

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Recreation & Amenities Committee
held on Monday 21st September 2020 at 7.00pm online using Microsoft Teams

DRAFT
Subject to confirmation

PRESENT

Cllr H White – Committee Chairman
Cllr L Lindsay – Committee Vice Chairman/Chair of Council
Cllr L Hitchings – Vice Chairman of Council

Cllr S Hitchings
Cllr R Carter

SITTING IN

Cllr B Quayle

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk
Nicci Brown – Press

Operations Manager

11. PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr Carter thanked the staff for proceeding with the Community Expo on Saturday, during difficult times, which was well attended and a successful event.

12. APOLOGIES

Cllr C Jacques
Cllr N Lacey-Clarke

Cllr J Stayt

13. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None were submitted.

14. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15TH JUNE 2020

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Carter and AGREED unanimously that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED at the earliest opportunity.

15. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

- 15.1 Larksmead Gym – The outdoor gym equipment at Larksmead had its annual safety inspection carried out in July by contractors. Minor work was attended to at the time, but the report highlighted major works required to the skier. The work involved the replacement of the two arms of the skier due to corrosion and other wear and tear. This work was completed at a cost of £985.00+VAT.
- 15.2 Hirings – The Bookings Receptionist has been able to fill available slots and the venues are now busy again with hirers. It has been agreed to split the usual Thursday evening session, in the Corn Exchange, between two local groups to help them get back on their feet, as part of the reopening of the buildings after the restrictions, as they could not afford the cost of an entire session and both wanted the same evening.
- 15.3 Ball Stop Fencing – The ten year period during which the cricket and bowls clubs were required to pay the council for the ball stop fencing between the two clubs has now lapsed with the final invoice having been sent out this month.
- 15.4 Casualty Information Board – On a site visit to the cemetery recently, the Operations Manager noticed the casualty information board is looking tired. It is now seven years old and was paid for using grant funding. An updated quote was sought from the company who originally provided it in 2013 and a black powder coated aluminium design has been ordered, for longevity, instead of the oak display.

16. REVIEW OF RECREATION & AMENITIES BUDGETS TO 3RD SEPTEMBER 2020

16.1 Analytical Review of Revenue Budget

The paper was noted (see Appendix B).

16.2 Review of Earmarked Reserves

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

16.3 Reserve Accounts

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

17. TO APPROVE RETROSPECTIVE EXPENDITURE FOR WORKS TO THE FOOTBALL PAVILION

The paper was noted (see Appendix E).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr L Hitchings and AGREED unanimously that

The committee retrospectively approves expenditure authority for £2,430.00 from the PPM budget line (1060) (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The order of the meeting was changed, awaiting the arrival of BUFC representatives.

18. TO CONSIDER REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT FOR LARKSMEAD PLAY AREA

The paper was noted (see Appendix F).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr L Hitchings and AGREED unanimously that **a RECOMMENDATION is made to full council that**

The committee approves expenditure for the replacement of the play equipment at Larksmead and to add it to the tender documents for the play area at Badbury Heights, once the transfer of land is completed, using funds from the accruals budget line for Larksmead play area, which has a balance of £26,914 (Expenditure Authority: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, S1-8). Officers were asked to source available s106 monies to contribute towards the costs.

ACTION: TOWN COUNCIL

19. REPORT BY OPERATIONS MANAGER JUNE 2020 – SEPTEMBER 2020

The paper was noted (see Appendix G).

20. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS TO SUGGEST ITEMS FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSIONS IN THE 2021/2022 BUDGET

The Chairman noted that, considering the current situation, we cannot be sure of our financial position at present.

There were no requests for additional items to be included in the budget.

Cllr Carter mentioned that a member of the public asked about leaving the Corn Exchange lobby open for public access to the toilets. This was responded to by the Town Clerk and Cllrs Lindsay and White regarding previous issues and the impact it would have on hirers. It was suggested it is a subject that is considered as part of the project and discussed at a Corn Exchange meeting if Councillors want this to be progressed.

21. TO CONSIDER AN AMENDED REQUEST FOR FENCING AT THE FOOTBALL CLUB

The paper was noted (see Appendix H).

Mickey Westwood explained why the fencing is important to the Club's future and its success.

The Committee raised concerns about the restrictions on the recreation ground and Cllr Lindsay asked that this is verified with the Charity Commission, particularly with regard to the taking of money.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr S Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Carter and AGREED unanimously that a **RECOMMENDATION** is made to the Barnes for a Recreation Trust that

The committee is minded to grant permission for the fence proposed in the report, subject to seeking clarification from the Charity Commission.

BUFC will check with the football criteria as to whether or not the gates to the fencing can be left open when there isn't a match on so there is public access.

ACTION: BARNES FOR A RECREATION TRUST

The meeting closed at 8:00pm.

SIGNED: **DATED:**