

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 12th February 2020 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 Ruth Clark (substitute)
Councillor Robin Powell (in attendance non-voting)
Councillor Simon Stanley
Councillor Jon Tankard (in attendance non-voting)
Councillor Roxanne Yau

Also Present: Mr Chris Bromwich - Allotment Representative
Mr John Kersey - Allotment Representative
Mr Robert Stimpson - Allotment Representative
Mr Tim Denyer - Sports Representative

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

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

331. Apologies for absence

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

David Abbott, Facilities Manager, was unavailable.

332. Declarations of Interest

None.

333. Public Participation

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

334. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Jean Bowman, seconded by Councillor Sara Bedford and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 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.

335. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Jacketts Field & Primrose Hill Community Orchard - Mr John Kersey

No report from Jacketts Field.

Primrose Hill Community Orchard

Four new apple trees have been planted, same varieties of those that did not thrive. Planted in different locations where it is hoped soil conditions will be more conducive to growth.

Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich

No report. Thanks from tenants to the Parish Council for rebuilding the failed retaining wall ahead of the growing season.

Primrose Hill - Mr Robert Stimpson

No report. Some minor damage to plots and sheds following the recent storms.

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336. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Abbots Youth Football Club - Mr Tim Denyer

The previously approved storage container will be progressed at the end of the football season.

The club was reminded of its obligations to obtain planning permission for this project and the application timescales which may impact on construction. The Parish Council would not permit any works to commence until the appropriate permissions are in place.

Options for signage at the entrance to the main car park are being progressed with the Facilities Manager.

337. Open Casket Funerals

Members considered the report from the Clerk.

It was agreed that given the public nature of the Manor House building, challenges around security and sight lines, that it was not an appropriate facility for open casket funerals.

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council should not accept bookings for open casket funerals in any of its facilities, as more appropriate and private facilities are available in the area.

A vote was requested and all voting members were in favour.

338. Primrose Hill Play Area Project Timelines

Members noted the times scales as reported by the Clerk and agreed that whilst there are a number of approval stages ahead the redevelopment of this play area is a priority.

The Clerk advised that current earmarked reserves, Community Infrastructure Levy reserves and other funding is available should the project cost be higher than the initial guideline estimate of £100,000, although this would be a matter for consideration by the Finance & Administration Committee.

339. Langleybury Cricket Club

Members noted the explanation from the club regarding the signage on the pavilion and considered the matter closed.

340. Christmas Lights Bedmond

Members noted the request for the above.

Members considered the Christmas lighting project was primarily focussed on increasing footfall in commercial areas and also as the likely infrastructure costs, which would be significant, this request should not be included in the Key Projects process.

341. Abbots Improvement Group (AIMs)

Members noted the report.

The Clerk advised that the Finance and Administration Committee would be asked to review grants for the group, as current funding only covered plants and materials and the group did need to replace and improve its equipment.

Members also asked that when reviewing the above the Finance & Administration Committee give consideration to the sustainability aims of the current Grants Policy, with particular reference to single use plastics and plastic used by groups applying for grants.

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342. Key Projects Update

- Allotment Wall - Manor House
- Water Fountain - South Way
- Youth Shelter Reinstallation - Manor House

Officers advised that all of the above projects have been completed. The Youth Shelter requires repainting and that will be carried out when the weather has improved.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____