

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 30th November 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Chairman: Councillor John Wyatt
Vice Chairman: Councillor Jane Lay

Councillors: Councillor Sara Bedford
Councillor Robin Powell
Councillor Alison Ward

Also Present: Mr John Kersey - Allotment Representative
Mr Robert Stimpson - Allotment Representative
Mr Vince Watts - Allotments Representative
Mr Chris Daily - Sports Representative
Mr Tim Denyer - Sports Representative

Officers: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council
David Abbott - Facilities Manager
Mark Ellis - Works Manager
Lisa Cook - Active Communities Officer (Three Rivers District Council)

Note for the record that this committee meeting was originally scheduled for 14th December. It was brought forward to ensure the Play Area Project timescales were adhered to (agenda item 7).

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

258. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Hitesh Tailor (work commitment).

Mr Chris Bromwich, Allotment Representative had advised that he was unable to attend the meeting.

259. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jane Lay, as a member of Abbots Langley Gardening Society, expressed an interest in agenda item 8, Fees & Charges.

Councillor Sara Bedford, as a member of Three Rivers District Council, expressed an interest in agenda item 7, Three Rivers District Council - Abbots Langley Play Area Project.

260. Public Participation

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

261. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay, seconded by Councillor Alison Ward and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2016, 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.

262. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Jacketts Field - Mr John Kersey

No report from Jacketts Field.

Work is progressing on the Community Orchard at Primrose hill, guards to protect the base of trees are being installed and other seasonal maintenance undertaken.

Kingsfield - Mr Vince Watts

No report.

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Primrose Hill - Mr Robert Stimpson

No report.

263. Reports from the Sports Representatives

The Chairman welcomed the new Sports Representatives to the meeting.

Mr Tim Denyer.

No report.

Mr Chris Daily

No report.

264. Three Rivers District Council - Abbots Langley Play Area Project

Members noted the plans and layouts for the proposed new play areas at Manor House and Bedmond.

Councillor Sara Bedford and the Clerk held separate meetings with the Head of Leisure Services and other officers at Three Rivers District Council to discuss the ongoing maintenance of the play area once it is operational.

Whilst details are to be finalised it was agreed that the Parish Council would be responsible for “routine maintenance” any “capital maintenance” involving the replacement and or repair of structures would be the responsibility of Three Rivers District Council.

Members raised the following points:

- Bins and benches in the play area to be of the same specification already installed in the playing fields by the Parish Council. The Works Manager can provide supplier details.
- The issue of potential draining problems in the area of the old slide to be discussed with the contractors at a site meeting involving officers from both authorities.
- Opinions about the need for dog tethering posts and cycle racks were divided. It was agreed not to remove these from the specification.
- Questions about the height of the fencing facing the football pitch were raised. Officers confirmed that the height of fencing and the distance from the pitch perimeters were in line with current guidelines and these distances had been taken into account in the specification.

The Chairman believed that some of the communication on these points was less than optimum. The Clerk disagreed but took responsibility for any shortcomings perceived by the Chairman.

It was proposed by Councillor John Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Robin Powell and **RESOLVED** that the design and plans for the Manor House and Bedmond play areas as presented in appendix A to L and the supporting report from Three Rivers District Council be approved.

The financial contribution from the Parish Council to this project was agreed at the August 2016 meeting of this committee as £135,600 (min. 141.)

A brief discussion on the progress of the proposed Tennis Club project was held.

- The Clerk advised that Penman Sedgwick have been instructed to draft an initial lease.
- Work is ongoing with Three Rivers District Council and the Lawn Tennis Association on the specification for the facility and the ten year maintenance requirements, which will inform the rent calculation.

Abbots Langley Parish Council

- The current floodlights are end of life, they are difficult to maintain due to their height and they use inefficient, high power usage 1KW halogen lamps. Officers from both authorities are seeking further information, the Lawn Tennis Association is being consulted and members will need to consider the requirement for floodlights. Any decision will be cost and recovery based and may be impacted by the availability, or not, of grant funding.

265. Fees & Charges 2017-2018

It was proposed by Councillor John Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Alison Ward and **RESOLVED** that the Fees and Charges for 2017-2018 (v2 Second Working Draft) be recommended by this committee to the Parish Council for approval.

266. Budget 2017-2018

- i. Key Projects

Members noted the updated.

- ii. Budget 2017-2018

Members noted the update and had no updates

The Clerk advised that work was ongoing on the budget, but no significant changes were expected, only further updates to the estimated 2016-2017 year end outturn based on the latest spend and revenue data and any additional general accuracy improvements.

267. Abbots Improvements (AIMs) Annual Report

Members noted the report from AIMs.

The meeting closed at 8.23 pm. `

Signed: _____

Dated: _____