

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Leisure Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 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 Ruth Clark  
Councillor Simon Stanley  
Councillor Roxanne Yau

Also Present: Mrs Tricia Buttress - Allotment Representative (KF)  
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  
Rebecca Finlay - Leisure & Council Administration Officer

Not Present: Councillor Jon Andrews  
Councillor Sara Bedford  
Councillor Liz Burns  
Councillor John Wyatt

The meeting opened at 7:28 pm.

### 264. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Jon Andrews, Sara Bedford, Liz Burns, John Wyatt (all unavailable).

Allotment Representatives (PH) Rob Stimpson, (MH) Chris Bromwich, and (JF) John Kersey also sent their apologies.

### 265. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jane Lay declared an interest in agenda item 9i Fees and Charges as a member of the Gardening Society and an allotment tenant.

### 266. Public Participation

None.

### 267. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Simon Stanley, seconded by Councillor Ruth Clark and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022, copies of which had been sent to all members of the Parish Council prior to the meeting, be taken as read with the above amendment and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### 268. Reports from the Sports Representatives

Tim Denyer

No updates regarding Abbots Langley Youth Football Club.

Bedmond Football Club asked if the tree in their field could be removed. The Works Manager said this has been looked at before and it is not possible as the tree has bats living in it and is therefore protected.

Bedmond Football Club also asked if the cricket square could be removed as it has not been used for a number of years. The Clerk responded that once the lease for Bedmond Pavillion has been agreed, there will be an opportunity to bring the square back into use.

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Bedmond Football Club is concerned about the state of their pitches. The Works Manager confirmed that the Bedmond pitch has very little grass at present but noted that this is due to the pitch being consistently overplayed.

Mark Ward

Evergreen has achieved a three star England accreditation. It is the first club in England to do so as a part of a pilot scheme running in Hertfordshire. This accreditation opens the door for additional funding. The club will seek to use this funding to purchase new goal posts for next season.

The Works Manager noted that the club will need to seek approval from the Council to purchase and erect its own goal posts. The Club will also have to have an agreement with the Council governing when the goals can be put up and when they will be taken down. The Chief Officer & Clerk proposed a meeting to discuss this further and suggested this could be addressed through an amendment to the current lease as has been done in other leases.

Mark thanked the Council for addressing the drain issue they were experiencing at South Way.

Mark shared that Evergreen are now having to hire pitches at Kings Langley School as they cannot fit all of their fixtures on their own pitches. The cost for this is paid for by Evergreen.

### 269. Reports from the Allotments Representatives

*Kingsfield - Patricia Buttress*

Patricia thanked the Works Manager and the Leisure & Council Administration Officer for their work on the allotments which has resulted in all but one plot being let. Patricia also noted the excellent work done by Sunnyside in clearing one of the derelict plots.

### 270. Allotment Tenancy Report

Members noted the report and thanked Officers for their work on the report and the allotments.

The Leisure & Council Administration Officer and Chief Officer & Clerk highlighted that since the last meeting we have added 11 new tenants across all four allotment sites, the waiting list has come down from 68 to 52, and there are only 3 vacant plots. Some of these plots are derelict and therefore quotes are being obtained from Sunnyside to clear them. These plots have been offered to prospective tenants but none have been willing to take them on as is.

### 271. Bookings Update

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

### 272. Budget 2023-2024

#### i. Fees & Charges 2023-2024

Members noted the updates to the Fees & Charges document were in line with what was agreed at the previous meeting of the committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Ruth Clark, seconded by Councillor Simon Stanley and RESOLVED that there being no further amendments to the schedule as presented, members recommend approval to the Parish Council.

#### ii. Key Projects 2022-2024

Members noted the latest updates on the Key Projects report and the Leisure & Council Administration Officer's report on the Primrose Hill Planting Day. Members thanked Officers for their efforts in planning and executing the planting day.

The Works Manager confirmed that the next planting day is scheduled for Jan 2023 when an additional 25 heritage fruit trees would be planted by a

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number of different members of the public and representatives from community groups.

iii. Budget 2023-2024

Members noted the latest revisions of the committee's budget pages.

It was proposed by Councillor Ruth Clark, seconded by Councillor Roxanne Yau and RESOLVED that there being no further amendments to the committee's pages as presented, members approval to the Parish Council.

273. Community Defibrillators

Members noted the pamphlet created by the Leisure & Council Administration officer and encouraged sharing this with residents of the Parish. The pamphlet is currently available for download on the Parish Council website.

Members suggested copies of the pamphlet be distributed to local pharmacies and the Abbots Langley Library.

Members noted the verbal report from the Facilities Manager and Works Manager regarding the latest audit of the defibrillators and the recent software upgrades that have now been completed.

The meeting closed at 8:08 pm.

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

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