

# Minutes of a Meeting of Mid Sussex District Council Charity Trustees held on 25 July 2018 from 6.45 pm to 6.59 pm.

## Present:

Councillor Bruce Forbes (Chairman)  
Councillor Colin Trumble (Vice-Chairman)

|                       |                      |                         |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Jonathan Ash-Edwards  | Steven Hansford*     | Kirsty Page             |
| Andrew Barrett-Miles* | Sue Hatton*          | Geoff Rawlinson*        |
| Edward Belsey         | Ginny Heard          | Peter Reed              |
| John Belsey           | Chris Hersey         | Robert Salisbury*       |
| Margaret Belsey       | Margaret Hersey      | Linda Stockwell*        |
| Liz Bennett           | Colin Holden         | Dick Sweatman           |
| Michelle Binks        | Anne Jones MBE       | Mandy Thomas-Atkin      |
| Anne Boutrup*         | Jim Knight           | Neville Walker          |
| Pete Bradbury*        | Jacqui Landriani*    | Garry Wall              |
| Heidi Brunsdon*       | Andrew Lea*          | Anthony Watts Williams* |
| Cherry Catharine      | Anthea Lea           | Norman Webster          |
| Richard Cherry        | Judy Llewellyn-Burke | Rex Whittaker           |
| Rod Clarke            | Andrew MacNaughton   | John Wilkinson*         |
| Phillip Coote         | Gordon Marples       | Peter Wyan              |
| Ruth de Mierre        | Gary Marsh           |                         |
| Tony Dorey*           | Edward Matthews      |                         |
| David Dorking         | Norman Mockford*     |                         |
| Sandy Ellis           | Pru Moore            |                         |
| Claire Fussell        | Howard Muddin        |                         |

\*Absent

## 1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2018 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

## 3. URGENT BUSINESS

None.

## 4. BEECH HURST GARDENS CHARITABLE TRUST, HAYWARDS HEATH, WEST SUSSEX (CHARITY NUMBER 305202) – WORKS TO BEECH HURST COTTAGES

The Solicitor to the Council introduced the report which seeks the Trustees approval to complete general works and to refurbish No. 4 Beech Hurst Cottage and to complete the refurbishment of No. 5 Beech Hurst Cottage with the inclusion of a new bathroom.

The Chairman took the Trustees to the recommendations which were unanimously agreed.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Charity Trustees:

- (i) authorised the use of the Trust's funds to complete general works and refurbish No. 4 Beech Hurst Cottages, and to fit a new bathroom at No. 5 Beech Hurst Cottages, as per Appendix 1 of the report.

### **5. ST JOHN'S PARK CHARITABLE TRUST, BURGESS HILL, WEST SUSSEX – (CHARITY NO. 305189) – PROPOSED LEASE DISPOSAL**

The Solicitor to the Council introduced the report concerning the lease of parts of the Cricket Pavilion, (as shown in red in Appendix A) and the grant of ancillary rights to maintain and use the wicket area (as shown in blue in Appendix A). He confirmed that the terms have now been agreed and signed off by the Club and an independent surveyor has approved it on the basis of value for money.

In response to a Member's query, he confirmed that there is no increase in the rent, and that a 10 year lease was the timeframe agreed with the Club.

The Chairman took the Trustees to the recommendations which were unanimously agreed.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Charity Trustees:

- (i) Noted the absence of any responses to the statutory advertisements placed in the Mid Sussex Times on 27<sup>th</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017 giving notice of the Charity Trustees' intention to grant the proposed lease; and;
- (ii) subject to the Club agreeing to pay costs including the costs incurred in complying with the Charity Trustees' statutory obligations, authorised the Charity Trustees' Solicitor to grant the lease on the terms set out in this report.

### **6. COUNCIL CHARITABLE LAND - ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT**

The Solicitor to the Council introduced the report, noting that the most significant expenditure relates to Beech Hurst, as this also generates the most income. He drew Members attention to p.61 of the report, detailing £72,500 landscaping proposals planned for Beech Hurst Gardens over the next 12 months. Regarding the other Charitable Trusts, he noted that the Council sponsors them, even if the expenditure is greater than the income.

A Member sought clarification on a number of figures in the report, particularly relating to Beech Hurst Gardens, the Richard Worsley (Cuckfield) Recreation Ground, and expenditure at St John's Park. He requested that future reports provide detail to explain particular changes. It was agreed that the Head of Finance would provide details in writing outside of the meeting.

A Member highlighted that the Kiosk at Beech Hurst could potentially provide a better income if their requests for hard standing and a canopy could be addressed. The Solicitor to the Council confirmed that their requests were being considered.

## RESOLVED

That the Charity Trustees:

- (i) noted and agreed the contents of the report and approved the Charities' Accounts for 2017/2018;
- (ii) Considered the requests and approved the proposals set out in the report in respect of the following specific charities:
  - (a) Beech Hurst Gardens:
    - (i) To resurface the willow area near the playground at a cost of up to £7,500.
    - (ii) To create a new footpath around the petanque and re-landscape to improve accessibility, at a cost of up to £10,000.
    - (iii) To replace the wooden barriers and handrails with new wrought iron barriers which will be less costly in maintenance and less prone to vandalism, and to approve a spend of up to £15,000.
    - (iv) To complete a new circular path around Lower Meadow and to widen the footpath between the kiosk and the bowls at a cost of up to £40,000.
    - (v) Report back to a future meeting of the trustees on specific detailed terms about the proposed art trail at Beech Hurst.
    - (vi) To release the £6,000 previously allocated for grading the bank from the picnic lawn to the adjacent amenity area at Beech Hurst as a means of unifying both locations to increase casual recreation; and report back to a future meeting of the trustees on revised proposals and costs.
    - (vii) To note progress and expenditure on the project to create a mini arboretum; and to agree to the remaining allocated funding of £11,500 to be used to further progress the project during 2018/19.

(b) West Common

Report back to a future meeting of the trustees on specific detailed terms for the development of a "bee friendly" wild flower area to be established in spring 2019.

Chairman.