

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Liz Burns

Councillors: Councillor Sara Bedford  
Councillor Jean Bowman  
Councillor Brenda Kersey  
Councillor Jane Lay  
Councillor David Major  
Councillor Robin Powell  
Councillor Leslie Proctor  
Councillor Owen Roe  
Councillor Alison Ward  
Councillor John Wyatt

Officers: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

### 58. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillors Stephen Giles-Medhurst, Lyn Ferguson, Hitesh Tailor and Alex Michaels (all unavailable).

### 59. Public Participation

None.

### 60. Declarations of Interest

None.

### 61. Exclusion of the Press and Public (Part II)

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay and seconded by Councillor Brenda Kersey and **RESOLVED** that as the following matters related to the terms and conditions of contracts 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.

### 62. Evergreen Football Club

Members were considering if the Parish Council should partner with Evergreen Football Club to secure apx. £169,000 in grants from the Football Foundation to enable the redevelopment of the club's leasehold facilities at the South Way Playing Fields. The grant conditions require the Parish Council to agree to a twenty year claw back period and a charge against the leasehold title, held by the Parish Council and the freehold title, held by Three Rivers District Council.

Councillor Sara Bedford drew members attention to the correspondence between the Parish Council and the Football Foundation, referred to in the Clerk's report. Discussions with the Parish Council's insurance brokers had indicated there was not a standalone insurable risk.

Members were advised that the risk of a clawback was extremely low as this would only take place if Evergreen FC was to cease operating as a football club and the Parish Council refused to permit another club to take over football activities on the site. The clawback also gave protection to the Football Foundation if the Parish Council refused to allow the club, or any club that replaced Evergreen FC, to rent pitches at South Way, which were only let on an annual agreement with the club having no security of tenure over the pitches.

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford and seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that subject to Evergreen Football Club agreeing to the following four conditions the Parish Council would enter jointly into the Grant Agreement with Evergreen Football Club and the Football Foundation.

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- i. Evergreen Football Club to amend their constitution to permit a Parish Councillor to serve as a full voting member on the club's Management Committee.
- ii. That Evergreen FC and its trustees enter into an agreement that will indemnify the Parish Council from loss in the event of a clawback of grant funds being initiated by the Football Foundation. The Clerk to instruct Hedleys to draft the agreement, the cost of which will be borne by the Parish Council.
- iii. That the club undertakes to pay the costs of the property charges required by the Football Foundation on the leasehold and freehold titles.
- iv. That the current two trustees of the club and the incoming trustee co-sign a Letter of Comfort agreeing to these conditions so the grant agreement can be executed prior to all of the above formalities being completed.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Head of Legal Services at Three Rivers District Council to advise the authority of the requirement for the property charge.

A vote was requested ten members were in favour, one against.

The meeting closed at 8.24 pm.

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

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