

HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment and General Purposes Committee** held on Monday 20th June 2011

J. Hollister (Chairman)
W. Hill (Vice Chairman)
R. Clarke
N. March
C. Mclean
M. Pulfer
S. Ellis

Apologies ** Absent *

Also present:

1. **Apologies**
None
2. **Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 28th March 2011 were taken as read, confirmed as a true record and duly signed.
3. **Substitutes**
None
4. **Declarations of Interest**
None.
5. **Update on Attachments to Street Lighting Columns.**
The Clerk introduced the report to Members as a background information document as the matter had been considered by Members of the previous Council. Where Members were not totally happy they agreed and noted that the stress testing had to be undertaken on the street lighting columns, which had hanging basket attachments. The Clerk reported that these tests were only visual inspections and officers who watched the testing did not deem them to be worthwhile. However, it was reported that the columns had passed inspection and the baskets were going up during that week. Members turned their attention to *Tay Valley Lightings Contractors* insistence that under no circumstances would Christmas lights be attached to the columns. Members were concerned at how this situation had arisen and asked for clarification on the matter from the street lighting contractors. It was also agreed that the Council should challenge both West Sussex County Council and the contractors on the matter and then

Members **AGREED** to;

Instruct the Clerk to formally approach West Sussex County Council and Tay Valley Lighting to lobby for a satisfactory arrangement to enable the hanging of Christmas Lights from street lighting columns.

6. Pathway Works at Western Road Cemetery and Town Hall Car Park Works.

Members considered the three quotes for each piece of work in line with Council Financial regulations due to the joint cost of the works being outside the authorised remit of the Clerk. In considering the quotes and the recommendation of the report, Members agreed that the Cemetery works were necessary and that the additional car park works were also necessary. With regards to the Cemetery works it was agreed not to go for the cheapest quote as the preferred quote offered the most robust solution, which would reduce the need for remedial works in the future. Members also favoured the contractor for the car park who suggested that three spaces could be incorporated into the land to be developed. With this

Members **RESOLVED** to;

Appoint Drivepoint Construction Limited to undertake the required pathway works at Haywards Heath Cemetery at the cost of £5,190 to the Council and appoint Staplehurst to undertake the required works to the car park at The Town Hall, Boltro Road at the cost of £3,625 to the Council.

7. South and South East in Bloom

Members noted the dates of the judging to be undertaken in the Town and the initiatives that were being undertaken to support entries into this year's competition. Members were also informed that the main judging day would be Friday the 8th of July 2011 and that the judges would be available from 9.30am to 9.50am and from 12pm to 12.45pm at the Town Hall if anyone wished to come down and meet them. It was also noted that Richard Goddard was continuing to Chair the sub-committee meetings and Cllr Hill had attended on behalf of the Council.

Members **AGREED** to;

Note the Clerks update.

8. Town Day and Christmas Festival Arrangements

Members discussed both events at length and agreed that working in partnership with the Orchard Shopping Centre was the most prudent way forward. Members were content to continue with the format for Town Day and that the stage be brought back again this year with a firework finale. Turning attention to the revival of the Christmas festival, Members were content with the Orchards providing the Santa and his Sleigh but felt that something could be done to support this and that if agreeable that maybe a market with the opportunity for Charities to attend on the Sunday may make it a more worthwhile weekend event. The Clerk noted the committee's thoughts and agreed to report back on Town Day at the next meeting and on Christmas arrangements in October.

Members **AGREED** to;

Note the Clerks update.

9. Urgent Business

Members were informed that two representatives from the Haywards Heaths twinned Town in France, Bondues were travelling over on the weekend of the 9th July to stay with representatives of the Twinning Association. As one of representatives from Bondues was the Deputy Mayor it was deemed to be a Civic visit so the Clerk and Mayor had been liaising with the Twinning Association with regards to hospitality for the one night visit. The Twinning Association were happy to provide accommodation and a meal on the Saturday lunch time and then the Town Council take over the Hospitality for Saturday evening, which would include attending the Katherine Jenkins Concert in Victoria Park. The Town Council and the Twinning Association had been invited into the hospitality area of the park for the evening at the cost of £75 per head but the costs meant that not all could afford to enter the hospitality tent. Therefore, an alternative, which included entry to the public are with a pre prepared picnic was suggested by the Clerk, which was agreed and then,

Members **RESOLVED** to;

Allow the Clerk to spend up to £300.00 on hospitality for the representatives of Bondues who were to visit the Town on a twinning event over the weekend 9th and 10th July 2011.

Meeting Closed at 8.36pm