

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Council Offices
Langley Road
Abbots Langley
Herts
WD5 0EJ

15th June 2017.

To Members of the Leisure Committee

Councillors: Sara Bedford, Jean Bowman, Jane Lay, Robin Powell, Hitesh Tailor, Alison Ward & John Wyatt (Chairman).

The next meeting of the Leisure Committee will be held at the above address on Wednesday 21st June 2017 at 7:30 pm 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 19th April 2017.**
5. **Committee Vice-Chairman**
To appoint a committee Vice-Chairman for the current municipal year.
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. **Manor House Playing Fields - Phase 2 Proposed Layout**
To consider the latest layout for the above project. (enclosed)
9. **Abbots Langley Tennis Club - Initial Proposal**
To consider the proposal from 2 Supreme Tennis to operate a Tennis Club. (Clerk's report item 1 & 2 Supreme Project Proposal.)
10. **Vandalism**
To note the report from the Clerk. (Clerk's report item 2.)
11. **Electrical Survey - Floodlights Manor House MuGA**
To consider the report from the Clerk. (Clerk's report item 3.)
12. **South Way Play Area - Resistograph Report**
To consider the above report. (Clerk's report item 4 & Timberplay report.)

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13. Key Projects 2017-2019

To consider the first draft of the above. (enclosed)

14. Evergreen FC - Refurbishment

To consider the request from the above to replace the picnic tables at South Way. (Clerk's report item 5.)

15. Primrose Hill Changing Rooms Survey

To receive an update from the Clerk. (Survey date 14th June. Pending receipt of surveyors report.)

16. Clerk's Report

To consider items on the Clerk's report not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

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

As the following items will consider matters related to a legal dispute into which the Parish Council may be entering a resolution to exclude the press and public may be required, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the LGA 1972, s100 & 102.

18. Liability Claim

To consider the report from the Clerk. (To follow, pending advice.)

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Abbots Langley Parish Council
Clerk's Report - Leisure Committee - June 2017

1. Abbots Langley Tennis Club - Initial Proposal

The enclosed proposal has been received from 2 Supreme Tennis. Officer's comments are as follows.

- The original club was proposed as part of The Elms Group of companies. 2 Supreme Tennis is a new company and whilst James Vaughan was part of The Elms set up and is now with 2 Supreme Tennis, at this stage we have no further information on the new company background and their ability to deliver the proposed club.
- A rental of £5,000 is noted as "agreed". This is not the case. An initial figure of £10,000 had been proposed by officers in the draft lease, but until we have more information on the responsibilities for day to day upkeep of the site, maintenance and other responsibilities it is impossible to set a rent.
- The Elms were supplied a draft lease back in December 2016, whilst comments on this have been promised multiple times at the time of writing no feedback has been received.

2. Vandalism

As the days get longer we have had a spate of vandalism.

Summerhouse Way Garages

There have been multiple break-ins via the roof. Whilst there is nothing of value being stored there, time and materials are expended in effecting repairs. What little material that is stored there will be disposed of and then a decision taken on whether we wish to retain the garages or return to Three Rivers District Council.

Primrose Hill Changing Rooms

One toilet cubicle destroyed, door hinges removed and general mindless destruction.

Manor House (Woods)

A tree stump was set on fire, it appeared to have been burning for some time before being discovered. The Fire Service were called to extinguish.

Manor House (Play Area)

Bin was damaged by fire, difficult to know if accidental or deliberate.

Millennium Gardens

Bin burnt. As above, cause unknown.

All of the above have been reported to police and crime numbers issued.

3. Electrical Survey - Floodlights Manor House MuGA

The floodlights were installed around twenty years ago, no records exist of any electrical tests having been carried out on the equipment and circuits. The major risk was potential leakage of current if the underground cables had deteriorated.

The circuit board is in the Manor Lodge Police Office, so access was difficult.

The report identified one Priority 1 (critical) fault on a water seal, this has been actioned. A number of Priority 2 (important) faults were identified and a PO has been issued to rectify these faults, cost c.£1,200. The works will hopefully be completed by the date of this meeting.

A number of Priority 3 future remedial actions were noted.

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It may be possible to replace the lighting heads, which are currently 500w halogen units with more energy efficient LED units. Advice is currently awaited from the potential operator of the Tennis Club in terms of the required light output of the heads, etc.

4. South Way Play Area - Resistograph Report

The above was commissioned jointly with Three Rivers District Council to determine the amount of rot present in the climbing structures.

The key pages from the report are enclosed. A large part of the report is made up of the test drilling graphs, a sample of which (p4) is enclosed.

Following is the text of an email I sent to officers at TRDC when we received the report.

I will update further at the meeting.

Member's views are welcome!

"There is decay present, no doubt, is this reasonable in a structure that has only been installed for a few years. It says on the last page that the wood would still be structurally stable if 33% decay was present and we are getting fairly close to that number.

My take (with my ex-Director of Procurement hat on) we do not return and monitor in a few years, we get a structural test carried out that says these posts are safe or not, then I think we have ticked our H&S responsibilities. If not, or if there is any indication the structures will be unsafe in a few years, then we go after the supplier.

The report shows there is a problem and we need to push on with a structural test to see if there is a significant problem today or in the short term. The structural report should also cover how long they are expected to last so we can plan the replacement."

5. Evergreen FC - Refurbishment

Following is an extract from an email recover from the Chairman of Evergreen FC.

"As we approach the re-opening it's fair to say the buildings have thrown out the odd surprise along the way and we have absolutely preserved their future however at significant cost which we have not at any time asked for landlord contribution. An example would be the entire drainage system where we have had to dig out completely new channels and replace all manhole covers which were in a very poor state of repair.

Purpose of my email is that I feel ALPC as our landlords should be making some sort of contribution/donation once we have completed the works. Evergreen are spending £275k and I would hope that ALPC would like to make some form of donation recognising the hard work that has gone in to the transformation. I was thinking the replacement of our picnic tables would be a nice gesture. There is also a need to look at the car park over the summer which is in desperate need of repair and whilst we have patched the areas impacted by the building works there are numerous holes that need filled as you first enter the car park."

The car park resurfacing is covered in Key Projects.

The picnic benches mentioned are within the Evergreen fenced area, there are a total of seven. The cost of replacing would be £505 each for a standard picnic table and £637 for wheelchair accessible tables. These are from Glasdon, our usual supplier of benches, the construction of which is pretty much bomb proof.

6. Glyphosate

There has been discussion in the committee in the past about use of the above on our open spaces. The following may be of interest to members.

Weedkiller declared safe despite cancer fears

The most widely used weedkiller is expected to be relicensed this year, despite claims that it causes cancer. Jean-Claude Juncker, president of the EU Commission, said there were no grounds to doubt two EU assessments that found glyphosate was safe. He was responding to concerns that Monsanto, its manufacturer, tried to "ghost-write" research, getting scientists to put their name to parts of a paper it had written, to show that it was not carcinogenic. Monsanto said ghost writing was "an unfortunate choice of terminology" and it had meant to use "open collaboration". The International Agency for Research on Cancer had said it found limited evidence that glyphosate was linked to non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

The Times – 3rd May 2017

Tim Perkins
15th June 2017.

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