

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Vice Chairman: Councillor Martin Brooks

Councillors: Councillor Sara Bedford  
Councillor Hitesh Tailor  
Councillor Jane Lay  
Councillor Alison Ward

Also Present: Mr Chris Bromwich - Allotment Representative  
Mr John Kersey - Allotment Representative  
Mr Robert Stimpson - Allotment Representative  
Mr Vince Watts - Allotments Representative  
Mr David Anderson - Sports Representative

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

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

### **185. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor John Wyatt (unavailable).

Ms. Karen Stocker, Halls Representative, had advised the Clerk that she was unable to attend the meeting.

### **186. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Jane Lay declared an interest in agenda item 8iii Fees & Charges 2016-2017 (min. 192iii) as an allotment tenant.

### **187. Public Participation**

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

### **188. Minutes of the Meeting**

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay, seconded by Councillor Sara Bedford and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2015, 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.

### **189. Reports from the Allotments Representatives**

Kingsfield - Mr Vince Watts

Still a number of unworked plots. The Works Manager advised that inspections were on going and a number of Notices to Quit were in process.

Jacketts Field & Primrose Hill Orchard - Mr John Kersey

No report from the allotments.

One tree needs replacing at Primrose Hill. A County Councillor Locality Budget Grant will be applied for to provide funds to support the orchard.

It may be necessary to administer these funds through the Parish Council. Clerk to be advised if this is necessary.

Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich

No report. All plots in various stages of cultivation.

Facilities Manager advised that AIMS have been given permission to erect a storage shed, within normal allotment shed dimensions, to store their equipment.

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Primrose Hill - Mr Robert Stimpson

Four plots still not being worked (12, 21, 22 and 25), Works Manager advised that these are being addressed through the inspection process.

Still some anti-social behaviour problems in the NW corner of the site. Mainly low level vandalism. Further stretches of overgrowth will be cut back when Works Team resources permit.

### **190. Reports from the Sports Representatives**

Mr David Anderson

No report.

### **191. Reports from the Halls Representatives**

None present.

### **192. Budget 2016-2017**

#### **i. Key Projects 2016-2017**

Members noted patch remedial work would be carried out to the path between Manor House Gardens and Stansfield. The cost of which is c. £1,700. Full replacement may be necessary in three to four years the costs at today's prices would be £15,000+. The condition of the path will be monitored.

Multi-Use Games Area and possible Tennis Club launch. A number of comments were made during the Play Area consultation held by Three Rivers District Council in September. Full feedback on the comments awaited.

The War Memorial and surrounding paths at St Paul's looked in good condition for the Battle of Britain parade. The car park outside the church has had remedial work carried out, but there are still major drainage problems, the area floods during even moderate rain. Councillor Sara Bedford will raise with Herts Highways officers.

Depot refurbishment and large building projects fall into the Terms of Reference of the Finance & Administration Committee. Councillor Martin Brooks asked if members have any input to these projects they be directed to the Chairman of that committee and the Clerk.

#### **ii. Committee Budget 2016-2017**

Members reviewed the committee budget pages.

The Clerk advised that as always at this early stage of the budget process there was considerable work in progress.

Henderson Hall page will need further work given the possible impending lease completion. The Clerk confirmed that when the lease was completed the Henderson Hub would take over all administration for the hall, including bookings, licences, etc.

#### **iii. Fees & Charges 2016-2017**

Members reviewed the Fees and Charges.

Henderson Hall were suggested hire charges which in previous years the Managing Trustees were prepared to accept to maintain continuity for hirers. These will become the responsibility of the Hub following lease signature.

### **193. South Way Playing Fields - Pitch Report**

The Clerk was asked to share the Institute of Groundsmanship report with Evergreen FC. Discussions need to be opened on a joint programme that will address the long term maintenance requirements of the playing fields.

The discussions need to take into account that the first priority use of the playing fields is as public open space.

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**194. Countryside Management Service**

Members noted the draft Action Plan proposal from the Countryside Management Service.

The Clerk was asked to initiate work on the plan with CMS.

**195. Trees - Langleybury Playing Fields**

Members noted the area of additional trees on the above site that were previously thought to be outside the extent of the land leased from Hertfordshire County Council.

A site visit is planned by the arboriculturist and it is expected that a significant amount of tree works will be required in the area. Other maintenance tasks will be required, such as replacement of fencing and gates.

The committee will be kept updated on progress and costs.

**196. Clerk's Report**

Members noted that a number of fencing posts around Kitters Green had been damaged by vehicles. The Works Team are due to undertake remedial works in the near future.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_