

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Council Offices
Langley Road
Abbots Langley
Herts
WD5 0EJ

11th February 2014.

To Members of the Leisure Committee

The next meeting of the Leisure Committee will be held at the above address on Wednesday 19th February 2014 at 7:30pm when your presence is summoned for the purpose of transacting the business outlined below.

The press and public are welcome to attend the meeting.

Tim Perkins
Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
To receive and accept apologies for absence.
2. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.
3. **Public Participation**
To note if any members of the public have requested to speak at this meeting, in accordance with the Parish Council's Public Speaking Arrangements.
4. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on**
11th December 2013.
5. **Leisure Committee - Allotments Representative**
To consider the appointment of Mr John Kersey as an Allotment Representative (Jacketts Field) for a term of office until September 2014, which is coterminous with all other representatives.
6. **Reports from Allotments Representatives**
To receive reports from the Allotments Representatives.
7. **Reports from Sports Representatives**
To receive reports from the Sports Representatives.
8. **Reports from Halls Representatives**
To receive reports from the Halls Representatives.
9. **Primrose Hill Car Park**
To note the budget allocation and outline costs for refurbishing the above. (See Clerk's report item 1.)
10. **Poppies and Community Orchard Update**
To receive an update from the Committee Chairman on the above.
11. **Love Lane Play Area**
To consider an outline proposal to refresh the play equipment at the above. (See Clerk's report item 2.)

Abbots Langley Parish Council

12. Abbots Improvement Group

To note the annual report from the above (enclosed).

13. Car Parking

To consider issues related to car parking.

Agenda item requested by this committee min. 259d. (See Clerk's report item 3.)

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1. Primrose Hill Car Park

Budget provision of £33,000 has been made to refurbish the surface of the above. This is for a Type 1 MoT (compacted stone) finish, edged, with a soak away where the car park joins the field. The soak away is necessary as run off water pools at the bottom of the car park due to the slope and this area is often boggy.

The initial quote has been provided by Hansards, who undertake most of our car park and similar works, their quality and prices are normally excellent. Further quotes will be sought, with a view to the work starting early in the new financial year.

2. Love Lane Play Area

David Abbott has had some initial discussions with Thrive Homes about the possible availability of funds to do a small scale refurbishment of the Love Lane play area.

Report from David follows. The only slight complication is Thrive will not grant fund a local authority, they have suggested that AIMS may be a suitable organisation to "front" the application, this may have some complications. Ultimately it would be the PC that is responsible for long term maintenance of the site.

The proposal appears to be worth progressing.

DA report - January 2014;

Proposal:

To replace the broken and tired play equipment in the middle of Love Lane playing field with an update like-for-like replacement, benefiting from a modern replacement with a working life of 25 years.

Cost will be circ:£10K to include, removal of old, replace with new equipment installation and making good the surface with safety surface or tarmac as required by ROSPA

To provide and secure one double bench picnic table and a single bench for inside the fence line of the playground, to enable parents and children to sit and enjoy the park. Currently there are no seating provisions within this park.

Cost will be circ:£2K to include purchase one picnic table and one bench, make good a base and installation.

Funding:

The funding should be from 2 sources.

- 1. Awards For All - England, which is the Big Lottery Fund.*
- 2. Thrive Homes Community Grant.*

An image of the current "Net and Goal" at Love Lane is appended to the end of this report.

3. Car Parking

Daytime car parking in primarily Manor House and Primrose Hill car parks continue to cause problems. Some points are detailed below, they are far from exhaustive but they do cover the highlights.

- Manor House car park is often full during the day in term time, we receive complaints in the office from residents who have been unable to find a parking place when they want to use the playing fields. It is generally appreciated by most residents that it is staff from Breakspeare School who take up most of the bays.
- Problems in the Manor House car park are particularly acute during the start and end of the school day, when the buses that ferry pupils are loading and unloading. If all the bays have been taken the buses have no alternative but to park in the middle of the car park, completely blocking access.
- Parish Council staff try to manage the situation, but are often on the receiving end of abuse and statements like "it is a public car park I can park here".
- It can prove difficult to sell the Manor House for day time functions during term time as hirers can see that car parking is an issue. The school is asked to clear the car park when there are wakes, etc. taking place, compliance can be variable and drivers often move their cars with less than good grace.
- "Pay and Display" weekday parking maybe worth considering, or limiting the number of bays that the school can use, but this is liable to create displacement parking on surrounding streets, which will cause resident dissatisfaction.
- The school has expanded on a number of occasions over recent years and car parking on site is now severely limited.
- There is a balance to be struck in the Parish Council being a good neighbour of the school and working with it on parking issues, on the flip side it is not unreasonable to ask the school to be mindful of the wider uses of the car park.
- A new Head Teacher is now in post. It may be an opportunity to open a more constructive dialogue with the school than has been possible in the past.
- The situation at Primrose Hill is not dissimilar, although the parking here is caused by overflow from the adjacent business units. The parking of HGVs has been eliminated by the installation of the height barrier.
- I have been down to Primrose Hill during the working day and there has been no spaces available. Complaints from allotment holders have indicated the same.

Tim Perkins
11th February 2014.



Love Lane "Hoop Post & Goal"