

**PADDOCK WOOD TOWN COUNCIL**  
**The Podmore Building, St Andrews Road, Paddock Wood**  
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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ESTATES COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**April , 2023 at 7.00 pm in the Day Centre, Commercial Road.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr D Boyle, in the Chair  
 Cllrs H Atkins, R. Atkins, T. Bisdee, M. Flashman

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs N Reay, Town Clerk  
 Mr C Smith, Estates Manager

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs R. Moon, A Mackie, D. Sargison, R. Turk

**ES69            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**ES70            MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**  
 The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were APPROVED.

**ES71            UPDATE FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

a) A copy of the Memorial Bench guidelines was attached. These are for benches in the Cemetery as well as the council recreation ground.

Following a discussion Cllr Boyle proposed, Cllr Flashman seconded:  
*That the guidelines should be adopted subject to an annual review.*  
 CARRIED unanimously.

b) Levelling Up fund – the funds had now been received and work will commence on the wild flower meadow as soon as possible. Notices will be placed on site to inform residents.

c) ES61 – Play Equipment - another contractor had been identified who was willing to quote for the works required. His quote is awaited.

d) ES62 – all allotment holders had been notified of the price increases for the 2024/25. Where email addresses had been given on the tenancy agreement the notice had been sent by email.

e) ES64 – there was not further update at present

f) ES66 – the Estates Manager had been unable to contact the residents concerned. He had left his contact details for them to call him back.

**ES72            CAR PARK FOAL HURST WOOD.**

The Town Council is in receipt of £22,294 of section 106 money to mitigate any adverse effect the building of the adjoining housing development has on the nature reserve.

Signed Committee Chairman:

Date:

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Members had previously discussed improving the car park surface and costs for a tarmac car park had been obtained. Cost two years ago was between £27,000 & £28,000. This was beyond the current budget.

The cost of replacing the surface of compacted road planings – similar e is already there – had been obtained and was £6500.

Members discussed which surface they would prefer, and some members felt that the compacted road planings would be more in keeping with a nature reserve than a tarmacked carpark.

Costs of replacing the footbridges which were beginning to degrade had also been obtained. This would be £5,300.

Cllr Boyle proposed, Cllr Bisdee seconded:

*That the car park surface should be replaced using compacted road planings, as per the specification given.*

CARRIED 3 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstain

Cllr Boyle proposed, Cllr H Atkins seconded:

*That the footbridges should be replaced/repared as per the specification given.*

CARRIED unanimously.

ES73

### **ALLOTMENTS**

Members noted the attached correspondence from the allotment co-ordinator.

ES74

### **FOOTBALL PITCHES**

Members considered the attached report whereby the Estates Manager had been questioned by the football leagues and clubs as to whether he had the authority to call off matches if he considered the pitches unfit for play.

Cllr Boyle proposed, Cllr H Atkins seconded:

*That the Estates Manager has authority to call off matches on all the town council owned pitches.*

CARRIED unanimously.

ES75

### **REPLACEMENT LIGHTING**

Costs to replace the light fittings in the Day Centre and St Andrews Hall had been received.

Cllr Boyle proposed, Cllr Flashman seconded:

That all the light fittings in the Day Centre should be replaced as per the quotation

CARRIED 4 in favour, 1 abstention

Signed Committee Chairman:

Date:

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Cllr Boyle proposed, Cllr Flashman seconded:  
That all the light fittings in St Andrews Hall should be replaced as per the quotation.  
CARRIED 3 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.

**ES76 PONDS & CULVERTS**

The estates manager has met with the council's pond consultant in order to consider any future work to required. The fishing platforms at Putlands need repair/replacement. Members discussed whether all four platforms should be retained or some removed.

Cllr Flashman proposed, Cllr Boyle seconded:  
That two platforms should be retained, and two removed.  
CARRIED unanimously.

The culvert at Elm Tree is likely to need repair soon. See attached photo. The Estates Manager would continue to monitor it.

**ES77 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY BOARD**

The Public Rights of Way board which the council installed at the Eastern Car park no longer has a map in it. The map faded and was removed. It has not been possible to obtain another one as KCC no longer print them.

It is not practical to use it regularly as a notice board due to the difficulties opening it.

Cllr Boyle proposed, Cllr Bisdee seconded:  
That the board should be removed, if possible, and the area made good.  
CARRIED unanimously.

**ES78 CORONATION BENCH**

The Town council has approved a £1000 for a Coronation Bench. Members were asked to agree the design & location for the bench.

Cllr Boyle proposed, Cllr H Atkins seconded:  
*That the Wealden Coronation bench should be purchased and installed along the southern boundary of the Community Centre on Memorial Field. The Memorial Bench for David Henshaw should be installed alongside it.*  
CARRIED unanimously.

There was a spare bench from Putlands Field and that would be installed adjacent to the Rugby field.

If sufficient funds are left from the budget the Estates Manager has advised that it would be possible to obtain an oak tree which was also discussed at the Council meeting. This could be planted at Green Lane adjacent to the existing oak tree which has a TPO on it. A plaque to commemorate the Coronation could also be obtained.

Signed Committee Chairman:

Date:

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Cllr Boyle proposed, Cllr Flashman seconded:

*That with the remaining funds an oak tree and plaque should be bought and planted at Green Lane close to the existing tree.*

CARRIED unanimously.

The Estates Manager advised that the tree could not now be planted until the autumn.

ES79

**TENNIS COURT NETS**

Members are asked to approve the purchase of the new nets for the tennis courts. £200 has been allocated for the nets. This item was deferred as additional funds would need to be identified.

ES80

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 7.45 pm. TBC

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

Signed Committee Chairman:

Date:

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