

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.30 pm in The Manor House, Gallows Hill Lane, Abbots Langley, WD5 0DD.

Those present:

Chairman: Councillor Jane Lay

Councillor Ruth Clark  
Councillor Jon Tankard  
Councillor John Wyatt  
Councillor Roxanne Yau

Also Present: Mr Chris Bromwich - Allotment Representative (MH)  
Mrs Tricia Buttress - Allotment Representative (KF)  
Mr Rob Stimpson - Allotment Representative (PH)  
Mr John Kersey - Allotment Representative (JF)  
Mr Tim Denyer - Sports Representative  
Mr Mark Ward - Sports Representative

Officers: Isabel Montesdeoca - Chief Officer & Clerk to the Council  
David Abbott - Facilities Manager  
Mark Ellis - Works Manager

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

### 350. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillors Sara Bedford, Councillor Liz Burns, and Councillor Simon Stanley (all unavailable).

Councillor John Wyatt arrived at 8:15pm.

### 351. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jane Lay declared an interest in agenda item 8i-iii as a member of the Gardening Society and an allotment tenant.

### 352. Public Participation

None.

### 353. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Ruth Clark, seconded by Councillor Jon Tankard and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021, 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.

### 354. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

*Jacketts Field - Mr John Kersey*

Updates on the plots at Jacketts Field had been shared with the Chief Officer & Clerk previously. Nothing additional to report.

*Primrose Hill - Mr Rob Stimpson*

Plots 3, 19, and 28 have not been worked for a year. Plot 23 has had minimal work done.

Officers shared that Plot 3 had requested a smaller quarter plot but quarter plots are not offered.

*Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich*

There has been a significant increase in vermin at the Manor House allotments, specifically mice and squirrels, leading to the loss of corn, squash, and cucumber

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crops as well as damage to other plants. Manor House allotment tenants have asked if something can be done to address this issue.

Officers will request guidance from a licensed pest control consultant to determine what options may be available given the surrounding habitat which is very favourable to mice and squirrels.

### *Kingsfield - Mrs Tricia Buttress*

Updates on the plots at Kingsfield had been shared with the Chief Officer & Clerk previously. Plots 15a, 12a, 16b, and 17b have had little to no work done.

The Chief Officer & Clerk thanked the allotment representatives for their efforts to monitor which plots are being worked and sharing those updates with the Council office.

### 355. Reports from the Sports Representatives

#### *Mr Tim Denyer*

Abbots Langley Cricket Club reported that they are in contact with Council Officers regarding redevelopment of the club's cricket nets. Officers confirmed this is ongoing.

Bedmond Football Club reported a request to the Council to have more pitches marked out. Officers confirmed a meeting is planned with Bedmond FC to discuss their request in conjunction with the several ongoing requests from the Council to Bedmond FC that require resolution.

#### *Mr Mark Ward*

Evergreen Football Club's pitch improvement grant has now been approved by the FA. The grant is a 6 year with years 1 and 2 at 100%, and then tapering in years 3 to 6. Evergreen FC will meet with the Works manager to discuss next steps.

### 356. Abbots Improvement Group (AIMs)

Members noted the report and asked the Chief Officer & Clerk to pass on the Committee's thanks to the collective for all their hard work and positive contribution to the community.

### 357. Allotments

#### i. Allotment Tenancy Report

Members note the reports and asked the Chief Officer & Clerk to thank the Works Manager and Office Administrator and for all their work on these reports.

#### ii. ALPC Beekeeping Agreement

*(Referred from Leisure Committee Dec 2021)*

The Chief Officer & Clerk thanked the Allotment Reps for their support in reviewing the draft agreement.

It was proposed by Councillor Ruth Clark, seconded by Councillor Roxanne Yau and RESOLVED that the draft ALPC Beekeeping Agreement be adopted as presented.

#### iii. ALPC Allotment Tenancy Terms & Conditions

It was proposed by Councillor Jon Tankard, seconded by Councillor Ruth Clark and RESOLVED that the revised ALPC Allotment Tenancy Terms & Conditions be adopted as presented. Furthermore, it was agreed that all allotment tenants will be asked to sign the new terms and conditions in October 2022 as a requirement for the renewal of their allotment tenancy.

### 358. Key Projects 2021-2023

Members discussed the latest revision of the Key Projects report. The following actions were requested. (Numbering refers to Key Project reference)

#### i. Key Project 6 - Primrose Hill Orchard

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Members discussed updates on this project in conjunction with the proposal submitted by Abbots In Transition for discussion under agenda item 10.

### ii. Key Project 15 - Primrose Hill Footpath Lights

Members requested the replacement of the footpath lights with LED lights be prioritised for the 2023/2024 budget as the current bulbs are no longer being manufactured and we have limited stock.

### iii. New Projects

Members asked Officers to add the following new projects to the Key Projects list and obtain quotes for the work so that these may be considered for the 2023-2024 budget:

- Langleybury Car Park - Patching of repairs to car park surface.
- Primrose Hill Footpath - Repaving of footpath and addition of hard standing for benches located near play area and future orchard to allow easy wheel chair access.
- Bedmond Basketball Court Redevelopment - Redevelopment of old basketball court into a MUGA without floodlights.
- District Enforcement at Manor Lodge & Langleybury Car Parks - Provision for enforcement of parking in marked bays within these two car parks.

### 359. Abbots in Transition (AIT) Community Garden

Members discussed this proposal in conjunction with Key Project 6 (Primrose Hill Orchard) under agenda item 9. Members were not supportive of running with both the Primrose Hill Orchard and the Community Garden projects in parallel. Members felt the orchard should be established first and time allowed to understand how the use of the space by local residents changes as a result of the orchard as this information would help inform plans for the location and design of a community garden.

Members asked Officers to thank AIT for their proposal and encourage them to resubmit the proposal in 2-3 years' time. Officers were also asked to offer AIT the opportunity to donate fruit trees, wild flower seeds and/or benches to the Primrose Hill Orchard project now or at any time during the development of the orchard.

### 360. Exclusion of the Press and Public (Part II)

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay and seconded by Councillor Roxanne Yau and RESOLVED that as the following matters will consider the early stages of vendor discussions, the press and public be excluded from the discussion, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972, s100.

### 361. Tennis Coaching

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay and seconded by Councillor Roxanne Yau and RESOLVED that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Officer & Clerk to draft terms and conditions for a short term agreement with GetSet4Tennis to provide tennis coaching at Manor House grounds during the summer of 2022. The draft agreement will be brought to this committee for approval at its next meeting in April 2022.

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The meeting closed at 20.45 pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_