

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 21st May 2008 at 7.30p.m. at the Council Chamber, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Chairman:	Councillor Mrs S Bedford
Councillors:	Councillor Mrs D J Lay - Vice Chair Councillor K Williams Councillor J Wyatt Councillor S Giles-Medhurst Councillor C Daily Councillor L Lay Councillor Miss I Young
Also Present:	Mr R Smith - Sports Representative Mr L Clark - Allotment Representative
Officers:	Mr T Perkins - Clerk to the Council Mr D Abbott - Facilities Manager Mr M Ellis - Works Manager

The meeting opened at 7:30pm.

35. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received, recorded and accepted from Councillor White.

Mrs G Keaveny, Halls Representative and Mr C Bromwich, Allotments Representative also advised that they would be unable to attend.

36. Declarations of Interest

None.

37. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lay, seconded by Councillor Mrs Bedford and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April 2008, copies of which had been sent to all Members of the Parish Council prior to the meeting, be taken as read and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

38. Election of Vice-Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor Giles-Medhurst, seconded by Councillor Williams and RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Lay be elected Vice-Chairman of the Leisure Committee for the year 2008/2009.

39. Matters referred from the Parish Council

Lemonfield Drive. Officers were asked to obtain three designs and quotes to update the play equipment at Lemonfield Drive. When outline costings were available the Clerk was asked to write to Three Rivers District Council to enquire if matched grant funding would be available.

It was agreed that the subscription to CPRE would be maintained, those to Herts. & Middx. Wildlife Trust, The Chiltern Society, International Tree Foundation, Open Spaces Society, Morning Advertiser would not be renewed.

40. Hillside Hall

Report from the Clerk and Police discussed related to the booking on 9th May discussed. Reports of problems on 17th May, nothing yet notified from the Police. Members have discussed recent incidents with residents adjoining the hall.

Officers to continue to take a responsible attitude to bookings and they were requested to put any suggestions for improvement back to this committee.

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The Clerk advised that he felt that officers were doing everything possible to properly assess bookings, but would review with staff.

Members agreed that the halls are community facilities and should continue to be used as such, providing a responsible approach was taken to bookings.

Print copy of the following week "What's On" sheet to be delivered to the Police Office each Friday. This may help the Police identify where events are being held, as complaints had been received about noise from Hillside Hall when there were no events taking place.

Terms and Conditions to be changed to advise that we may release bookings information to appropriate organisations.

41. Henderson Hall

Members agreed the following priorities and objectives for the Henderson Hall trustees.

No priority order.

- Reduce PC contribution to HH.
- Relationship with PC on administration of HH.
- What needs to be done and why, short, medium and long term.
- Other activities that could be attracted to the hall within the constraints of the current bookings.
- Fundraising strategy.
- Business plan. (Link to short, medium, long term plans.)
- Hall fitness for purpose, any quick wins. (Flooring, redecs, kitchen.)
- Trustees expected to evolve into role, walk before running.
- Chairman and Vice of Leisure to meeting with the trustees later in the year.
- Review of constitution.

In addition the trustees should be made aware of their obligations around annual reporting, budgeting and reporting, some of which have statutory requirements laid down by the Charity Commissioners.

The Clerk advised that the first informal meeting of the trustees was scheduled for 28th May, giving them the opportunity to tour the hall and receive a pack of information. It is hoped the first formal meeting will be within the following two weeks as two of the trustees are then on holiday.

The Clerk was asked to make the trust constitution document available to members.

Bedmond Sports and Social Club

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Bedford and agreed by all members that this item should be varied to the end of the agenda under Standing Order 12.

Evergreen Football Club

It was agreed that for the current year Evergreen and the other clubs would not be charged for tournaments held on the Parish Council's pitches. Tournament charging to be brought into the review of Fees and Charges. Points for consideration will include transparency of charging and the possible use of the grants process.

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Allotment Representative

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lay, seconded by Councillor Miss Young and **RESOLVED** that Mrs Sally Sanderson be appointed the Allotment Representative for Jacketts Field.

Reports from Sports Representatives

Fixture congestion, due to the bad spring weather, had caused problems for Abbots Langley Cricket Club at the beginning of the cricket season as football games were disrupting colts training. Consideration to be given next season to a “drop dead” date by when football fixtures should be completed.

Sport Forum to consider the appointment of Sports Representatives to replace Councillor Lay.

Reports from Allotments Representatives

Members noted the visit to Kingsfield allotments by the children from Tanners Wood school. Consideration to be given to making an allotment available to schools, if space was available.

Committee thanked Les Clark and Mark Ellis for their time and support. Mark Ellis has updated the plot and occupancy list for Kingsfield and this will be circulated to allotment holders.

Reports from Halls Representatives

None present.

Bedmond Sports and Social Club.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Bedford and seconded by Councillor Mrs Lay, that the press and public be excluded from the discussion about this following item, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102.

The Clerk was asked to take further advice from our solicitors and following this to write to the trustees and the club to outline their responsibilities and obtain a copy of the latest version of the clubs constitution.

The meeting closed at 9:55pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____