, seconded by Cllr Knight, all in favour.
- 2. Elect Deputy.** Propose Cllr Benneyworth as Deputy Chair, seconded by Cllr Winsor, all in favour.
- 3. Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Benneyworth, Wood, Brookman.
- 4. Declarations of interest.** Cllr Crane has an allotment, Cllr Farrell is on TFMC and has an interest in Croft Field Building, Cllr Knight has an allotment and is Chair of Friends of Hungerford Library, Cllr Small is on TFMC and Cllr Simpson is a Friend of Hungerford Library.
- 5. Agreement of minutes of meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016.** Cllr Small proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Crane, one abstention, rest in favour. **Action:** - Clerk to write to Headteacher thanking him for the reduction in services charges to £5k for the Youth & Community Centre. Permission is awaited from WBC for alteration to the entrance sign to Hungerford Youth & Community Centre.
- 6. Allotments – HAHA report** – In process of rent collection. Plots that are unpaid for at Fairfields will be assumed as not needed. Rent of £463 is o/s for Marsh Lane. Income exceeds expenses for all sites. HAHA 'alternative allotment sites' document has been circulated. Possibilities include: Land east of Salisbury Road, Recreation Ground, Triangle Field, and Eddington Lane. HAHA have excluded the Croft Field, land behind Parsonage Lane (owned by Mark Norgate) and Prosperous Farm. A criteria and scoring sheet are included. Salisbury Road scores best. Marsh Lane is the only other viable option. A move to Salisbury Road is preferable providing it is a permanent and available site. HAHA need a meeting with WBC planners (Liz Alexander). HTC wish to avoid getting involved with development to South due to a conflict of interest at the current time. **Action:** HAHA will go ahead and set up another meeting with WBC.
- 7. Triangle Field - Consider contribution to TFMC (previously £3k).** Subsidy has been 3k in past. Should a grant be considered in future instead of a subsidy? TFMC accounts had been circulated. Income since includes £1k from Charlie Austin. Cleaning expenses are shown in accounts but not income. HTC will receive an invoice for all of this. Because of the VAT situation TFMC have received income of £1400 that would otherwise have gone to HTC. It was thought that the subsidy should be reduced accordingly. **Cllr Bumbieris proposed a subsidy of £1,500 to the Triangle Field management Committee, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.** It was noted that H&S inspections take place annually and the playgrounds are inspected weekly. However HTC should inspect all properties regularly. **Action:-** Visit Triangle Field to look at screening of containers.  
  
**- Any updates on planned events - Queens 90<sup>th</sup>.** Schedule of order is sorted for Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> on 18<sup>th</sup> June. David Clayton attended the meeting regards the Theatre Co. contribution. A site meeting is happening tonight to determine layout of the event on the field. On the day a sound check will be carried out from 4.30-5.15. Electricity is to be provided by the Circus who have sent their safety info through. Raffle tickets will be available to sell. The Working party are looking for volunteers to help. A ticket system will be arranged

for collection of medals by Hungerford Primary school children. **Action:** - Put on agenda for next Full Council.

**Drainage at Triangle Field gate** – improvements to this are indicated at around £3k. **Action:** Clerk to contact Veolia, Biffa and Hills for crushed concrete / tarmac supply. **Action:** - Continue obtaining quotes.

8. **Croft Field – Consider quotations for plumbing of new sink.** Quotes are still awaited. Cllr Small has another contact. **Action:** Clerk to continue to obtain quotes for work.

- **Agree terms of access across field for Scouts.** No objection for occasional access. **Action:** Letter to be drafted by office for Scouts to agree and sign.

- **Plans for official opening of centre.** We are still waiting for sink to be fitted and for £8.5k from WBC. Roger Croft did put in writing members bid will cover this BUT this is not right. **Action:-** Cllr Small speaking to Sarah House.

9. **Library/Budget cuts - Any updates/actions.** Red Quadrant is carrying out a Needs Assessment which will take 3 months and H Cole said it would cost £30k. Next briefing from Hilary Cole at WBC is on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Cllrs Knight and Simpson will attend. FOHL have set up a competition for children to promote the library. David Piper has donated book token prizes. CHAIN are issuing a questionnaire asking if public would like a town lottery to raise funds. Cllr Crane will pursue 'devolution' meeting with Nick Carter. **Action:** - Add Library to Full Council Agenda.

10. **St Saviour's Cemetery**

- **Working Party report.** Mayor has put article in Here and Now about new regs at St Saviour's. Clerk has been professionally advised that retrospective actions can be taken with regards to regulations. **Action:** Working party meeting will take place on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm in Town Council office.**

- **For future applications, approve form for completion.** **Action:** Cllr Small will tweak wording. **Action:** Town Clerk will refer any enquiries/complaints on the enforcing of regulations to the panel.

- **Consider request to replace broken bench.** All agreed that the bench can be replaced as offered by a member of the public.

11. **St Lawrence's** (discussed after item 6). **Terms for future vehicle access to Church.** HTC are responsible for maintenance to the churchyard. The Diocese has advised the church have the authority to allow vehicles to go across the churchyard if it is in connection with the church. This is not illegal. However Canal and River Trust are nothing to do with the church and should have access to the canal via another route. A bollard is a good idea to prevent access to the canal through the churchyard and should be supported with a sign on the front gate saying no access to canal. Bollard to be positioned at location N or G on site map provided.

Front access should also be restricted in some way – one gate shut or bollard? Safe permitted access to the churchyard is allowed. A faculty is needed (Church planning permission) for the bollard to be installed. **Action:** Clerk to draft a work spec. in order to obtain a faculty. HTC maintenance man will install and church to order and pay for bollard. **Action:** - George to draft wording for sign such as 'No Access to Canal and No Access without Permission to Graveyard'.

- **Laying of slab to entrance.** **Action:** Clerk to speak to Diocese to see if stone has to be replaced like for like or if an alternative surface is permitted and check if metal surround can be removed. The church is ok with the removal. Mike and George left.

12. **Tragedy Gardens - Consider additional memorial wording.** Wording is not yet decided. It was felt a Site meeting is needed. Should bench be moved so memorial stone can be placed in the corner? Existing site is not ideal location. **Action:** **Meet on site 7pm 26<sup>th</sup> May.**

13. **Any Health & Safety Requirements - including report on Concrete wall in Bulpit park.** The report states the wall may not have 3-5 years life left. Report states wall is not inherently dangerous. **Action:** Immediate work is required to wedge panels securely and quotes need to be obtained to replace wall. Consider block work wall with rendered or painted finish.  
**Meeting closed at 8.55pm.**