

UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting of the **Environment and Leisure Committee** held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre on Monday 2nd October 2017 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr. M. Dean (Chairman)
Cllr. J. Beesley
Cllr. K. Everett
Cllr. I. Smith

Cllr. D. French
Cllr. D. Bennett
Cllr. H. Firth
Cllr. D. Ward

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllrs. C. Macve and P. Sparks
2 Press (1 recorded the meeting)
1 Member of the public

Christine Wheatley – Assistant Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Minutes taken by Christine Wheatley

1.0. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and officers were reminded to make any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interests that they may have in relation to items on the agenda. Cllr Smith declared an interest in item 10.1 Uckfield Railway Line Parishes, as Secretary of the Wealden Line Campaign and a director of BML2 Consultancy. Cllr D. Bennett declared an interest in item 10.1 Uckfield Railway Line Parishes, as Chairman of the Wealden Line Campaign and also a member of the BML2 Consultancy.

2.0. STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

Cllr. Macve wished to speak on item 8.2 Request from The League of Friends of Uckfield Community Hospital.

He stated that the Friends were seeking permission to plant a hedge on Council allotment land opposite the Ambulance Station. He stated that the League of Friends were anxious to improve the car park, as the hospital is taking on more services. He gave brief details on the scheme which will provide 25–30 additional car parking spaces. He also stated that the NHS were to provide a further 4–5 parking bays. The Friends would take full responsibility for the hedge and its future maintenance.

Cllr. Macve also wished to speak on item 10.1 Uckfield Railway Line Parishes. He stated that the results of a survey by the Department of Transport did not support BML2 proposals but suggested that all Councils and Enterprise Boards support the case. The group were also asking for the Town Council's continued support for the Uckfield to Lewes line and beyond.

3.0. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. S. Mayhew.

4.0. MINUTES

4.1. Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Leisure Committee held on the 21st August 2017

EL 80.10.17 It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Leisure Committee held on the 21st August 2017 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4.2. Action list

Members considered the Action List that had been previously circulated and agreed to remove the following items which had either been completed or appeared elsewhere on the agenda.

EL 24.07.16 – West Park LNR and Hempstead Meadow LNR Supporters Group
Hughes Way Play Area

EL 68.05.17 – Allotment Conference

EL 75.08.17 – Fees and charges

EL 76.08.17 – Article of Association of College Place Residents Ltd relating to Old Timbers Lane.

The Sports Working Group would be covered in Agenda item 10.6.

4.3. Project Monitoring List – For information only Noted.

5.0. FINANCE

5.1. To note bills paid

Members noted the bills paid.

5.2. Income and Expenditure Financial Forecast

Members noted the income and expenditure financial forecast.

5.3. 2018/2019 Draft Budgets

Members noted the draft 2018/19 budgets and were asked to forward any new initiatives as soon as possible to enable quotations to be obtained for the next meeting, when they will be considered.

6.0. ADMINISTRATION

6.1. Strengthening Local Relationships Liaison Meeting Minutes 13th July 2017

Item 3 – Traffic Speeds Brown Lane

Members were advised that the information on Browns Lane had yet to be received.

Item 4 –

With regards to the comments in item 4, about the a 20mph speed limit throughout the town, members were unhappy with the response. Hotspot areas would be outside schools, Browns Lane etc.

Item 5 – Vacancy of the School Crossing Person

A member advised that this would be raised via the Governors.

Item 8 – Drain and gully clearance –

Members were advised that the access road to the hospital was a private road and the gullies were the responsibility of the NHS.

Members are to advise the Clerk of their availability for the 9th January meeting at 9.15am in the Oakleaf Room.

- 6.2. To consider amendments to the Open Space Letting Policy No. 60
EL 81.10.17 It was **RESOLVED** To accept the amendments to the Open Space Letting Policy No 60.

7.0. **ENVIRONMENT**

- 7.1. Wealden District Council Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation
EL 82.10.17 Following further discussion it was **RESOLVED** to respond as follows:

That there be no exemptions whatsoever regarding dog fouling.

- 7.2. Biodegradable Dog Bag Dispenser Scheme
Members discussed a previously circulated report on a dog bag dispenser scheme which would site 10 dispensers across Town Council land.
EL 83.10.17 It was **RESOLVED** to agree to the bio dog bag dispenser scheme at no cost to the Town Council and subject to legal advice on the terms and conditions.

- 7.3. Lewes Road Twinning Sign
Members noted a previously circulated report which included the redesign of the 'Welcome to Uckfield' sign and include the Ridgewood Village plate as part of the Lewes Road works to the Ridgewood Development. All works are to be paid for by the developer.

8.0. **LEISURE**

- 8.1. Hughes Way Play Area Update
Members were advised that the installation date had been delayed due to the timing of equipment deliveries. A site meeting had been held to discuss the programme of works with the contractor.
- 8.2. Request from The League of Friends of Uckfield Community Hospital asking for permission to plant a hedge on Council allotment land opposite the Ambulance Station.
Members noted a previously circulated report and supported the scheme suggested by the League of Friends of Uckfield Community Hospital.
EL 84.10.17 Following further discussion it was **RESOLVED** that we support the League of Friends of Uckfield Community Hospital scheme and agree for a hedge to be planted on Council allotment land subject to The Friends taking full responsibility for the hedge and its future maintenance.

- 8.3. Request to rent allotment land to the rear of 155 Framfield Road
Members noted a previously circulated report on the history of a license agreement with the previous owners of 155 Framfield Road and a request for a licence agreement by the new owner.
EL 85.10.17 Following further discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the new owner be asked to remove the fence back to their boundary in accordance with clause 4 of the license agreement. A license agreement could then be granted for the use of the land for garden use only, to grown vegetables etc, and that this land remains unfenced at all times.

9.0. **REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS AND TO AGREE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- 9.1. Road Safety (nothing to report at this time)

Nothing to report.

9.2. Speed Indication Device (SID)

Nothing to report.

10.0. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

10.1. Uckfield Railway Line Parishes

Members noted the report and offered their continued support, no recommendations were accepted.

10.2. West Park LNR and Hempstead Meadows LNR – Supporters Group

Nothing to report.

10.3. Uckfield and District Twinning

Nothing to report.

10.4. Age Concern

Nothing to report.

10.5. Luxford Centre Management Committee

Noted.

10.6. Active Uckfield Group

Noted.

10.7. Wealden Bus Alliance

Nothing to report.

11.0 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

The meeting finished at 7.50pm.