

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 14th February 2018 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 Jean Bowman
Councillor Liz Burns (in attendance, non-voting)
Councillor Robin Powell
Councillor Hitesh Tailor
Councillor Alison Ward

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

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

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

359. Apologies for absence

Mr John Kersey, Allotments Representative advised the Clerk that he was unable to attend. He had no items to report.

David Abbott, Facilities Manager was unavailable.

360. Declarations of Interest

None.

361. Public Participation

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

362. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Alison Ward, seconded by Councillor Robin Powell and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 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.

363. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Primrose Hill - Mr Robert Stimpson

Some vacant plots of which the office is aware. Works Manager will carry out full inspections in March, but will undertake a brief visual inspection as soon as practical to assess any plots that are clearly not being worked.

Kingsfield - Mr Vince Watts

No report. Some plots being worked others clearly untouched over the winter months.

Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich

No report.

364. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Abbots Youth Football - Mr Tim Denyer

The club wished to progress installing signage at the Manor House playing fields. The club were asked to contact the Facilities Manager.

The Clerk advised that work on a revised charging model for clubs would take place after the financial year end. Any changes would be made with a view to them being cost neutral for the clubs and revenue neutral for the Parish Council.

365. Key Project Updates

i. Manor House Toilet Block.

Members want to progress this project. The unit built in the Manor House was viewed as too expensive and members preferred a standalone unit. Officers were asked to finalise plans taking the following into account.

- Single unit DDA compliant unit.
- Cost advantages of different claddings.
- Cost of groundworks.
- Door to unit to be visible from the play area.
- Location to be optimised close to the play area, but not so cost of groundworks, particularly for sewage were cost prohibitive.
- Time locks to control hours of operation.
- Installation of changing area for older children with disabilities.

ii. Manor House Water Fountain.

The unit has been delivered and will be installed when the risk of frost has passed.

iii. Electric Vehicle Charging Points.

Members noted the report and agreed that as the commercial offerings, standards for vehicle connectivity and government grants were changing frequently officers should monitor developments and report back when the situation was clearer.

Three Rivers District Council are progressing a project that may result in charging points being installed in the High Street car park.

366. Summerhouse Way Garages

The Clerk was asked to review the progress on the lease for the above with Three Rivers District Council. The lease is currently expired and whilst there have been some discussions these have been dormant for some time.

Members agreed that the refurbishment work should take place and that it would be a useful facility for the Parish Council to retain, but not if excessive rent demands were made.

Various refurbishment options have been costed are they are in the order of £10,000-£15,000. If the facility is to be used for storage then metal shutters will be required for external security. The Clerk advised that whilst there was no specific budget provision for these works there was funding in the Property Refurbishment earmarked reserve.

367. Play Area Inspections

Members noted that the inspections have taken place and that officers were working on options for the non-urgent remedial works.

Concern was expressed at the condition of the South Way play area given that it was constructed in 2012.

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368. Manor House MuGA Refurbishment

Members noted the update report and that planning permission had been submitted.

369. Manor House - Escape Route/Office Window

Members noted the report and agreed that officers should proceed under delegated authority with the installation of a window in the Manor House office.

370. Abbots Improvement Group

Members noted the report and asked the Clerk to thank the group for all of their hard work and the very positive impact they have on the visual scene in the parish.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____