

Folkestone Town Council

MINUTES of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Hall, Folkestone on Thursday, 20th February 2020 at 6 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Ray Field – Deputy Mayor (in the Chair)

Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Ann Berry, Paul Bingham, Peter Gane, Michelle Keutenius, Jonathan Graham, David Horton, Dylan Jeffrey, Nicola Keen, Mary Lawes, Jackie Meade, Connor McConville, Tim Prater, Belinda Walker, Richard Wallace and Roger West.

In attendance: Jennifer Childs (Town Clerk)

1658. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Dan Brook was absent.

1659. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

1660. MATTERS AND RESOLUTIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Community Services Committee 4th February 2020

Minute 1109. SMALL PARKS

Further to Members considerations and a review of Report C/19/258 it was

RESOLVED: To defer this item and request that it be taken back to Full Council on the basis of establishing a Small Parks Working Group (Councillors Belinda Walker, Paul Bingham, Michelle Keutenius, Peter Gane and Abena Akuffo Kelly) who will undertake site visits of each small park further to which an update report of findings will be presented to Members.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Abena Akuffo - Kelly

Voting: F: 6, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

Councillor Michelle Keutenius updated members on the site visits conducted by the working group, members questioned how the request for Folkestone Town Council to take on the parks came about.

6.22pm Councillor Richard Wallace arrived at this juncture.

6.30pm Councillors Jackie Meade and Connor McConville arrived at this juncture.

After significant deliberations around the financial implications and the lack of maintenance and care by the district council; the report and supplementary information was reviewed and it was agreed unanimously that Folkestone Town Council should take over the small parks but longer leases, emptying of the litter bins and a better dowry was preferable to enable the parks to be brought up to an acceptable standard.

RESOLVED:

To advise Folkestone & Hythe District Council that items for devolution should be raised at the town and district partnership working group in the first instance.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Nicola Keen
Voting: F:15, Ag:0, Ab:2

RESOLVED:

To accept the transfer of the 8 small parks and instruct the Town Clerk to negotiate the terms of the leases and accept the proposed dowry of £100,000

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Roger West
Voting: F:14, Ag:2, Ab:1

1661. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 19th March 2020 at 7pm

The meeting ended at 6.45pm

.....Town Mayor
19th March 2020