

**OPEN SESSION:** There was 1 member of public present, who wished to speak.

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

Held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2005 at 7.03 pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr N J Chard (Vice Chairman)  
Cllr D E Cracknell  
Cllr Mrs B A Charlton  
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/4609 ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Cllr N W Light.

### **OS/4610 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Thierry declared a personal, but not prejudicial, interest in agenda item 4, as he lived on The Mount. He remained in the room and took part in discussion and voting on the item.

### **OS/4611 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 2nd February 2005, having been circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

### **OS/4612 THE MOUNT**

*Cllr Wood, with the permission of the Chairman, left the meeting during discussion of this item.*

The Clerk reminded members of the history of this particular small piece of land at The Mount. Until fairly recently, the area had been allowed to become overgrown and was a dumping ground for garden waste etc. The Town Council had now spent a lot of money clearing the area and more work was scheduled for later this month to cut back the brambles.

The Clerk said he sought the approval of the Committee to proceed with the preparation of a planning application for change of use for this small area.

Cllr Thierry expressed concern that the Town Council would be perceived to be trying to sell off the land as a building plot and he felt that all residents of The Mount should be apprised of the options open to the Town Council for the site before proceeding further.

Members agreed it was a troublesome area and discussed the merits of either selling the land for a building plot, selling to householders adjoining the plot with covenants for garden use only, or leaving the land as open space.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the residents of The Mount be circularised with a questionnaire apprising them of the problems the Town Council had encountered with a small piece of land

at The Mount and advising them of the options available to the Town Council to deal with the problems. The Committee to be advised of the outcome of the questionnaire before proceeding further with the preparation of a planning application.

**OS/4613  
RINGWOOD HEALTH WALKS**

The Clerk advised members that Hampshire County Council had enquired whether the Town Council was prepared to take on the responsibility of checking and maintaining the waymarkers on the four routes which had been designated as a result of the Ringwood Healthy Walking Initiative, of which the Town Council had been a partner, and also be responsible for maintaining supplies of leaflets at various locations.

**RESOLVED:** that, subject to receiving details of the location of the waymarkers, the Town Council take on the responsibility of checking and maintaining the waymarkers on the four routes which had been designated as a result of the Ringwood Healthy Walking Initiative and also be responsible for maintaining supplies of leaflets at various locations.

**OS/4614  
TOAD CORNER**

The Town Clerk was pleased to report that the contractors had made good progress and it was hoped that the installation of the new play equipment would be completed by the end of the week. This would then be followed by the wet-pour when ground conditions were suitable. The Town Council's groundsmen would then lay turf to the rest of the playground area. It was hoped that an official opening ceremony could be organised on or before Easter.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk's report be noted.

**OS/4615  
PROPOSED RUGBY FACILITIES AT RINGWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL**

*Cllr Wood returned to the meeting during discussion of this item.*

The Clerk reported that the meeting of the Steering Committee due to be held next week had been cancelled as the Rugby Club had not yet been able to submit their business plan to the Town Council for consideration. The Club was at present finalising their submission for a grant to Sport England. The Clerk also advised members that the Club had not yet obtained a Liquor Licence, which was crucial to the Club's ability to raise revenue once the facility was in operation.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk's reported be noted.

**OS/4616  
PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT**

**RESOLVED:** that the Town Council purchase a high pressure petrol-driven jet washer at a cost of £595 for use in cleaning Council property around the town, the cost to be met from the committee's budget.

**OS/4617  
URGENT BUSINESS  
(a) Folly Farm Lane**

A request had been received from a Friend of the Sheiling School for permission for the School to erect "slow" signs on Folly Farm Lane in an attempt to reduce the speed of traffic approaching the various School properties.

**RESOLVED:** that the Town Council has no objection to the erection of “slow” signs on Folly Farm Lane, provided the Council has sight of drawings of the proposed signs for approval before erection and that the signs are in accordance with Hampshire Highways approved standard signs.

**(b) Temporary Health Centre on Carvers**

The Clerk was sorry to report that vandalism at the construction site of the temporary health centre would force the contractor to install grills on the windows and erect a fence tight to the building in order to make the area more secure.

Cllr Thierry said that perhaps the District Council would care to use Carvers for a trial of their mobile CCTV camera.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk’s report be noted.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.52 pm.