

# UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting of the **Environment and Leisure Committee** held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.00pm.

## **PRESENT:**

Cllr. M. Dean (Chairman)

Cllr. S. Mayhew

Cllr. I. Smith

Cllr. D. French

Cllr. J. Beesley

Cllr. K. Everett

Cllr. D. Ward

## **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillors P. Meakin and C. Macve

2 Press (1 recording)

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.

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

**EL100.02.18** It was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders to allow a member of the public to speak.

Mrs. Skinner wished to speak on item 7.3. To consider the Town Council's position when dealing with requests for dropped kerbs. Mrs Skinner said that she had put forward a request for dropped kerbs in Regency Close, which had elderly residents and young families with buggies. Her 97year old friend had a mobility scooter and had to deal with uneven pavements on one side of the road and vehicles blocking a dropped kerb on the other side of the road which were also causing poor visibility. These issues were now making it virtually impossible for her to use her mobility scooter.

**EL101.02.18** It was **RESOLVED** to reinstate Standing Orders.

## **3.0. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. D. Bennett and Cllr. Firth.

## **4.0. MINUTES**

4.1. Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Leisure Committee held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018

**EL102.02.18** It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Leisure Committee held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 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.93.11.17 – Request for the temporary access from Victoria Pleasure Ground to St. Philips Catholic Primary School to become permanent.

EL.77.08.17 – Uckfield Millennium Green boundary with Ridgewood Recreation Ground.

EL.79.08.17 – To consider undertaking a Dog Fouling Campaign.

EL.89.11.17 – Draft 2018/19 Budgets

EL.97.01.18 – Draft 2018/19 Budgets

4.3. Project Monitoring List – For information only

Members noted the project monitoring list.

**5.0. FINANCE**

5.1. To note bills paid

Members noted the bills paid.

5.2. Income and Expenditure Financial Forecast

Members were advised that the up to date forecast would be sent out, and any queries should be addressed to the office.

**6.0. ADMINISTRATION**

6.1. Minutes of the Strengthening Local Relationships Liaison Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

Members noted the Strengthening Local Relationships Liaison Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

**7.0. ENVIRONMENT**

7.1. Request from The Church of Holy Cross for the Town Council to remove a Yew tree on the southern side of the churchyard

Members discussed the request by the church to remove the Yew tree at the churchyard, and were unanimous in their decision that the tree should remain.

They considered alternative ways to assist the public using the path when the Yew tree sheds its berries, which included additional sweeping of the path, anti-slip solutions, signage and the installation of a hand rail.

Although the churchyard is within the conservation area the Council do not require planning permission for a handrail, a site meeting with a Wealden District Council conservation officer had been arranged to obtain advice.

**EL103.02.18** Following further discussions it was **RESOLVED** that the tree is not removed and we explore the option of the installation of a handrail and signage. The frequency of path sweeping is to increase from fortnightly to once a week to remove the berries which could cause a hazard.

7.2. Ridgewood Village Twinning Sign

Members discussed the report and the financial cost of the additional “Ridgewood Village” slip. Although this was unintentionally omitted when the new twinning

sign was erected it was felt that as money still remained in the budget we should proceed.

**EL104.02.18** Following further discussions it was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the “Ridgewood Village” sign.

7.3 To consider the Town Council’s position when dealing with requests for dropped kerbs.

Members discussed the previous circulated report which included two requests for dropped kerbs. It was suggested that perhaps an audit be carried out of the town to establish just how many dropped kerbs would be required, although this would constantly change when new residents move into an area. Although sympathetic to residents concerns members felt that East Sussex County Council should pay for the kerbs.

**EL105.02.18** It was **RESOLVED** that although we understand the frustration of residents but this is something that should be discussed with East Sussex County Council. The Committee did offer its support to residents who were asking for the pavements to be made safe in Regency Close.

**8.0. LEISURE**

8.1. Hughes Way Play Area Update

Members noted the report.

8.2 Request for Netball lines to be added to Victoria and Ridgewood Multi Use Games Areas

Members discussed the report and asked if the groundstaff could look at installing temporary markings to establish how this works for the ‘walking netball’ group, and to report back on findings.

**9.0. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS**

9.1. Road Safety

Nothing to report.

9.2. Speed Indication Device (SID)

Members noted the report.

**10.0. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

10.1. Uckfield Railway Line Parishes

Members noted the report.

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

Members noted the report.

10.5. Luxford Centre Management Committee

Nothing to report.

10.6. Active Uckfield Group

Nothing to report.

10.7. Wealden Bus Alliance  
Nothing to report.

## **11.0 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The meeting finished at 19.40pm