

# WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

meeting held on TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2013

in the COUNCIL CHAMBER at 6.30 pm.

Present Councillors: A Taylor  
JH Turner  
CW Foulger (Chairman)  
N Ward  
A Gardiner

Also Present: Cllr. Gibbins, Hockaday & Buckton  
Members of the public – 6

LE01/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE None.

LE02/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None.

LE03/13 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Cllr. Hockaday commented that the discussion paper produced by Cllr. Gibbins was not attached to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2012 that she had received. Clerk advised that subsequently a copy had been sent to Cllr. Hockaday and Cllr. Foulger apologised for the original omission.
- Mr Heard requested that agenda item 3 (residents questions) be deferred to the end of the agenda. Cllr. Foulger agreed to this request.

LE04/13 MINUTES OF MEETING Upon the proposition of Cllr. Ward & seconded by Cllr. Turner it was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2012 as a true record.

LE05/13 MATTERS ARISING None.

LE06/13 KINGS HEAD MEADOW WORKING GROUP

Cllr Foulger gave a brief introduction of the work carried out by Cllrs. Taylor, Turner & Fernee. Cllr. Taylor gave a brief resume of the work undertaken and read out a final report/ recommendation as attached to these minutes.

Cllr. Foulger then distributed a paper outlining the group's work which will form a part of the Council's records. He also thanked the group both personally and on behalf of the Council for their work.

Upon the proposal of Cllr. Gardiner and seconded by Cllr. Taylor it was unanimously resolved that the work of this group had been concluded and its findings be passed to the recently formed King's Head Meadow Trust Working Group.

LE07/13 KINGS HEAD MEADOW TRUST WORKING GROUP

Cllr. Gardiner, as Chairman of this group, advised that the group had been formed at the full Council meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2012 and was on track to deliver a proposal to the Council at its March meeting. The group had held several meetings including one with Wymondham Town Football Club (WTFC) and one with the Council's solicitors whose advice was been considered. A further meeting with WTFC was scheduled for Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February. He emphasised that the group has to go through a proper and thorough process before reporting to the Leisure & Environment Committee and then to the full Council.

LE08/13 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Mr Heard requested that the King's Head Meadow report be placed on the Council's website.
- Mr Hawkins enquired about keeping the meadow green. Cllr. Foulger responded that the Council's solicitors had been asked questions regarding the lease to WTFC and that the Council has a duty to speak to its tenants first.
- Mr Moss asked who was on the King's Head Meadow Trust Working Group. Cllr. Foulger replied Cllrs. Gardiner, Foulger, Gibbins, Taylor & Fernee.
- Mrs Woodward commented that she was not clear on what type of recreational facilities were being considered for King's Head Meadow. Cllr. Gardiner replied that it was not solely football and that everything was being considered.

Meeting closed 18.55 pm

DATED this ..... day of ..... 2013

SIGNED ..... (Chairman)

**WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL  
LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 29th JANUARY 2013  
FINAL REPORT**

**KING'S HEAD MEADOW WORKING GROUP**

**BACKGROUND**

Wymondham Town Council at its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2012 passed the following motion:

- a) Put on hold all decisions (except ongoing maintenance) affecting King's Head Meadow (including the renewal of the Wymondham Town Football Club Lease) until a full report and plan for the future use of the meadow is presented to the Town Council for debate.
- b) Set up a mechanism for the involvement of residents in the decision making process as regards the future use of the meadow.

Proposer Cllr. A Taylor

Seconder Cllr. D Fernee

The motion was passed unanimously and it was agreed to set up a working group consisting of Cllrs Taylor, Fernee & Turner.

The working group to report to the Leisure & Environment Committee.

**RESEARCH**

The working group met and determined a course of action by drawing up a flow chart of action points and public consultations. This was presented to the Leisure & Environment Committee meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

The first stage of the Action plan was the holding of a consultation / blue sky thinking session in the Tiffey Rooms, Central Hall which was held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2012 attended by 15 invited local organisations. The results of their deliberations which also incorporated written submissions from 6 other groups who were unable to attend are attached to this report.

The second stage of the process was a public consultation event that was again held in the Central Hall on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2012 resulting in 300 attendees with 250 questionnaires being completed (15 by children). A preliminary analysis of the responses was presented to the Leisure & Environment Committee meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2012 and is attached to this report.

Initially it was felt that the Council should research the registration of the Meadow under the Fields In Trust (FIT) QE2 scheme and to progress this one of their representatives gave a briefing to Councillors on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2012. The outcome of this was that the scheme was not suitable and at a Council meeting held later on the same day it was decided to consider alternative options.

The matter was further considered by the Leisure & Environment Committee at its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2012 and the following is minuted:

'Upon the proposition of Cllr. Taylor and seconded by Cllr. Turner it was resolved that Wymondham Town Council recognises the current public desire that Kings Head Meadow should be retained for recreational use and that this Council should evaluate and ratify a more formal and legal mechanism to effect this desire as soon as possible'

This was subsequently ratified by the Full Council at its meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2012 and a new working group was established.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The King's Head Meadow Working Group has concluded its work and endorses the above course of action and in particular further investigation into whether a local Charitable Trust can be established to resolve the future of the meadow.

Cllrs: A Taylor, D Fernee & J Turner.