

OPEN SESSION: There were no members of public present.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION, LEISURE AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Held on Wednesday 5th January 2005 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Cllr N W Light (Chairman)
Cllr N J Chard
Cllr D E Cracknell
Cllr L C Ford
Cllr M H Thierry
Cllr N C Wood

IN ATTENDANCE: Terry Simpson, Town Clerk
Lyn Wickens, P A to the Town Clerk

OS/4590 ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs B A Charlton, Mrs B J Wright and S C Wright.

OS/4591 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

OS/4592 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1st December 2004, having been circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

OS/45893 NORTHFIELD PLAY AREA

Members agreed that the name for the refurbished play area should be Toad Corner. The Clerk confirmed that the new equipment had been ordered and installation should take place in late February/early March.

Cllr Cracknell enquired whether the hedges along the boundary of the play area in North Poulner Road could be lowered. The Clerk confirmed that he would ask the County if our groundsmen could carry out this work.

RESOLVED:

(i) that when refurbishment of the play area at "Northfield" is completed, it be renamed "Toad Corner", with the appropriate new signage, press releases and opening ceremony.

(ii) that the Town Clerk make enquiries of Hampshire County Council for permission to lower the boundary hedge of the play area in North Poulner Road.

OS/4594

RINGWOOD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

The Town Clerk reported that Ringwood Town Football & Social Club had received an application from a Youth Soccer Academy, (a non-Ringwood) club, to use the Football Club's pitch for mid-week fixtures. The Football Club's lease with the Town Council stated that the floodlights could be used up to three times a week, but that use of the pitch was restricted to Ringwood clubs.

Cllr Chard expressed concern that, in agreeing with the request, the Town Council might not be adhering to the original agreement with the Football Club.

The Town Clerk suggested that it might be appropriate to agree to a trial period, with the Academy using the pitch mid-week, once a month, (four games in total) for the remainder of the current season. There were up to half a dozen local Ringwood boys playing for the Academy.

RESOLVED: that, subject to all other terms of the Club's lease of the land, Ringwood Town Football & Social Club be authorised to allow a Youth Soccer Academy to use a flood-lit pitch for a mid-week game, once a month (four games in total), for the remainder of the current season.

OS/4595

URGENT BUSINESS

(1) Ringwood Flood Defence Scheme – Notification of Planning Application

The Clerk reminded members that their views had been sought on the above application. All the Town Council's requirements in respect of the works to be carried out had been met.

RESOLVED: that Ringwood Town Council fully supports the planning application for the flood defence works to be carried out on The Bickerley.

(2) Request to use The Bickerley for Fundraising Event

Cllr Cracknell declared a personal interest in this item as he was involved with the organisation of the event.

The Clerk advised members that permission was sought by a local Pre-School to hold a Duck Race on a stretch of the Millstream and to have fund-raising stalls and children's amusements on The Bickerley on 28th March 2005.

RESOLVED:

(i) that the Town Council has no objection to a local Pre-School holding a fund-raising event on The Bickerley on 28th March 2005, with the Council reserving the right for late cancellation if the ground was unsuitable at the time.

(ii) that the Pre-School be advised that the use of the Millstream for a Duck Race should be sought from the Environment Agency.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.30 pm.