

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Council Offices
Langley Road
Abbots Langley
Herts
WD5 0EJ

15th August 2019.

To Members of the Leisure Committee

Councillors Sara Bedford, Jean Bowman, Liz Burns, Jane Lay, Simon Stanley, John Wyatt (Chairman) & Roxanne Yau.

The next meeting of the Leisure Committee will be held at the above address on Wednesday 21st August 2019 at 7:30 pm when your presence is summoned for the purpose of transacting the business outlined below. The press and public are welcome to attend the meeting.

Tim Perkins
Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
To receive and accept apologies for absence.
2. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.
3. **Public Participation**
To note if any members of the public have requested to speak at this meeting, in accordance with the Parish Council's Public Speaking Arrangements.
4. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on**
19th June 2019.
5. **Reports from Allotments Representatives**
To receive reports from the Allotments Representatives.
6. **Reports from Sports Representatives**
To receive reports from the Sports Representatives.
7. **Manor House Allotments - Neighbouring Tree Risk**
To consider the report from the Clerk. (Clerk's report item 1.)
8. **Pollinator Strategy**
To consider the guidance from Friends of the Earth. (Clerk's report item 2 and enclosed guidance.)
9. **Key Projects**
To consider the August 2019 update of the above (enclosed), specifically:
 - Manor House Playing Fields - Relocation of Youth Shelter (Key project 4a)
 - Water Fountain - To agree the location of the above. (Key project 15, update on increased costs.)
 - Depot Surface (Key project 20, report to follow.)
 - Lamp Post Flags (Key project 22, update from Facilities Manager & Works Manager.)

Abbots Langley Parish Council

10. Freedom of Information Request - Use of Roundup (Glyosphosate)

To note the response to the above. (Clerk's report item 3 and spraying record enclosed.)

11. Clerk's Report

To note items on the Clerk's Report not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

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

As the following items will consider matters related to the early stages of a legal dispute a resolution to exclude the press and public may be required, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the LGA 1972, s100 & 102.

13. Current Legal Matters.

To receive an update from the Clerk.

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Abbots Langley Parish Council
Clerk's Report - Leisure Committee - August 2019

1. Manor House Allotments - Neighbouring Tree Risk

Tenants raised concerns about possible risk from branches over hanging the allotments from neighbouring gardens.

Our consultant arboriculturist was on site carrying out the programmed assessments around the Manor House and he was asked to informally check the trees, his comments are as follows.

"From what I could see there was only one overhanging off-site tree which has the potential to drop branches (and has done so recently) this being a previously pollarded ash tree close to the NE corner of the allotment. There is a failure wound where this tree previously dropped a branch, but all other branch attachments appear to be strong for now.

Off-site in a garden to the east there is a dead spruce tree. If branches from this drop, they will not affect the allotment; however, if the whole tree fell over it might. It appears that the tree died recently and that whole tree failure is relatively unlikely at this stage.

There were no other trees in off-site gardens of note which might affect the allotments."

2. Pollinator Strategy

This item has been put on the agenda at the request of Councillor Yau.

A copy of the Friends of the Earth briefing on pollinators is enclosed for committee members. If other members would like a print or electronic copy then pls. let me know.

3. Freedom of Information (FOI) Request - Use of Roundup (Glyphosate)

A FOI request was received in July, the information requested and the response is detailed below. A copy of the spraying record is also attached.

Freedom of information request

The evidence that glyphosate is toxic to humans and animals is building. It is also an indiscriminate plant killer so removes plants important to insect life.

This is a FOI request to councils about your own weed or vegetation removal including the use of glyphosate and services you purchase for weed or vegetation removal including the use of glyphosate.

Please would you let me know how much glyphosate/Roundup your council purchased in the last year?

Zero stock over the winter months. 5 x 5ltr containers of Roundup were purchased on 01/03/2019

Please would you let me know how much glyphosate/Roundup your council sprayed within the county in the last year?

6.4ltrs, diluted, as attached spraying record.

How much glyphosate/Roundup do you have in store/stock?

Balance of the above order 18.6ltrs. Some of which may be used this year or held over until next year. Routinely it is only used in the spring.

Which weed killers do you use in addition to glyphosate/Roundup

None.

Please let me have figures for the last complete year you have figures for, both for direct purchases eg purchases for council usage and for indirect purchases made by contractors or others on your behalf

Above is direct purchases, we do not use any contractors.

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4. Great War Memorial Wall

The construction of the above in the Manor Lodge Gardens was approved by this committee in June 2019. Meetings have been held with the contractor, Back to the Front and AIMS.

Construction will commence when the contractor has available time and resources.

5. Play Area Prioritisation Report

The last update from Three Rivers District Council was that the report will probably be available in September.

Tim Perkins
15th August 2019.

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