

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 20th February 2013 at 7.30 pm at the Council Chamber, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Chairman: Councillor Mrs D J Lay
Vice Chairman: Councillor J Wyatt
Councillors: Councillor S L Bedford
Councillor S Giles-Medhurst
Councillor Mrs G Keaveny
Councillor K Williams

Also Present: Mr K Gissing - Sports Representative
Mr R Smith - Sports Representative
Mr C Bromwich - Allotment Representative
Mr V Watts - Allotments Representative
Mr P Warman - Halls Representative

Officers: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council
David Abbott - Facilities Manager
Mark Ellis - Works Manager

The meeting opened at 7:30pm.

397. Apologies for absence

Mrs S Sanderson, Allotment Representative had advised that she was unable to attend the meeting.

398. Declarations of Interest

None.

399. Public Participation

Mr John McDonald, asked to speak on agenda item 9, Kitters Greens Fencing.

400. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Gloria Keaveny and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th December 2012, 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.

401. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Kingsfield - Mr Vince Watts

Nothing to report.

Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich

Plot 6b is not being worked, the Works Manager will follow up.

The Clerk will post a copy of the current allotment tenancy agreement on the Allotments webpage.

Primrose Hill

Now the site is fully tenanted the Clerk will advertise on the site notice board for a site representative.

402. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Ron Smith

The youth facility at South Way is now open, most days 16:00-19:00, it is targeted at the seven to fourteen year old age group. It is early days but attendances are encouraging and the range of available activities will be expanded over the coming months.

Evergreen FC are continuing to campaign to win the £100,000 award being offered in a joint drinks company and Football Association promotion.

Keith Gissing

Members noted that work will commence on the new Bowls Club lease when the Clerk has completed work in progress on two other leases.

The Works Manager is aware of remedial work required on two fence panels and also that the green needs treatment for a fusarium infection, which is not uncommon on the green at this time of year.

403. Reports from the Halls Representatives

Peter Warman

It has been noted that Three Rivers District Council has replaced the notice board outside Henderson Hall, half of the board will be for statutory notices, the other for local publicity. Any notices should be forwarded to the Communications Team at Three Rivers District Council who will arrange posting.

The Managing Trustees are considering notice board provision at Henderson Hall at their next meeting.

404. Bedmond Playing Fields

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the "rocking horse" as detailed in the Clerk's report be ordered and installed in the play area at Bedmond (cost =£1,757).

405. Kitters Green Fencing

Members recapped the reasons for wanting to install post and rail fencing on the perimeter of the green, which were principally to stop vehicles parking on the green.

Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst advised that if the fencing was moved closer to the kerb, to stop parking on the grass between the kerb and the tree line, Hertfordshire County Council had a minimum height for post and rail fencing, adjacent to the carriageway, which was 0.75m to avoid a low level trip hazard.

The Clerk advised that if the fencing was moved into this area a survey would be required as it was known a main electricity supply cable ran in the area and possibly also other buried services.

The Chairman reported that a petition had been received in the office (19th February) with 109 signatures requesting removal of the fencing.

Public Participation - Mr John Mc Donald

Mr Mc Donald was not aware of any ongoing problem with vehicle parking on the green apart from at busy times such as the carnival and fireworks. He supported the petition and asked that the Parish Council consider removal of the fencing.

It was proposed by Councillor Keith Williams, seconded by Councillor Sara Bedford and **RESOLVED** that the short run of post and rail fencing that has been installed be removed within the coming week and that the Clerk takes advice from Three Rivers District Council on possible measures that can be taken to restrict parking on the roadside verge. The Clerk to report back to the next meeting of this committee.

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406. Millennium Gardens Flagpole

Members approved the plan showing the proposed location of the new flagpole in the Millennium Gardens.

407. Community Orchard

The Chairman reported on the initial meeting that had taken place with those that had volunteered for the above project. A further meeting is scheduled for 26th February.

Discussions within the group were at an early stage with many ideas that will need formalising over time. An initial date for tree planting has been set for 23rd March.

Members asked that the planting areas be agreed by officers and that one is present to ensure that the planting is as agreed.

The planting day should be treated as a publicity opportunity.

408. Primrose Hill Allotments

The formal opening of Primrose Hill Allotments will be held on Saturday 13th April. Arrangements to be confirmed.

409. Clerk's Report

Members noted the initial discussion that had been held with the Abbots Improvement Group. The group is currently seeking more members and hopes to be in a position to undertake work in community areas such as flower planting, maintenance and watering in areas such as the Millennium Gardens, Kitters Green and the Community Police Office.

Members asked the Clerk continue to work with this group under delegated authority to develop plans, with the Chairman of this committee involved in discussions. This will ensure there is not any delay caused by having to refer back to this committee.

The meeting closed at 8.47 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____