

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 19th April 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Vice Chairman: Councillor Jane Lay
Councillors: Councillor Sara Bedford
Councillor Robin Powell
Councillor Hitesh Tailor
Councillor Alison Ward
Councillor Liz Burns (in attendance non-voting)

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

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

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

407. Apologies for absence

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

Mr Chris Daley, Sports Representative had advised the Clerk that he was unable to attend the meeting.

408. Declarations of Interest

None.

409. Public Participation

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

410. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Robin Powell, seconded by Councillor Alison Ward and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2017, 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.

411. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich

No report.

Some saplings had self-seeded between the allotments and the Community Centre. The Works Manager was aware and will address.

Officers reported that contractors had started work on the perimeter wall at the allotments.

Primrose Hill - Mr Robert Stimpson

No report.

The Works Manager advised that he has viewings booked for two vacant plots.

Jacketts Field & Primrose Hill Community Orchard- Mr John Kersey

No report on the allotments.

Trees in the community orchard are progressing well. There has been no further vandalism.

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Kingsfield - Mr Vince Watts

No report

412. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Mr Tim Denyer - Abbots Youth Football Club

Discussions are ongoing on the practicalities of installing an equipment storage bench adjacent to the scoreboard at Manor House and also possible works on the patio outside the cricket club. It is understood that any works would require the permission of the Parish Council.

Very positive comments on the new play area, although a few parents felt there was not any equipment suitable for very young children.

413. Review of Car Parking Controls at Manor House & Primrose Hill

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Robin Powell and **RESOLVED** that the following changes be made to the controlled parking times:

Primrose Hill controlled time 09:00-15:00 Monday-Friday, exc. Public Holidays.
Maximum parking time two hours.

Manor House controlled time 09:00-16:00 Monday-Friday, exc. Public Holidays.
Maximum time three hours.

Officers to discuss enforcement arrangements with the contractors. If necessary, to facilitate enforcement patrols the control time and period at Primrose Hill to be aligned with that of Manor House.

New timings will be introduced as soon as signage can be supplied and installed. Old signage to be retained in case it is necessary to revert to current timings.

414. South Way Play Area

Members noted the Clerk's report.

The findings of the structural report will be referred back to this committee.

415. External Proposals

To consider the following outline proposals received. (Clerk's report item 3.)

i. Primrose Hill Playing Fields & Pavilion.

Officers were asked to follow up this proposal, particularly in terms of the business plan and financial projections.

If it is thought the initial plan is viable the Clerk will instruct Ashridge Surveyors to undertake a basic structural and condition survey of the pavilion. It is of "flat pack" construction and is 20+ years old and whilst there have been only maintenance issues over the past few years there have been no professional reports on the building condition.

ii. Bedmond Youth Football Club

Members noted the proposal and asked officers to progress with the club. In particular members wanted to understand the pitch layout, number of teams, proposed hours of use and the impact on the usage of the cricket square by Abbots Langley Cricket Club.

416. Manor House Playing Field Project (Phase 2)

Members were extremely pleased at the very positive reception the new Manor House play area has had from users.

Floodlights

Members noted the professional report on the floodlights. No safety issues were raised.

Officers are seeking quotes for the remedial works identified and these will be referred back to this committee for consideration.

Tennis Club

Members noted the Clerk's report and asked that no further action be taken until the club made further contact with the Parish Council.

417. Release of Allotment Tenants Data

Members agreed that it would be a breach of Data Protection legislation for the Parish Council to release tenant's personal information to the allotment representatives. If tenants were asked for permission to release their details some would agree, others would not, this would create administrative complexity in the office.

It was agreed that site maps would be provided to the representatives which they could use to collect contact information from tenants if they were prepared to provide it.

418. Play Area Inspections

Members discussed the Clerk's report and the information provided by The Play Area Inspection Company. It was agreed that the quarterly inspections, assessment of stock valuation and the assessment of equipment life expectancy would not only fulfil our inspection requirements but would also provide valuable information for planning and insurance purposes.

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Alison Ward and **RESOLVED** that subject to further discussions with the company on the final costs, that The Play Area Inspection Company be appointed to carry out the inspections as detailed for an initial period of twelve months. Cost not to exceed £1,600 for the inspections and £200 for the valuation reports.

419. Play Area Equipment Insurance

Members noted the Clerk's report and asked that when the valuation reports had been received this matter be referred to the Finance & Administration Committee for consideration of the risk management issues and insurance cover required.

420. Clerk's Report

Members noted that the report on Manor House and Tanners Wood Hall bookings would be provided to the next meeting of this committee.

421. Urgent Agenda Item

As permitted under Standing Order 14, the Chairman proposed to vary the agenda and introduced the following item on the grounds of urgency, it having arisen since the agenda had been issued.

It was put to the vote without seconding and all members present were in agreement.

422. Exclusion of the Press and Public (Part II)

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford and seconded by Councillor Alison Ward and **RESOLVED** that as the following matters related to the possible early stages of a legal dispute into which the Parish Council may be entering, the press and public be excluded from the discussion, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102.

Abbots Langley Parish Council

198. Bedmond Sports & Social Club

Members noted that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the above was being held on 20th April 2017. Officers will update members when they have heard further from the trustees of the club.

It had previously been reported that the lease to the club expires on 1st January 2018.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____