



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Property Committee  
Wednesday 31 May 2023 at 6pm**

**Present**

Cllrs Craig Gale (Chairman), Paul Berry, Phillip Day, Sandy Duck and Steve Thomas.

**In Attendance**

G Burt, Clerk to the Council

**29/23 Chairman's Announcements.**

The Chairman

- a. Advised that the meeting was being streamed to the internet.
- b. Asked Members to raise their hands if they wished to speak and speak clearly.

**30/23 Apologies.**

An apology for absence had been received from Cllr Edna Benger - prior engagement. On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Phillip Day, **RESOLVED** that the apology and reason given be accepted.

*Apologies from Cllr Roy Margetts were seen subsequently.*

**31/23 Declarations of Interest and Notification of Changes to Members' Interests.**

None.

**32/23 Minutes.**

On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Sandy Duck, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2023, previously circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record by the Chairman of the meeting.

**33/23 Matters Arising.**

None.

**34/23 Public Session.**

None.

**35/23 To consider request to sell Council land to resident.**

The Council had been asked to consider disposing of land to the owner of 12 High Street in order that he may extend his garden. The land had a covenant on it such that it could not be built upon. Councillors had received similar requests in the past from residents which had always been declined; however, the Council had always considered each application on its merits. This particular land parcel contained two distinct parts: amenity grass and shrubs fronting Coombe Hill which the Council maintained; another to the north which is higher

than the former and is in effect part of the resident's garden and which the council has not maintained as it did not appreciate that it owned it!

On the proposal of Cllr Phillip Day, seconded by Cllr Craig Gale, **RESOLVED** that as on this occasion, there would be no loss of open space currently enjoyed by residents, the northern part of the land parcel could be disposed of, but as the Council was minded not to dispose of such land be either freehold or leasehold, then it would be happy to allow the resident to use the land under a *Licence to Occupy*. [Details confirmed in Minute 41/23 below.]

**36/23 To receive an update on new skate park at Jubilee Fields plus consider funding options.**

Following the awarding of the contract to construct a replacement skate park at Jubilee Fields to Fearless Ramps at the March meeting (Min 28/23 refers), the design had been refined further following online and site meetings with local users; a final public consultation will be undertaken shortly. Hopefully all consultations will be complete by mid-June. The Committee will be invited in due course to sign-off the final design. The Council currently has no budget allocated to this project, which remains costed at £140,000. An application has been submitted to Horsham District Council (HDC) to draw down S106 funds towards the project. On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Sandy Duck, **RECOMMEND** to the F&GP Committee that funding is allocated accordingly, to make up any difference between what S106 funds can be secured and the total cost.

**37/23 To receive property updates for information only.**

NOTED. The Committee's usual thanks to officers for their endeavours were noted.

**38/23 Any other matters for information only.**

None.

**39/23 Date of Next Meeting: 19 July 2023.**

**40/23 Exclusion of Press & Public.**

On the proposal of Cllr Steve Thomas, seconded by Cllr Sandy Duck, **RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (contractual), the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

**41/23 To consider terms of disposal of land.**

Pursuant to the decision in Minute 35/23 above, on the proposal of Cllr Phillip Day, seconded by Cllr Craig Gale, **RESOLVED** that any agreement to issue a *Licence to Occupy* at 12 High Street, for the land north of the wall is:

- i. Personal to the current owner and would expire upon disposal of the property. (The next owner would have to reapply.)
- ii. The land must be kept open, but if they wanted to do anything on it, e.g. construct a new fence or steps and path to the garage, then landlord's consent would be required.
- iii. There would be no rent.

*The meeting finished at 6.29pm.*

Chairman

Date