

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 20th January 2010 at 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 Mrs S Bedford
Councillor L Lay
Councillor K Williams
Councillor D White
Councillor J Wyatt
Councillor Miss I Young

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 - Facilities Manager
Mr M Ellis - Works Manager

The meeting opened at 7:32pm.

480. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from. Councillor Giles-Medhurst (other authority meeting).

481. Declarations of Interest

None.

482. Public Participation

No members of the public had expressed an interest in addressing the Parish Council.

483. Minutes of the Meeting

Councillor Williams requested an addition to the minutes of this committee's meeting on 16th December 2009, to improve clarity on minute 451.

"Councillor Williams felt that all future options regarding how the Parish Council discharges its ground and property maintenance options and also whether the depot's current location is the most appropriate should be assessed prior to embarking on any expenditure. Councillor Williams also felt such an assessment would stretch the Council's resources given there is a considerable amount of other work."

All members present and the Clerk agreed with the amendment. The Clerk advised that as it was not possible to make the amendment to the minute book by hand; the minutes would be amended and represented for approval at the February meeting of this committee.

484. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Mr Ron Smith - Evergreen FC

Mr Smith advised that Evergreen FC had been unable to play many games since early December due to the severe weather. All clubs were in the same position and arrangements were being made with the leagues to play a number of "double headers", where the first and second half scores are treated as separate games, to ensure that the leagues finished on schedule.

The insurance claim for the vandalism at the Evergreen pavilion was being processed by the office.

485. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Mrs Sally Sanderson - Jacketts Field

Mrs Sanderson reported that the new plot (24) was being bought into use. The Works Manager was asked to remove a small pile of rubbish that had accumulated inside the gates at the Jacketts Field / Shepherds Close end of the grounds.

Mr Les Clark - Kingsfield and Mr Chris Bromwich - Manor House

No reports. Limited work is taking place at both grounds due to the weather.

486. Reports from the Halls Representatives

Mrs Gloria Keaveny and Mr Simon Ash.

Mrs Keaveny thought that the “chalet roof” over the stage was to be removed during the recent redecorations. The Clerk advised that this had been discussed but this was not included in the redecorations work plan, this will be referred to the Henderson Hall Trustees.

Mr Simon Ash reported that the stage curtains operating rope had broken. Officers were aware and the Works Manager was in the process of affecting a temporary repair. A quote had been sought for a permanent repair which was in the order of £750, as the rope runs and some pulleys needed replacement. The Clerk advised that the maintenance budget for Henderson Hall was spent.

An electrical inspection had taken place at Henderson Hall earlier that week which raised some issues. When the written report has been received the Works Manger will be getting estimates for the remedial work.

Mr Ash advised that the Abbots Langley Players may be able to provide overlapping curtain tracks, which would be more practical for the theatre groups than those currently installed, also that theatre groups may be willing to contribute to a refurbishment of the stage area.

The Clerk will refer the above to the Henderson Hall Trustees, along with a request that a Halls Forum be held in the near future.

There was some confusion amongst some of the theatre groups about charging policies for Henderson Hall, particularly around weekly bookings. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council set the halls charges and it was the role of the officers to implement the charging policy.

Charging questions should initially be raised with the Clerk and/or Facilities Manager who would expect to be able to clarify most aspects of charging, if this was not the case then the matter would be brought to this committee for review.

487. Events Working Party

Under Standing Order 31, the committee asked the Clerk to refer to Parish Council a request to form an Events Working Party. The Working Party will be formed of members of this committee and officers, their role will be to review current and future events and provide advice and recommendations to this committee.

Councillors Mrs Bedford, Lay and White offered to serve on the Working Party. The Clerk advised that the Works Manger and the Bookings Officer would serve on the Working Party. The Facilities Manager would also serve if required, the Clerk would be available if needed but will not routinely attend meetings.

Meetings would be held in the Council Chambers during the working day. The Bookings Officer will be asked to arrange an initial meeting w/c 8th or 15th February.

Abbots Langley Parish Council

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____