

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Amenities Committee held in the Council Chamber, Totton & Eling Civic Centre at 7.15 p.m. on Wednesday 14th September 2011.

PRESENT Chairman - Councillor Mrs. D.M. Brooks
Councillors J.L. Arthur, D.A. Britton, Ms. S.D. Churchill, A.H. Davis,
N.S. Penman, D.J. Russell and A. Weeks.

The Town Clerk and Administrative Officer.

Also present : Councillor C. Lagdon.

APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were received from Councillors
Mrs. J.M. Bushrod, T.M. Bushrod and I.R. Molyneux.

**DELEGATED RESOLUTIONS NOT REQUIRING THE APPROVAL OF
THE FULL COUNCIL**

- 149/11 **MINUTES RESOLVED**
that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th July 2011 be signed as a true record.
- 150/11 **MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENT SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON
26 JULY 2011**
The Committee considered the Minutes of the Allotment Sub Committee held on 26th July 2011.
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Allotment Sub Committee held on 26th July 2011 be agreed.
- 151/11 **PROVISION OF A "LARGE" CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE TOWN**
The Town Clerk presented the report prepared by the Deputy Town Clerk. Following previous discussions, members were in favour of improving the current Christmas tree provision. Checks had been undertaken regarding the suitability of the roundabout at the junction of Ringwood Road / Salisbury Road in the centre of the Town; and the area was deemed acceptable for a large Christmas tree. Following discussions on the size and viability of a "permanent" tree, it was
RESOLVED
(a) that the Council site a permanent, 15ft Christmas tree with rootball on the roundabout at the junction of Ringwood Road / Salisbury Road / Commercial Road;
(b) that the installation of this tree be made in time for the 2011 Christmas season, complete with a set of new L.E.D. lights preferably coloured if possible.

152/11 PADDLING POOL OPENING ARRANGEMENTS FOR YEAR 2012

The Town Clerk presented his report. It had transpired that during periods of wet weather, although the paddling pools had very little usage, the paddling pool staff would continue to receive normal salary payments under their contract of employment – costing the Council considerable sums. It was proposed that in 2012 a revised arrangement be used, whereby staff prevented from working during inclement weather receive a standby payment, rather than normal salary. One issue was discussed regarding whether this would hamper recruitment. The Town Clerk responded that the situation would be examined at the time of recruitment ahead of the 2012 season. Members also discussed the possibility of opening times being flexible ahead of the normal season.

RESOLVED

- (a) that the Council adopt a procedure from the 2012 season whereby the Paddling Pool staff receive a standby payment, rather than normal salary, at times of pool closure during inclement weather;
- (b) that any recruitment issues resulting from the changes be reviewed during the recruitment process.
- (c) that the possibility of flexibility with the opening and closing times of the paddling pool - both seasonal and on a daily basis - be made to accommodate periods of exceptionally good weather where that is possible.

NON DELEGATED RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING THE APPROVAL OF THE FULL COUNCIL

153/11 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is in the opinion of this Committee advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

154/11 FUTURE MANAGEMENT OPERATING OPTIONS FOR ELING CREEK TEA ROOMS

The Town Clerk presented his report containing proposals in respect of future operational recommendations for Eling Creek Tea Rooms. The proposals involved changes to the food preparation, menus, staffing issues, incentives to visit the tea rooms and competition from other nearby premises.

Members discussed these items and it was put to a vote. 7 members voted in favour of the proposal (Councillors J.L. Arthur, Mrs. D.M. Brooks, D.A. Britton, Ms. S.D. Churchill, A.H. Davis, N.S. Penman and D.J. Russell). 1 Member voted against the proposal (Councillor A. Weeks).

Therefore by a 7-1 majority it was voted to accept the proposal .

RECOMMENDED :

(a) that the Council approve the proposals as laid down in the Town Clerk's report.

(b) that ahead of Spring 2012 - Eling Creek Tea Rooms re-opening, a promotional voucher be issued which entitles entrants to the Eling Tide Mill to receive a free cup of tea to encourage use of the facility. The promotion to run for a trial period of a maximum three months duration, subject to review.

155/11 FUTURE LAND AND MANAGEMENT ISSUES REGARDING THE
SPORTS CLUBS AT SOUTHERN GARDENS AND LITTLE
TESTWOOD FARM

The Town Clerk presented his verbal report. The primary issue was to update the meeting on issues of concern regarding the re-development at Totton Sports Club at Southern Gardens, that had yet to be resolved by the developer.

RECOMMENDED that the above update be noted, and a report be submitted to the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.