

Strategy and Finance Committee

Tuesday 7th May 2024 7.30pm
Council Chamber, Brooke House

AGENDA

SF46/24 ATTENDANCE

To receive apologies, substitutions and requests for co-option

SF47/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

SF48/24 MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 6th of February 2024

SF49/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

To discuss any matters arising from the minutes not discussed elsewhere on the agenda

- Birch Hill Toilets - the door is repaired and the toilets are open on the timer system
- Visit from the Police Crime Commissioner - The visit was a massive success with over 90 children attending the football event organised by The Wayz
- Bracknell Matters - The next edition will be published after the AGM to enable the new Mayor to be announced
- Brooke House Leases - To receive an update from the Town Clerk on the Foster Harrington Lease
- King's Portrait - The portrait has been received and displayed in the Council Chamber

SF50/24 CLERK'S REPORT

To receive an update from the Town Clerk on the following items:

- Website Providers - Officers are still researching website providers and the contract currently in place is now rolling on a monthly basis
- To discuss refreshments and requirements for the AGM to be held on 14th May at Great Hollands Recreation Ground
- The Biodiversity Statement was checked against the BTNP and has been published on the BTC website
- SHP Food Festival - To receive an update on the parking following a meeting with the CEO
- Arson at Jocks Lane - To receive an update on the community response to the new play equipment
- Break in at Mill Park Boat House - To receive an update on the repairs
- LCAS Gold Award - Officers are still working on the policies and documents required for the LCAS Gold Award. The policies and documents to be adopted and approved will be taken through the committee system and to the June Full Council meeting as they all need to be approved at one meeting

SF51/24 FINANCES

To review the reports from the Town Clerk on the current financial position of Bracknell Town Council. If you have any questions please email them to the Town Clerk before the meeting so that the relevant information can be available.

SF52/24 INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT

To note the interim audit report from Claire Connell, the internal auditor

SF53/24 STANDING ORDER REQUEST

To review a request from the Town Clerk to suspend the Standing Orders regarding appointing a preferred supplier - further details will be brought to the meeting

SF54/24 PUMP TRACK CONSULTATION AND FUNDING

The first stage of the consultation for the Pump Track at Mill Park has been rolled out. This included an in-person consultation at the Skate Competition and also a soft rollout of the online consultation form. Once the final budget and contractors are confirmed, the preliminary courses for Pump Track options at Mill Park can be designed and this can form the second stage of the consultation.

- The Town Clerk would like to request that preferred suppliers be appointed for the Pump Track build as per the previous agenda item
- There is currently an approved budget of £80,000 ringfenced for the Pump Track from CIL funds, the Town Clerk would like to request additional funding of £70,000 from CIL funding to enable the pump track to be enhanced so that it is suitable for multi-wheel use e.g. BMX, bicycles, scooters, skateboards, inline skates and wheelchairs and to refresh the existing skate park

SF55/24 BTC LEASE

There are 18 years left on the lease of Brooke House where the office and Council Chamber is located. Councillors are to discuss potential ideas regarding the further location of the office and Council Chamber

SF56/24 BIODIVERSITY AUDIT

To review a request from the Environmental Services Committee for funding of £4795 for biodiversity audits for Jocks Lane, Mill Park, Great Hollands Rec and Braybrooke Recreation Ground. There are funds available in the Environmental Improvement fund that can cover this expense.

SF57/24 BIRCH HILL LEASE

To receive an update from the Town Clerk following the lease assessment of the Birch Hill building

SF58/24 COMMUNITY EVENTS WORKING GROUP

To receive an update on the Working Group
Completed Events since the last meeting:

- 12th April 2024 Skate Competition and Pump Track Consultation
- 21st April 2024 Mayor's Marathon Day

Upcoming Events:

- 6th June 2024 80th Anniversary of D-Day - to discuss releasing remaining event budget from 2023/24 to support this event
- 8th & 9th June 2024 SHP Food Festival - to discuss releasing remaining event budget from 2023/24 to support this event
- 23rd June 2024 Community and Culture Event celebrating 75 years of Bracknell New Town
- 3rd July 2024 Teddy Bears' Picnic GH
- 29th June 2024 Armed Forces Day
- 20th July Pride Event
- 7th August 2024 Summer of Fun
- 28th August 2024 Summer of Fun
- 3rd September 2024 Merchant Navy Day
- 27th/28th/29th September 2024 MacMillan Coffee Morning
- 6th October 2024 Silver Sunday
- 25th October 2024 100 years of the War Memorial
- 10th November 2024 Remembrance Parade

SF59/24 TV GRANTS WORKING GROUP

The TV Grants Working Group met and have agreed to do an advertising push for the current TV Licence Grant to establish if more people will claim and also to ask for the residents' ideas on how to improve the grant. Officers are working on a leaflet explaining the grant clearly and this will be delivered to all 22,000 homes in Bracknell by Councillors. Approximately 6 weeks after the leaflets have been delivered, the Working Group will meet again to discuss the feedback and uptake and will then discuss ways to move forward with the grant.

SF60/24 CIL

- To review the CIL report
- To change the amount agreed for the pump track subject to the agenda item above
- To discuss new ideas put forward for CIL funding
- To receive feedback from Councillors following CIL training in the Council Chamber