

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 16th October 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Chairman: Councillor Jane Lay
Vice Chairman: Councillor John Wyatt
Councillors: Councillor Sara Bedford
Councillor Martin Brooks
Councillor Gloria Keaveny

Also Present: Mr Keith Gissing - Sports Representative
Mr Chris Bromwich - Allotment Representative
Mr Vince Watts - Allotments Representative
Mrs Sally Sanderson - Allotment Representative

Officers: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council

The meeting opened at 7:32 pm.

The Chairman advised the committee that Mr Brian Crook, who had served for a number of years as a Sports Representative, had passed away.

175. Apologies for absence

None from members.

Mr Peter Warman, Halls Representative, advised that he would be unable to attend the meeting.

David Abbott, Facilities Manager and Mark Ellis, Works Manager were both on annual leave.

176. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jane Lay declared an interest in agenda items 8b (part) and 8c (part) as an officer of Abbots Langley Cricket Club and Abbots Langley Gardening Society.

177. Public Participation

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

178. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Gloria Keaveny, seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st August 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.

179. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Jacketts Field - Mrs Sally Sanderson

No issues. The entrance to the allotments at Shepherd Close was still clear.

Kingsfield - Mr Vince Watts

Tenants were concerned about the condition of the footpath which had been laid by tenants some years previously.

The Clerk and Works Manager will carry out a risk assessment.

Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich

No issues.

The Gardening Society had secured £600 funding for the concrete plinth outside of their store. Councillor Sara Bedford advised that she may be in a position to secure a further £250 funding for the project which would allow it to proceed. Final location to be agreed with the Works Manager.

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When finalised the Clerk will circulate a copy of the plot map to the representatives.

180. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Mr Keith Gissing

No report.

The Chairman advised members that Mr Ron Smith had recently stood down as Chairman of Evergreen FC and so had resigned as a Sports Representative.

The Clerk reminded members that when the Sports Representatives were appointed in September 2012, Abbots Youth Football Club had nominated one of their officers. Members decided against appointing another representative from a football club.

Members agreed that the Clerk should contact the club to see if they still wanted to nominate a representative to serve for the remaining twelve months of the representative's term of office.

181. Reports from the Halls Representatives

Mr Peter Warman was not present.

182. Budget 2014-2015

a. Key Projects

Members reviewed the Key Projects list a copy of which is attached as an appendix.

Members discussed the replacement of the portakabin on the Depot site. This will be reviewed with the Finance and Administration Committee as reserves will need to be released to cover the cost. A vote was requested, four members were in favour, one against.

b. Committee Budget 2014-2015

Members noted the above. The Clerk advised that this was an early draft and work was in progress, particularly on areas like the Works Team cost allocations.

c. Fees & Charges 2014-2015

Members noted the above.

The Clerk advised that the final revision would include a section on charges for the use of Parish Council car parks and other facilities by production companies.

183. Tree Audit Manor House

Members noted the extensive report. The Clerk advised that quotes were being sought for the works that needed to take place in three and twelve months. The cost of the works required in this financial year will exceed the available budget, this will be reviewed with the Finance and Administration Committee.

The Clerk will arrange for a walk around the grounds with the arboriculturist who carried out the audit.

184. Use of Glyphosate on Parish Council Grounds

Members noted the reports and the Clerk's report.

Based on the information received from the Royal Horticultural Society and the President of the Abbots Langley Gardening Society, members decided that there was insufficient peer reviewed evidence to warrant a change in the use of glyphosate on the Parish Council's grounds.

This would be reviewed as and when more evidence became available.

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The meeting closed at 9.44 p m.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____