

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 17th April 2013 at 7.30p.m. at the Council Chamber, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Vice Chairman: Councillor J Wyatt

Councillors: Councillor S L Bedford
Councillor Mrs G Keaveny
Councillor K Williams

Also Present: Mr R Smith - Sports Representative
Mr C Bromwich - Allotment Representative
Mrs S Sanderson - Allotment Representative

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

The meeting opened at 7:32pm.

Members offered their sympathies to Councillor Jane Lay, Chairman of the Leisure Committee, following the recent death of her husband, Leon.

Mr. Leon Lay had recently resigned from the Parish Council due to his poor health. He had served this committee as both a member and Sports Representative for many years and his expertise and guidance will be greatly missed.

468. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Jane Lay and Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst (other commitment).

469. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Keith Williams declared an interest, as Leisure portfolio holder at Three Rivers District Council, in agenda item 8. Manor House Skate Park and item 9. Tree Audit - Roman Gardens.

470. Public Participation

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

471. 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 20th February 2013, 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.

472. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Councillor Keith Williams, Chairman of the Parish Council thanked the Abbots Langley Gardening Society, Abbots Langley Transition Town Team, plot holders and staff for attending the opening of the Primrose hill allotments the previous Saturday.

Jacketts Field - Mrs Sally Sanderson

Most plots appear to be under cultivation, the Works Manger will check plots 1 and 13 when he next carries out inspections. Tenants will be trimming back some tree branches which are encroaching from the neighbouring field.

The Clerk was asked to contact the owner of the property to the left of the Summerhouse Way entrance, as overhanging bushes are impeding access.

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Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich

Very busy at the weekend with tenants starting work on their plots. Light levels have improved following the reduction of trees on the boundary.

Kingsfield

Mr Vince Watts, Allotment Representative for Kingsfield was not present.

The Clerk advised complaints had been received in the office and also via Hertfordshire County Council's Countryside Access Officer, about the footpath that passes the allotment entrance being blocked by vehicles and also manure following a delivery.

There has also been damage to the verge caused by the tractor when the manure was delivered.

The Clerk will update Mr Watts and will monitor the situation.

473. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Mr Ron Smith.

The Youth Club is continuing to grow, with up to fifty regular attendees. The club is continuing to develop plans for how the £50k awarded by a drinks company and the Football Association will be spent.

Evergreen FC won the Herts Senior Cup at the weekend.

474. Reports from the Halls Representatives

None present.

475. Manor House Skate Park

Councillor Keith Williams having previously declared an interest, did not take part in the discussion of the following two items.

Members noted the report from the Clerk who advised that he hoped to be able to update members further at the next meeting of this committee. The Clerk was asked to write to the young resident who had raised the possibility of extending the skate park.

Councillor Gloria Keaveny advised that M^cNicholas Construction may be able to help with the installation of a skate park. This will be followed up with the Works Manager.

476. Tree Audit - Roman Gardens

Members noted the report from the arboriculturist and supported the officer's view that the report should be used to define the works to trees on the estate.

The Facilities and Works Manager advised the tree that the resident had butchered had recently been further reduced. The Facilities Manager was asked to take this matter up again with the police, who had been involved initially. Officers were asked to consider replanting.

477. Millennium Gardens Flagpole

Members asked officers to consider a location to the north of the Millennium Gardens, providing this did not cause obstruction to overhead or underground services. The flag pole will have to be located to allow it to be lowered into the gardens for maintenance.

478. Bedmond Rocking Horse

The Works Manager advised that this had been delivered earlier in the week.

The Facilities Manager will review how the equipment can be "named" by a sign writer.

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479. Primrose Hill - Allotment Representative

None of the tenants have come forward, but following the opening of the allotments members did agree that it was still "early days".

The plots will be included in the allotment inspections ahead of the prize giving. The Clerk will post an update for tenants on the notice board.

480. Clerk's Report

- a. Car Parking Kitters Green - Members noted that the Clerk had submitted a report to Three Rivers District Council and feedback was awaited.
- b. Abbots Langley Bowling Club Lease - The Clerk advised that he had reviewed the current Tenancy Agreement, which expires in April 2014 and had written to the Parish Council's solicitors requesting some initial advice. Members will be updated following feedback from the solicitors.
- c. Abbots Langley Cricket Club - Members had previously been advised that the lease for the pavilion had been agreed and signed. Leon Lay was one of the signatories and as the lease had not been completed there will be a further delay as the club will need to hold a general meeting to appoint a new trustee and signatory. The Clerk has advised the Parish Council's solicitors and they will contact the club's solicitors.

The Clerk will also write to Mr. Lew Hodgins, Chairman of the club.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____