

**SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL
LEISURE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of a Meeting held at Champions Manor Hall on Wednesday 19th May 2021, at 7.30pm

Present

Councillor Crosbie (Chairman)
Councillor Humphrey (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Bentley
Councillor Wilson

Councillor Lobar
Councillor Lake

Councillor Miller
Councillor Thompson

In attendance: Town Clerk, Open Spaces Officer, Councillor O'Brien and 1 member of the public.

L181 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were **RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED** from Councillor Massey, John, Burman and Kelly.

L182 Dispensation Considerations

No dispensation considerations requested.

L183 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Thompson declared a non-pecuniary interest on item L190 Summer Events & L191 Masterplan - Leisure & Sports Facility within the Town.

Councillor Crosbie declared a non-pecuniary interest on item 190 Summer events.

L184 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 30th March 2021 were **APPROVED** as a true record and will be signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Councillor Thompson

Seconded: Councillor Humphrey

Vote: Carried

L185 Public Questions

One member of the public present. A verbal update was given from the Bowls Club, present membership has increased to 50 members and the need for a replacement green was highlighted, a facility to store equipment and a request for a portacabin/shed for members to sit and socialise would support the clubs development.

L186 Budgetary position

The current budgetary position as of 30th April 2021 was noted as attached to the agenda.

L187 Bowls Club

- Lease:

Proposal: To continue with the arrangement which are currently in place as the current lease has expired, members raised concerns regarding whether a lease can be signed by the club as they are not a Community Interest Company. The current fee of £3935 as stated in the last lease applies for the 2021-22 financial year. Future meeting to be arranged with the Bowls Club

Proposed: Councillor Thompson

Seconded: Councillor Humphrey

Vote: Carried

Update from the Bowls Club – An update was provided by the Bowls Club expressing concerns on the present condition of the green with rutting and uneven compaction this affects play and damages the bowls. Councillor Thomson offered to help investigate storage containers and the Office will look at utilising space within the back area of Champions Manor Hall, although to be noted that this area is not secure. The Town Clerk reported that the Bowls Club could apply through the grant application process to access funds for the items detailed on the bowls club 'wish list'.

Proposal: Bowls Club to liaise with office to utilise the current space within CMH to store bowls equipment, to readdress the lease and replacement green at a later date with Policy & Resources Committee.

Proposed: Councillor Humphrey

Seconded: Councillor Thompson

Vote: Carried

L188 WAA Woodham Allotment Association Yearly Report

The report attached to the Agenda was **NOTED**. Committee agreed the report was detailed and content was a high standard.

L189 Gardening on Prescription

Proposal: To contact Meadow Croft and confirm the Town Council agree to move forward with using an allocated plot of land at Champions Manor Hall, Meadow Croft to prepare a plan of the area and explain how the scheme will work in practise.

Proposed: Councillor Bentley

Seconded: Councillor Thompson

Vote: Carried

L190 Summer Events

Woodham in Bloom: Committee **NOTED** this event is receiving media coverage to residents.

Summer Event:

Proposal: Due to Covid restrictions and the unknown situation committee to agree to create a working party to look at events in more detail. July event not to proceed, possible date of 3/4th September

Proposed: Councillor Thompson
Seconded: Councillor Bentley
Vote: Carried

Town Clerk states that whilst a working party can be created to discuss events members to be mindful that the part of the office restructuring was that events other than the Christmas Fayre and events arranged by third parties would not be carried out with the current staffing provision.

L191 Masterplan – Leisure and Sports facility within the Town

It was **NOTED** that one club has contacted the Town Council regarding the use of open space leisure areas within the Town. It was **AGREED** to continue media coverage in the local Focus magazine.

L192 Crabbing Platform at the Riverside

Information attached to the Agenda was **NOTED** and the Open Spaces Officer will resource more information on the project for the next Leisure meeting on 21st July 21.

L193 Spring Back Into Action Chelmsford City Council

It was **NOTED** that the Open Spaces Officer had contacted local sporting groups to utilise the advertising campaign offered by Chelmsford City Council.

L194 Report to Council

- Gardening on prescription
- Bowls Club

L195 Media Coverage

- Masterplan – Leisure and Sports facility within the Town.

L196 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Leisure and Community Committee will be on 21st July 2021 7.30pm.

Standing Order 3x was suspended to allow the meeting to exceed more than 2 hours.

L197 Blue Cage

Proposal: The Town Council to review our risk assessment of the Blue Cage in light of the Village Hall's concerns. To check with Chelmsford City Council Planning to ensure that the Town Council are complying with all conditions within the planning consent relating to the Blue Cage.

Proposed: Councillor Bentley
Seconded: Councillor Thompson
Vote: Carried

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm.

Signed.....
Chairman of the Meeting

Date: 21st July 2021