

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 17th September 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 S Giles-Medhurst Councillor L Lay
Also Present:	Mr R Smith - Sports Representative Mrs G Keavney - Halls Representative (Part) Mr L Clark - Allotment Representative Mrs S Sanderson - 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.

195. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Miss Young, Councillors Daily, White and Wyatt.

Mr C Bromwich, Allotments Representative advised that he would be unable to attend.

196. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mrs Lay declared an interest on agenda item 6, Abbots Langley Cricket Club.

197. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lay, seconded by Councillor Williams and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd July 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.

198. Matters Referred from the Parish Council

Consideration on the future of the Primrose Hill Changing Rooms was deferred until the October meeting of the Leisure Committee, to allow members the opportunity for a site visit.

199. Play Areas

Members were prepared to allocate c.£10k from the Play Area budget to support the reequipping of the Lemonfield Play Area, which was expected to cost c£35k. The Clerk was asked to write to Three Rivers District Council, so ascertain if any grant funding would be available. The Clerk was asked to remind Three Rivers that they are the freeholder of this site.

200. Abbots Langley Cricket Club.

It was confirmed that the extension to the cricket square requested by Abbots Langley Cricket Club was not additional to the extension granted in February 2007 (minute 531). The works previously approved had not been carried out, so this still stands as approved. There is liable to be some topsoil surplus to requirements when this work is carried out and the Works Manager will advise if the Parish Council have a use for this.

Members were supportive of the request from Abbots Langley Cricket Club to bring the cricket square at the Tom's Lane Recreation Ground back into use.

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The club will be asked to consult with the Works Manager on the proposed timescales and extent of the works. The Works Manager was asked to report back to next month's Leisure Committee meeting on any issues, particularly the longer term impact on the football training areas.

As Bedmond Sports and Social Club had been long term sports tenants on this recreation ground, the Clerk was asked to write to them to see if they had any objections to the cricket square being returned to use. Informal discussions would appear to suggest they will be supportive, as this is a potential revenue earner for the club.

201. User Forums

The Clerk was asked to draft an outline document on the Halls, Allotments and Sports User Forums and circulate to members. It was hoped that a Halls and Sports Forum could be arranged in November, or early December and an Allotment Forum in January. These forums should then take place twice a year.

202. Kitters Green

Members noted the work that would be carried out on Kitters Green to remove the forsythia bush, as required by loss adjusters appointed by our insurers. The bushes will be replaced with a flower bed.

The Clerk was asked to write to the tenant at the Royal Oak requesting that he remove the banner that has been hung on the fence at Kitters Green.

203. Allotment Prize Giving

It was noted that staff would be present at the Allotment Prize Giving and that the committee fully supported this.

It was proposed by Councillor Williams and seconded by Councillor Mrs Bedford and **RESOLVED** that all Parish Council functions should be arranged by the officers with the Clerk in oversight on budgetary compliance.

204. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Jacketts Field

The Works Manager was asked to investigate the possibility of bringing two small plots on the perimeter back into use.

The Clerk was asked to confirm who owned the freehold and/or leasehold of the access road at the Shepherd Close end of the allotment grounds.

Kingsfield

An on-site meeting with the Allotment Representative and officers has been arranged to confirm the tenancy and condition of a number of plots.

205. Halls Representatives.

Henderson Hall Managing Trustees will be asked to report to the Leisure Committee meeting in November, with particular reference to any budgetary requirements for 2009/2010.

206. Sports Representatives

Members congratulated Ron Smith, Sports Representative, on his award from BT in recognition of his voluntary work for sports in the area.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____