

**Coronavirus Contingency Committee Meeting
22 July 2020**

Present: Councillors Bugge, G Eccles, J Eccles, Hardacre, Kenyon and Wilson

No members of the public were in attendance.

NB – This meeting was held online, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020.

553 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mitchell and Pringle.

Resolved that the respective reasons for absence be approved.

554 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Bugge declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 4 – Allotments.

Cllr Wilson declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 4 – Allotments.

555 MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2020 be approved.

556 ALLOTMENTS

Having each declared a pecuniary interest, Cllrs Bugge and Wilson took no part in this item. The town clerk confirmed the meeting is still quorate.

a) Caravans

Resolved that:

- The appeal regarding a caravan at Grove Lane allotments be accepted and approved.
- The caravan at Sandygate allotments be refused as permission was not sought.
- From now on there is a blanket ban on caravans on all sites and that allotment agreements be amended accordingly.

b) Horses

Resolved that:

- The colt at Sandygate allotments is to be gelded and the according papers are to be provided to the council.
- The head of security investigate potential issues with other horses at Sandygate/Churchfield allotments.

c) Feedback from site visit to Grove Lane

Resolved that following the site visit and in accordance with minute no. 556 (a), the appeal regarding a caravan at Grove Lane allotments be accepted and approved.

At this juncture Cllrs Bugge and Wilson resumed their participation in the meeting.

557 HEMSWORTH CEMETERY

Resolved that having conducted a risk assessment and having the requisite

Visit Lakeside Café Bar for a quality carvery every Wednesday and Sunday

approval from Wakefield Council and the council's insurer, council grounds maintenance staff will conduct routine grounds maintenance work at Hemsworth Cemetery on 26/7/20.

558 CLUB TERRACE

The town clerk confirmed that the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has given his permission to dispose of the former allotments site at Club Terrace.

Resolved to commence the requisite statutory consultation to dispose of the land.

559 LAND VALUATIONS

Resolved that Mr Malcolm Stuart be appointed as valuer and that he conduct valuations of land at Club Terrace and Newstead.

560 GREEN SPACES - STREETSCENE

Resolved that the town clerk correspond with Wakefield Council regarding the lack of green spaces in the parish, with particular reference to football pitches at Hemsworth Academy which are no longer accessible to the public.

561 SPORT ENGLAND FUNDING

Resolved that:

- Wakefield Council be asked to assist with funding applications.
- The head of security to research the matter further.

562 RURAL MARKET TOWNS GROUP

Resolved that the request to join the Rural Market Towns Group be declined.

563 HEMSWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE

a) Youth club

Resolved that this be deferred and considered in September, pending further government guidance.

b) Citizens advice service

Resolved that further to minute no. 533 (c), the decision to pay two-thirds of the annual bill be reaffirmed.

564 SANDYGATE FOOTBALL FACILITY

Resolved that:

- The plans for the site be approved.
- The project will be funded externally via grants obtained by Cllr Womersley.
- The grass pitch be available to West End Terriers FC and Hemsworth Town FC from the weekend of 15 August 2020.

565 HEMSWORTH WATER PARK

a) Review of the request from the Mad Paddlers

Resolved that the request from the 'Mad Paddlers' to use the large lake be declined but with a review to be conducted in due course.

b) Request to use an area of the park for youth activities

Resolved that the respective requests from Wakefield Council's youth work team and Wakefield Trinity Community Foundation be approved and that the field adjacent to the lower lake be used.

c) Review of operations

Resolved that pedalos remain out of use and Playworld remains closed.

566 LAKESIDE CAFÉ BAR

a) Meal delivery service

Resolved that the meal delivery service will end on 22 July but any bookings already taken for 26 July will be honoured.

b) Provision of entertainment

Resolved that other than the Cher tribute act on 2 August, the maximum cost for each artist be £160 for the rest of August with a review to be held in September.

c) Old folks dinner

Resolved that:

- Cllr J Eccles liaise with the café bar manager and local care home managers to arrange a COVID secure old folks dinner with entertainment at the café bar.
- Cllrs G & J Eccles be commended for funding the dinner.
- The council to fund the entertainment and a tea later the same day.
- The dinner will likely be held in September, provided government COVID guidance allows.

567 GARDEN SCHEME 2020

Resolved that having received the assessment from the grounds maintenance manager, those gardens deemed to be accessible will be mowed in the next couple of weeks whereas those deemed not to be accessible will be referred back to the committee/council.

568 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PROCEDURE

Resolved that with immediate effect, freedom of information requests will be anonymized and referred to the Policy and Planning Committee, notwithstanding the council's statutory obligations.

569 MOTOR INSURANCE

The town clerk reported on the offer from the council's insurer regarding the stolen quad bike and an issue with the cover for trailers.

Resolved that:

- The offer regarding the quad bike be declined in that it should be higher.
- The town clerk be authorized to resolve the issue regarding cover for trailers.

570 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

Resolved that in view of the confidential nature of business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

571 INTRUDER ALARMS

Resolved that new intruder alarm systems for council properties be approved, as per the quote provided.

572 INSURANCE CLAIM

The town clerk reported on an insurance claim submitted against the council.

Resolved that liability is not accepted due to the circumstances outlined by witnesses.

573 KIRKBY ROAD SPORTS COMPLEX AND MEADOW CROFT

The town clerk provided an update on matters pertaining to the sports complex and Meadow Croft.

Resolved that:

- The report of the town clerk be noted and approved.
- Mr Paul Stookes of Richard Buxton Solicitors be instructed accordingly.

The meeting closed at 11:40.