

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 21st August 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Vice Chairman: Councillor Jane Lay

Councillors: Councillor Sara Bedford
Councillor Jean Bowman
Councillor Robin Powell (substitute)
Councillor Simon Stanley
Councillor Roxanne Yau

Also Present: Mr Chris Bromwich - Allotment Representative
Mr Robert Stimpson - Allotment 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.

125. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor John Wyatt (away) and Councillor Liz Burns (other commitment).

126. Declarations of Interest

None.

127. Public Participation

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

128. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Jean Bowman, seconded by Councillor Roxanne Yau and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2019, 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.

129. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Primrose Hill - Mr Robert Stimpson

Most plots being worked, plot 22 appears not to have been worked for some time. Works Manager confirmed tenants have been contacted.

Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich

No report, most plots being worked. With one exception. Tenants have been contacted.

130. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Abbots Youth Football Club - Tim Denyer

The club is still looking for an additional full sized pitch. Suggested they contact Three Rivers District Council to check availability at Leavesden Country Park.

Councillor Sara Bedford recently attended the Evergreen Football Club Annual General Meeting. The club was advised to claim rate Non Domestic Rate Relief.

The Clerk advised that works to replace the foul water outflow from the clubhouse to the main sewer was in hand

131. Manor House Allotments - Neighbouring Tree Risk

Members noted the report.

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132. Pollinator Strategy

Members noted the report from Friends of the Earth.

Officers will review sites for planting out an area of wild flowers, possibly at Primrose Hill. Not practical to decide planting strategy, species, etc in a committee meeting.

The Facilities Manager and Works Manager will review and interested members are asked to contact either and a meeting will be arranged, probably in mid-September after staff return from annual leave.

Officers will contact Kay FitzGerald, Biodiversity Projects Officer at Three Rivers District Council for advice and guidance.

133. Key Projects

Members considered the above.

- Manor House Playing Fields - Relocation of Youth Shelter (Key project 4a)

The shelter has been dismantled and will be re-sited in September when the Manor House footpaths are refurbished.

- Water Fountain - To agree the location of the above. (Key project 15.)

Members agreed that despite the higher than budgeted cost due to exchange rate variations (apx. £400) the project should proceed. A suitable location on South Way playing fields, close to the play area, has been identified. Evergreen FC have agreed the water supply will be piped from the clubhouse.

- Depot Surface (Key project 20.)

Members noted the further quotations that were received prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor Jean Bowman, seconded by Councillor Roxanne Yau and **RESOLVED** that following further analysis and discussion with the contractors to finalise requirements, delegated authority is granted to the Clerk to proceed to award the project subject to a cost limit of £32,000 +5% contingency.

The Clerk will circulate a report to committee members detailing the final decision.

- Lamp Post Flags (Key project 22.)

Project closed. Permission from highway's authority will not be granted due to the stress and strain the proposed installation will cause to the lamp columns. Officer time was used up on this project but no external costs.

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

Members noted the response to the FOI request.

Officers were asked to review if members of the Works Team needed a refresher course on spraying techniques.

135. Clerk's Report

Members noted.

- Great War Memorial Wall. Officers were asked to check if planning permission was required.
- Play Area Prioritisation report.

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

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay and seconded by Councillor Sara Bedford and **RESOLVED** that as the following matters related the early stages of a 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.

137. Current Legal Matters

- Unauthorised Tree Felling

Members noted all the efforts that had been made to prosecute this matter, but there was not sufficient grounds to proceed. The Clerk will instruct the Parish Council's solicitors to close the file on this matter.

The Parish Council will invite Abbots Trees to quote on future works.

- Bedmond Sports & Social Club

The Clerk and Facilities Manager will arrange to meet with the tenants and understand their plans for the club and intentions in relation to a new lease.

The meeting closed at 8.52 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____