

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd June 2010 at 7.30p.m. at the Council Chamber, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Chairman:	Councillor Mrs D J Lay
Vice Chairman:	Councillor J Wyatt
Councillors:	Councillor Mrs S Bedford Councillor L Lay (ex-officio) Councillor K Williams Councillor D White Councillor Miss I Young
Also Present:	Mr L Clark - Allotments Representative Mrs S Sanderson - Allotment Representative Mrs G Keaveny - Halls Representative
Officers:	Mr T Perkins - Clerk to the Council Mr D Abbott - Facilities Manager

The meeting opened at 7:30pm.

88. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Giles-Medhurst (unwell).

Mr Mark Ellis, Works Manager, was on annual leave.

Mr Ron Smith, Sports Representative and Mr Chris Bromwich, Allotments Representative, had advised that they would be unable to attend the meeting.

89. Declarations of Interest

None.

90. Public Participation

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

91. Vice Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lay, seconded by Councillor Mrs Bedford and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Wyatt be elected Vice Chairman of this committee for the new council year.

92. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Miss Young and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2010, 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.

93. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Jacketts Field - Mrs Sally Sanderson

Allotment tenants were grateful for the installation of the extended water system.

The Clerk updated members on the dog nuisance that had been reported by a number of tenants. A further letter had been written to the dog owner, who has taken some steps to secure the access from their garden to the allotment grounds. The Clerk has not received any reports of nuisance from the dog for almost two weeks. The Animal Control Officer at Three Rivers District Council has been advised. Councillor Mrs Bedford will follow up with the Animal Control Officer.

There are ongoing problems with access at the Shepherds Close end of the grounds. The Clerk has reported this to Three Rivers District Council who are taking action against the Housing Association.

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Close to plot 15 a resident has thrown holly bush cuttings onto the grounds from their garden.

Kingsfield - Mr Les Clark

Plot 1 (untenanted due to power cables) needs tidying, but need to take care as there are slow worms in the vicinity these are protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981). Under the act it is illegal to kill or injure the species.

Plot 10a is not being tended, this maybe due to the tenant recovering from motorcycle accident.

Plot 3a is not being well tended.

Plot 12a is not being tended, officers to consider notice to quit.

Plot 29a-30b check footpath is clear and visible, plot 30b marker post missing.

Plot 20a needs checking.

The Clerk advised that due to the heavy workload of summer pitch maintenance allotment inspections had not been carried out. The Works Manager will be asked to carry out inspections prior to the next meeting of this committee.

94. Reports from the Sports Representatives

None present.

95. Reports from the Halls Representatives

Mrs Gloria Keaveny advised that she had no items to report but asked for an update on matters currently under consideration by the Managing Trustees of Henderson Hall.

The Clerk advised that the Trustees and Parish Council had recently received a structural engineers report on a building issue and further professional advice was awaited.

One theatre group had offered complimentary tickets to the Parish Council, but these had been refused. It was confirmed that complimentary tickets could be supplied to the Chairman of the Parish Council and partner to attend any productions as part of the Chairman's civic duties. Vice Chairman if the Chairman was not available.

Mrs Keaveny advised that she would be withdrawing her nomination as Halls Representative to allow someone from another theatre group to be appointed. Members thanked Mrs Keaveny for her years of service.

96. Leisure Committee Representatives

The Chairman agreed to take agenda item b. first, arrangements for appointments.

b. Arrangements for Appointments

Members asked that the term of appointment be set as two years, commencing from the May meeting of this committee in even numbered years, this would offset the appointments from years in which ordinary elections were held.

Appointments would be considered at the April meeting of this committee, in even numbered years.

Members agreed with the other draft arrangements for the appointment of representatives to this committee, which the Clerk will submit to the Parish Council for formal approval when the revised standing orders are considered.

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a. Appointments

It was proposed by Councillor Wyatt, seconded by Councillor White and **RESOLVED** that the following appointments as representatives to this committee be confirmed.

Sports Representatives

Mr Brian Cook - Abbots Langley Cricket Club

Mr Ron Smith - Evergreen FC

Halls Representatives

Mrs Lesley Brookes - Abbots Langley Local History Society

Mrs Jayne Dugan - Centralian Players

The Clerk will draft Terms of Reference for the representatives and will hold a briefing, with the Chairman of this committee, for the new representatives prior to the next meeting.

97. Parish Council Depot

It was proposed by Councillor Wyatt, seconded by Councillor White and **RESOLVED** that Surveyor A (Millbridge Consulting) be asked to prepare an initial report on options for the Parish Council's depot refurbishment.

A vote was requested three members were in favour, three abstained.

98. Events Working Party

Members noted the summary of actions from the Events Working Party and had the following comments.

- Carol Concert to be held on Thursday 2nd December, members would prefer a start time of 18:30, but appreciated this may not be practical due to the set up time required.
- Allotment Prize Giving to be held on Thursday 30th September. Initial tickets to be offered to the tenant plus a guest at £5.00/ticket, further tickets to be released as tickets are sold. As soon as possible Facilities Manager to produce posters for allotment notice boards.
- Need to check with the Lions on the date of the fireworks display. Friday 5th November is the preferred date, as the 6th is likely to clash with the display at Cassiobury Park in Watford.

99. Clerk's Report

Members noted the following items which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

- Poly Tunnels
- Triple Grass Cutter Replacement

100. Exclusion of the Press and Public (Part II)

It was proposed by Councillor Miss Young and seconded by Councillor White and **RESOLVED** that as the following item dealt with the early stages of a legal dispute the Parish Council may be entering into the press and public be excluded from the discussion, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102.

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101. Abbots Langley Bowls Club

Members noted the report from the Clerk on the status of the discussions with the above on the responsibilities as laid out in the tenancy agreement.

Members were disappointed that the club had been unable to bring this to an earlier conclusion, given that the Clerk first raised the matter in November 2009.

The Clerk reported that the Secretary of the club had spoken to him earlier in the week. The Secretary advised the matters would be discussed at an upcoming committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.48pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____