

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd June 2022 at 7.30 pm in Council Chambers, Abbots Langley Parish Council, Council Office, Langley Road, Abbots Langley, WD5 0EJ.

Those present:

Chairman: Councillor Jane Lay

Councillors: Councillor Jon Andrews
Councillors Sara Bedford
Councillor Liz Burns
Councillor Ruth Clark
Councillor Simon Stanley
Councillor Roxanne Yau

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

Officers: Isabel Montesdeoca - Chief Officer & Clerk to the Council
Mark Ellis - Works Manager
Helen Adams - Leisure & Council Administration Officer

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

59. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor John Wyatt (unavailable).

Allotment Representative (JF) John Kersey also sent his apologies.

60. Declarations of Interest

None.

61. Public Participation

None.

62. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Ruth Clark, seconded by Councillor Sara Bedford and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2022, 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.

63. Election of Vice Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay, seconded by Councillor Sara Bedford and RESOLVED that Councillor Simon Stanley be elected Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2022-2023.

No other nominations were forthcoming. A vote was requested, all members present were in agreement.

64. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Mr Tim Denyer

No major issues reported.

Mr Denyer confirmed that no football matches were being held on ALPC football pitches at Manor House grounds.

Mr Denyer expressed his thanks to the organisers of the Queen's Jubilee Beacon Event (ALPC) held on 2nd June 2022 and the organisers of the Abbots Langley

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Carnival (Watford Lions) held on 11th June 2022. Both events were wonderful to attend and extremely well run.

Mr Mark Ward

Mr Ward confirmed that no football matches were being held on ALPC football pitches at South Way.

Evergreen FC are still trying to secure contractors to undertake work on their goalmouths funded through the FA grant received this year. The biggest issue is watering of the goal mouths once it has been re-seeded. It may be that a decision needs to be taken to wait until next year to redo the goal mouths.

The Works manager confirmed that the Council's planned pitch maintenance work across all the pitches at South Way is progressing as planned.

The Evergreen clubhouse is currently closed while the Council undertakes the repaving of the car park at South Way. Access to the 3G pitch is possible from the field.

65. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

Jacketts Field - Mr John Kersey

(update provided via email)

The Shepherds Close entrance to the allotment is overgrown and needs strimming. This land is the responsibility of the Metropolitan Housing Trust.

The Clerk has called and notified them.

Primrose Hill - Mr Rob Stimpson

Three plots are not being worked: Plots 2, 19, 28. The Works manager and Leisure & Council Administration Officer confirmed these plots have recently been inspected and are either being monitored or have received an inspection letter. Officers agreed to call plot 2, instead of sending a letter.

Discussion held regarding grace period for new tenants, currently 3 months. Officers agreed to schedule check-in calls for new tenants where plots are not being worked.

Two of the allotment fences at Primrose Hill are in need of repair. Works manager will assess the damage and obtain a quote to repair the fence.

Manor House - Mr Chris Bromwich

No updates. All plots except plot 9 are being worked which is due to be returned to the council.

Kingsfield - Mrs Tricia Buttress

Vacant plots are moving quickly. Mrs Buttress thanked the Council for keeping things moving through a regular program of inspections and inspection letters as this had been much needed.

Trough near plot 4b is leaning and close to leaking. Works manager confirmed all the troughs will need to be drained and set on top of concrete. The Works manager will obtain a quote for the work.

66. Allotment Tenancy Report

Members noted the report and thanked the Leisure & Council Administration Officer and Works Manager for their ongoing efforts in this area.

Cllr Sara Bedford thanked officers for consistently providing the data and asked that after a suitable period of data gathering, trend data be added to the report to help members understand the turnover rates.

Discussion was had regarding the length of the allotment waiting list. The waiting list is moving once again now post the pandemic. Works manager confirmed plans to split a handful of full plots, if possible. Officers agreed to revisit the topic in 12

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months time to discuss if additional action / allotment sites are needed to meet demand.

67. Key Projects 2022-2023

Members noted the latest on the updates of the Key Projects report.

Cllr Sara Bedford raised a question regarding the approved renovations to the older equipment at Langleybury play area, querying why a TRDC play area provision was not pursued for help in renovations.

Cllr Roxanne Yau raised a question regarding potential future renovations to the Love Lane play area, and the possibility of introducing signage in the area to make residents aware of the play area.

Officers agreed to investigate the above and provide potential costs for consideration.

68. Bookings Update

Members noted the bookings update and thanked Officers for the report.

69. Millennium Gardens Box Hedge

Members noted the verbal update from the Works Manager on the above regarding the significant damage caused by the box hedge moth.

It was proposed by Councillor Ruth Clark, seconded by Councillor Roxanne Yau and RESOLVED that the box hedge at Millennium Gardens be removed in September 2022 and the ground be made ready for use as garden beds.

Cllr Sara Bedford wished to thank the Facilities manager, the Works Manager and their teams for all of the hard work done to keep the Millennium Garden and Manor House playing fields clean and tidy throughout the Queen's Jubilee Beacon Event and for working late into the night once the event was over to ensure that the area was cleared and ready for public use the following day.

The meeting closed at 8:18 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____