

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 20th May 7.30p.m. at the Council Chamber, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Chairman:	Councillor Mrs D J Lay
Vice Chairman:	Councillor C Daily
Councillors:	Councillor L Lay Councillor D White Councillor Miss I Young
Also Present:	Mr R Smith - Sports Representative Mr C Bromwich - Allotment Representative Mrs S Sanderson - Allotment Representative Mrs G Keaveny - Halls Representative
Officers:	Mr T Perkins - Clerk to the Council

The meeting opened at 7:30pm.

37. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, recorded and accepted from Councillor Mrs S Bedford (family duties), Williams (Residents Assoc. Meeting) and Wyatt (unavailable).

David Abbott, Facilities Manager and Mark Ellis, Works Manager were on annual leave.

Mr Simon Ash, Halls Representative had advised that he would be unable to attend.

38. Declarations of Interest

None.

39. Vice Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor Miss Young, seconded by Councillor Lay and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Daily be elected Vice Chairman of this committee for the coming council year.

40. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Miss Young, seconded by Councillor Lay and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th April 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.

41. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Mr Ron Smith advised that Evergreen FC was holding its own financially, but there were still many challenges. The club was performing well with the senior team finishing 7th in the Herts Premier League, its highest position for over 30 years. Other teams were also performing well.

Grass reseeding had taken place on the playing fields and there were signs of growth. It was asked that if it turned out to be a dry summer if the Works Team could consider watering key areas, such as the goal mouths to promote maximum growth.

Vandalism was an ongoing problem and the club was working with the police.

42. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Jacketts Field

Padlock at the Summerhouse Way end of the allotments now needs replacing. Notice board still to be moved.

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Manor House

Trees from the Manor House grounds overhanging one of the plots. To be considered in next round of tree works, pending audits.

43. Reports from the Halls Representatives

Mrs Keaveny, confirmed that the trustees had agreed the colour specification for Henderson Hall. The Clerk advised that the specification was being confirmed with the contractor selected for the work, enabling works would be required and then the main problem was finding a suitable time window around planned bookings.

Mrs Keaveny had reported a potential electrical fault on one of the lighting bars, the Clerk will investigate.

Mr Ash had advised the Clerk that the theatre tent project would take place in the summer; the likely dates were 26th July to 9th August. Members had previously agreed to the project.

44. Matters referred from the Parish Council

The Clerk confirmed that an initial meeting had been held between the Finance Officer, Chairman of the Henderson Hall Trustees and the Clerk to consider the issues around financial separation of the trust and Parish Council accounts.

There were two clear reasons for separation. The Parish Council needs to clear the audit comment related to the trust accounts and the trustees need to be able to manage grant funding that is paid to the trustees, rather than the Parish Council.

Work on this will be ongoing and likely to be complex, Clerk will raise at the next Parish Council meeting.

45. Henderson Hall Trustees

Member's notes that Mrs Davies was the new Chairman of the Trustees and that Mrs Keaveny will not seek a further term as a trustee of Henderson Hall when her current terms ends in September 2009.

46. Henderson Hall

Members noted the lack of response from Barclays Bank to the Clerk's letters and were disappointed that such a prominent company took no account of legitimate concerns raised by the Parish Council. Councillor Mrs Lay, as a shareholder, has written to the Chairman of Barclays in an effort to get some action.

Further action including the instruction of surveyors and solicitors to be considered next month.

47. Clerk's Report

Items in the Clerk's report were noted.

It was agreed that the allotment tenants would investigate the options available for transporting manure to the allotments, without the use of Parish Council staff or equipment.

The meeting closed at 8:41pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____