HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL ON MONDAY 25 JANUARY 2016 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs E Tickell (Chairman), Councillors D Alexander, M Burridge, Mrs D Denston, Mrs L Evans and N Wren

.

IN ATTENDANCE: Carla Baverstock-Jones, Executive Officer & Clerk to the Council, Carole Burnett, Grounds Manager, Sarah Guy, Senior Administrator (Minute Taker).

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: There were no members of the public present.

G15/16 032 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Sowden, who was absent.

G15/16 033 **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

G15/16 034 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2015**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Grounds Committee Meeting held on 16 November 2015 be duly signed as a true record of the meeting.

This was proposed by Cllr Burridge and seconded by Cllr Wren.

G15/16 035 **TO OPEN THE MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions in the public session.

G15/16 036 **TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE REGARDING THE PLAY AREA UPGRADE**

A verbal update was given by the Clerk. She said that the play area upgrade was underway in so far as the planning application was in the process of being completed in respect of Jubilee and was likely to need approval.

The Clerk stated that the funding for the play area upgrade was being dealt with by EHDC. She said it was at the stage of waiting on approval, but that it was in progress and on schedule. She confirmed that there was sufficient funding available from developer's contributions.

Cllr Mrs L Evans said that HPC had received confirmation of funding which had been worked out by Alistair Tweddle from EHDC. She said HPC were waiting on the agreement of planning applications.

G15/16 037 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND CONSIDER FUTURE PROJECTS IN RESPECT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT FUND**

A report by the Grounds Manager was circulated and the recommendation was for the enhancement of the path systems in Yoells Copse or Catherington Lith, using some of the Environmental Improvement funds from EHDC.

A short discussion took place and the Chairman reiterated the recommendation. She circulated a photo of a muddy path at Catherington Lith and explained that the path gets wider as people circumvent it. She said

she was in favour of enhancing the path systems at Catherington Lith and said the path systems at Yoell Copse were similar.

Cllr Mrs L Evans asked if there were enough funds to tackle both path systems, however the Grounds Manager said that she felt they would need to focus on just one of them due to the cost involved. Cllr Mrs L Evans said she was in favour of the path systems being enhanced at Catherington Lith due to the bluebells being effected.

The Grounds Manager suggested that it would be a good idea to find other semi ancient woodland in order to do some research into what materials were being used on similar paths.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Grounds Manager investigate surfaces for the path systems at Catherington Lith.

G15/16 038 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND CONSIDER THE FUTURE PLANTING OF WILD FLOWERS**

A report by the Grounds Manager was circulated. She said that due to the Climate changing in the UK, the much loved natives may struggle to adapt, therefore suggested the use of a European meadow mix due to their ability to seem to grow really well and suggested for it to be used on a small strip of land to see how well it works.

The Chairman asked if Committee Members had any ideas on location for the planting of wild flowers, to ensure full visibility of the flowers.

Cllr Mrs L Evans suggested that a strip could be planted at Jubilee to test its success.

Cllr Alexander suggested for a mix of native flower seeds and European flower seeds to be planted so a comparison could be made.

It was **RESOLVED** that both a mix of native flower seeds and European flower seeds be planted and tested to see how well they both grow.

G15/16 039 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND CONSIDER THE STATUS OF DELL PIECE WEST IN RESPECT OF BECOMING A DESIGNATED LOCAL NATURE RESERVE**

A report by the Grounds Manager was circulated. The Grounds Manager stated that Dell Piece West was currently the least protected site owned and managed by HPC.

The Chairman suggested that the Grounds Manager be instructed to complete the process of Dell Piece West becoming a designated Local Nature Reserve.

The Grounds Committee recommended that the Grounds Manager obtain any required information from Democratic Services at EHDC in order to help with the designation of Dell Piece West as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR). It was agreed that the recommendation be brought to Council at the next meeting on 15th February 2016 for a decision to be made.

This was proposed by Cllr Burridge and seconded by Cllr Mrs Tickell.

The meeting closed at 7:25PM

.....

Chairman

.....

Dated