

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Council Offices
Langley Road
Abbots Langley
Herts
WD5 0EJ

10th April 2019.

To Members of the Leisure Committee

Councillors Sara Bedford, Jean Bowman, Liz Burns, Jane Lay, David Monk, Robin Powell, Hitesh Tailor, Alison Ward & John Wyatt (Chairman).

The next meeting of the Leisure Committee will be held at the above address on Wednesday 17th April 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**
13th February 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. **Key Projects**
To consider the April 2019 update of the above (enclosed), specifically:
 - Water Fountain - To agree the location of the above. (Key project 15.)
 - Vehicles - Triple Grass Cutter (Key project 18.)
 - Depot Surface (Key project 20.)
 - Lamp Post Flags (Key project 22.)
 - Millennium Gardens - Water Supply (Key project 24.)
8. **Play Area Prioritisation**
To consider an initial report from the Clerk. (Clerk's report item 1.)
9. **Manor House Footpath**
To consider refurbishing the above. (Clerk's report item 2 and enclosed graphic.)

Abbots Langley Parish Council

10. Open Spaces - Code of Conduct

To consider the latest draft of the above. (enclosed.)

11. 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.

12. Current Legal Matters.

To receive a verbal update from the Clerk.

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

1. Play Area Prioritisation

The report is drafted following discussions with colleagues at Three Rivers District Council.

Overview

The Parish Council is unlikely to be able to fund new play areas without joint funding with Three Rivers District Council as the project costs, in most cases, are just too high. The District Council also has wider subject professional expertise than the Parish Council.

Current Situation

The play areas within the Parish will be assessed using the following methods:

End of life expectancy, as detailed within the annual play area inspection reports for each site, these will be listed in priority order based on when the play areas or equipment within play areas are due to come to the end of their life. (Summary report enclosed).

Analysis taken from the Open Spaces Sport and Recreation Study, commissioned by Three Rivers District Council and conducted by Knight, Kavanagh and Page (KKP). This study will look at the quality of existing provision, as well as demand in terms of current and projected population trends and will provide recommendations on where the investment across the district should be focused. (Report is work in progress and is due shortly.)

Three Rivers District Council currently have an approved capital programme for their play areas from 2018 -2024, which includes a year for general upgrading of sites across the district in 2021/22.

The Leisure and Landscape Service Plan also includes proposals to upgrade Primrose Hill play area in 2020/21, using S106 funds and Health and Wellbeing capital funding within the Leisure and Landscape Service Plan, subject to support funding from the Parish Council.

Primrose Hill is currently the only play area in the parish currently included in TRDC's plans.

[Note: I have filtered the life expectancy report, taking out items like fences, benches, bins and similar equipment. These are maintenance assets and the future of a play area will not be decided on the basis of these items. It also reduced the report to a manageable size.]

Project Funding

Unless the Parish Council was prepared to significantly increase the precept, received a bumper Community Infrastructure Levy, or was in receipt of a funding windfall such as one Parish Council that was bequeathed in excess of £100k, joint funding is the only really practical option.

The Parish Council has an Open Spaces Project earmarked reserve (£54k FY 2019-2020) and also Community Infrastructure Levy funds (£125k @ end 04/2019.¹) so will be in a position to joint fund and have influence on proposed projects. If members so decide.

Recommendations

That further consideration be given to this matter when the KKP report referenced above has been received.

That members defer any further review on the Langleybury and Primrose Hill play areas (Key projects 12 and 16) until the above report has been considered.

¹ Balance following April 2019 remittance from TRDC (pending) and contributions to skate park and Manor House toilet projects. Full report to F&A 29/04/2019.

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2. Manor House Footpath

There have been a number of discussions over the past few years about refurbishing the above. The footpath is starting to fail in various places and works will be required in the near future.

We have some residual funds from FY 2018-2019 which have been accrued (apx. £15.1k), so quotes have been sought to carry out the works.

At the time of writing we are waiting on one set of quotes to be submitted and an initial quote to be updated. Further information will be available at the meeting.

3. Club Supreme Tennis

The following extract from myAbbots² came as a bit of a surprise to officers. The £50k contribution from Club Supreme is something of which officers were unaware. Perhaps it is a journalistic error.

Six year journey to revive tennis courts

Written by Amelie Gregory

An Abbots Langley man has gone above and beyond to start up a new tennis club for the community.

James Vaughan, 40, has spent the past six years on a journey to revive the old tennis courts in Manor House Playing Fields.

James has invested almost £50,000 of his own money alongside the parish and district councils to set up Abbots Langley Tennis Club.

He said: "Six years ago I said, 'let's build something for the community'. The parish and Three Rivers District Council have been brilliant.

"I just want everyone to come down and have a good time."

The club's opening was scheduled for last summer, however due to the extreme temperatures, the tarmac wouldn't set, so James was forced to set his opening back.

The 40-year-old has spent the past 10 years working with children coaching them in tennis.

James said: "I've been a huge part of these kids' sports journeys and I can't wait to see them getting involved with the club.

"This is by no means my tennis club, its Abbots



The grand opening is set for mid-April

Langley's it's owned by those who will use it."

The new Lawn Tennis Association registered club is set to have its official opening in April, where the club will home programmes and tuition with state-of-the-art equipment.

Fearing vandalism, James was visiting the court three times a day and began chatting to the local youths about what was going on. He said they love the new courts.

James said: "We've had zero vandalism and when I go down there, they like to tell me the rubbish they've cleared for me."

Visit www.clubsupremetennis.com or call 020 3700 8584.

At the time of writing, although both sides have signed, we are still waiting on the lease being completed. Penman Sedgwick have been diligent in progressing with the Club Supremes' solicitors, who appear to be waiting on their client.

² April 2019 issue. 157.

Tim Perkins
10th April 2019.