

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 18th March 2009 at 7.30p.m. at the Council Chamber, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Chairman: Councillor Mrs S Bedford

Councillors: Councillor Mrs J Lay
Councillor C Daily
Councillor L Lay
Councillor K Williams (part)
Councillor Miss I Young (Ex-Officio)

Also Present: Mr R Smith - Sports Representative
Mr C Bromwich - Allotment Representative
Mr L Clark - Allotments Representative
Mrs S Sanderson - Allotment Representative
Mrs G Keaveny - Halls Representative
Mr S Ash - Halls Representative

Officers: Mr T Perkins - Clerk to the Council
Mr D Abbott - Works Manager
Mr M Ellis - Works Manager

The meeting opened at 7:30pm.

516. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillors White (other meeting), Williams (work related - joined meeting late), Giles-Medhurst (unwell).

517. Declarations of Interest

None.

518. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Daily, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lay and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2009, 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.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lay, seconded by Councillor Miss Young and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th February 2009, 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.

519. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Mr Ron Smith advised that clubs were catching up on matches that had been postponed during the bad weather. The painting of the equipment on the children's play area at South Way was noted.

Councillor Bedford advised that TRDC were considering opening a football pitch on the grounds at Leavesden Country Park, the Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with officers from TRDC Leisure Department and representatives of Evergreens and Abbots Youth FC. The Clerk advised that the Abbots Langley Men's Club were looking for a pitch, so that they could rejoin a local league.

Members noted that the Bowling Club had undertaken some redecoration and relaying of footpaths, officers were aware and this was permitted under their lease.

The Clerk advised that he had received that morning an invitation to members to visit the Bowling Club; this would be passed on at the next Parish Council meeting.

520. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Manor House (Mr Chris Bromwich).

It was asked that officers advise the Allotment Judges of plot numbers and names, where tenants grow over a number of plots. This will allow judging at a “tenant” rather than “plot” level, so judges will see the mix of growing.

Fences which may be on Parish Council, adjacent to The Grange, land have fallen, officers to investigate. Also, consideration to be given to hedge planting to improve security, there has been some problems recently with youths getting onto the gardens.

Thanks from tenants for the new water system were noted.

Kingsfield (Mr Les Clark)

Mr Clarke has been unwell recently but on his return he noted that generally the allotments were being well worked, including the plots just allocated to new tenants. The footpath will require attention in the near future, officers advised that there were a number of options, the cost, benefit and long term impact would need consideration, as the footpath is on a reasonably steep slope, so land movement is always going to present problems.

Jacketts Field (Mrs Sally Sanderson)

It was reported there were some issues around notices to quit, but officers thought that these had now been resolved. Officers had taken a very lenient approach to tenants.

It was asked that the padlock at the Summerhouse Way end of the gardens be replaced.

521. Reports from the Halls Representatives

The Cash Office door is sticking, the Works Manager was aware, but as this is a heavy security door there were problems with the frame pulling away from the brickwork. This will be looked at again. The new floor is already looking grubby and there is damage to the new paintwork which is disappointing. Officers will investigate what can be done to maintain the appearance of the area.

Mr Simon Ash raised the high cost of Sunday casual rentals in Henderson Hall. Officers advised that the charges were those resolved by the Parish Council, but if there were any specific issues they should be raised with the Clerk or Facilities Manager.

The stage curtains are getting close to the end of their useful life, officers will get costings for replacements, Mr Simon Ash was asked to advise the Clerk of any specialist suppliers of which he was aware.

522. Property Works

Members noted the Clerk’s report on property works.

It was confirm that the Henderson hall Trustees would be consulting with user groups on the decoration specification for the hall and also the proposed capital works on the kitchen. An initial meeting on this was scheduled for the first week in April.

523. Pest Control

Members noted and supported the Clerk’s report on pest control.

524. Theatre Tent

It was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Miss Young and **RESOLVED** that the Flatpack Theatre Group be given permission to erect their theatre tent on the Manor House grounds for a few days in August. Mr Simon Ash was asked to advise officers of his preferred location and dates, so arrangements could be confirmed.

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525. Budget 2009/2010

Members noted the Clerk's report on "available funds" projects.

Officers were asked to review the provision of a self closing gate on the play area exit from the Manor House grounds to Gallows Hill Lane and also on the South Way playing fields, where a gate was removed last year.

The meeting closed at 8:40pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____