

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th December 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-Chairman) Councillor K Williams Councillor J Wyatt Councillor S Giles-Medhurst Councillor C Daily Councillor L Lay Councillor Miss I Young (Ex-Officio)
Also Present:	Mr R Smith - Sports Representative Mr C Bromwich - Allotment Representative Mrs L Clarke - Allotments Representative
Officers:	Mr T Perkins - Clerk to the Council Mr M Ellis - Works Manager

The meeting opened at 7:30pm, with Cllr Mrs Lay as Chairman.

347. Apologies for absence

Cllr White tendered his apologies, due to being unwell.

Mr S. Sanderson - Allotments Representative, Mrs G. Keaveny - Halls Representative, and Mr D. Abbott - Facilities Manager advised that they would be unable to attend.

348. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mrs Lay declared an interest in agenda item 11, reference AL Cricket Club.

349. Minutes of the Meeting

Cllr Mrs Bedford took over as Chairman.

It was proposed by Councillor Lay, seconded by Councillor Williams and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 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.

350. Matters referred from the Parish Council

None.

351. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

It was confirmed that the water system installation at Manor House had gone well and that it would be available for use in the spring.

352. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Mr Smith advised that Evergreen FC had called off all games over the past weekend, the torrential rain on Saturday had made the pitches unplayable, although they had improved by the Sunday. It was also reported that Evergreen FC club takings were down, from both hirings and bar takings.

353. Reports from the Halls Representatives.

None present.

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354. Henderson Hall

Members noted that the meeting between members delegated from this committee and the Henderson Hall Managing Trustees had taken place. A draft Memorandum of Understanding had been produced which would be considered by this committee at its January meeting.

355. Allotments

Members noted the Clerk's report.

356. Budget 2009/2010

The Clerk was asked to make amendments to the draft budget to allow the refurbishment of the Lemonfield Play Area to proceed in FY 2009/2010. Changes would include transferring £8.5k from this year's unspent Play Areas budget (Equipment - 7340), to earmarked reserves, allocating next year's full budget (£11k) for the same head to the project and taking account of the grant (£22k) from TRDC.

The Clerk advised that a resolution was not required from this committee as the changes would be reflected in the final budget that the Parish Council would approve in January.

The Clerk advised that the Working Party had met at the Primrose Hill Car Park, discussions were ongoing, a site meeting was being arranged with the Herts Highways C76 project team, to consider use of the car park during the C76 works. Members wanted a height restriction put in place to ensure HGVs could not use the car park causing further damage to the surface, but agreed this should not take place until the ongoing discussions were concluded.

Mark Ellis was asked to repair potholes in the South Way car park.

The Facilities Manager will be asked to present a Halls marketing strategy to the February meeting of this committee. Consideration to be given to how hirings during the day can be maximised, particularly to commercial groups. Signage also to be considered. It was also requested that contact be made with the NODA Hall Practitioner (raised by Simon Ash) at the Halls Users Forum, to see what advice they could give on maximising revenue from particularly Henderson Hall and potentially bringing the back stage and upper floor rooms into use.

The Clerk advised that all advertising had been reviewed and content in the TRDC Council Tax Guide and various doctors surgery publications had been dropped, as it could not be proved to be of use. The Clerk was asked to reconsider advertising in My Abbots and their other associated local publications.

It was proposed by Councillor Giles-Medhurst, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lay and **RESOLVED** that £2.5k be put in the budget to cover the installation of CCTV at the Manor House, the Clerk was advised not to make a Community Safety Grant application for these costs as it may detract from the application already made. An application would be considered if a future round of grant funding was available.

Members noted the Clerk's comments about revenue. Ron Smith advised that Evergreen FC had recently concluded a very favourable deal with Scottish and Newcastle of bar supplies.

357. Halls & Sports Charges

It was proposed by Councillor Giles-Medhurst, seconded by Councillor Daily and **RESOLVED** that the Football Mini-Pitch (£75.00) and Abbots Langley Cricket Club discount for use of the Tom's Lane Recreation Ground (66% season 1, 33% season 2) be approved as presented and that the charge for Fairs be increased to £800/5 days (11.2%).

The Clerk advised that a copy of the final draft charges would be circulated to members with the draft budget prior to the January Parish Council meeting, as the Fees & Charges require approval by the Parish Council.

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358. Users Forums

Members noted the minutes of the Halls Users Forum and asked officers to report back on any operational issues to a future meeting of this committee.

The Clerk apologised for not circulating the minutes of the Sports Users Forum, members will consider these at their January meeting.

The Allotments Forum was arranged for 5th March 2009 at the Manor House.

359. Bedmond Sports & Social Club

The Clerk was asked to proceed with amending the lease to take account of the new trustees.

360. Primrose Hill

Mark Ellis was asked to review the condition of the Primrose Hill footpath and report back to the January meeting of this committee on the likely costs and timescales to bring this back to a useable condition.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____