

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LEISURE FACILITIES & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 13th JULY 2009
IN THE PARISH CENTRE, LOCKLEYS DRIVE WELWYN
COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Chairman, Cllr. L. McLusky and Councillors M Benson, I Colpitts, B McKay and Ober

IN ATTENDANCE: A S Pack (Acting Parish Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Councillors J Blackburn and S Butler

2009/055 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

2009/056 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th JUNE 2009

RESOLVED "that the Minutes of the Leisure Facilities and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on the 8th June 2009 be approved and signed"

Unanimously Agreed

2009/057 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 8th JUNE 2009

2009/033 Waiting Room at the Cemetery.

Councillor Colpitts advised that Mr Trigg was unable to proceed with this project as he had sustained injury in a recent accident. Francesca Walkington was interested in pursuing ideas for the waiting room but would like a brief from the Council. The Chairman tabled sketches and a photograph of a resting room/ room for reflection in France. Attached as

APPENDIX 1

Following discussion it was agreed that these be forwarded to Francesca, with a brief that the Council are trying to achieve a functional building whilst minimising the costs. The building should have no glass or doors and should be an open area with a roof; if oblong then it could have a back wall, if circular with a circular seat, then only pillars to hold up the roof would be required.

The Acting Clerk to obtain the cost of

- Demolishing the building to include the removal of asbestos in the roof
- Sealing of the asbestos and re-using the existing building
- Rates for the building as it stands.

2009/058 YOUTH WORKING PARTY

Councillor Colpitts advised he had been elected Chairman of the Youth Working Party and Councillor McLusky had been elected Vice Chairman. The Working Party had agreed their Terms of Reference, identified their aims and objectives and had formulated a plan of action.

A plot of land which could hold a Children's Play area had been identified adjacent to the North Star Public House, owned by McMullen's Brewery, in Oaklands, Welwyn. Following discussion it was proposed by Councillor Colpitts, seconded by Councillor Benson and

RESOLVED "that a letter be sent to McMullen's Brewery outlining the Council's interest in

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this parcel of land and inviting them to a meeting to discuss partnership working to develop this area for the local community.

Unanimously agreed

The Youth Working Party are also to hold a Public meeting on the 15th July 2009 in the Civic Centre to discuss facilities for young people in the parish. A leaflet had been delivered in the area alerting young people to this meeting. A further meeting of the Youth Working Party was scheduled to take place on the 14th July 2009 to discuss the Agenda etc for the Public Meeting.

The Youth Connexions Bus is to be parked at the Civic Centre also which will attract young people to the meeting. Youth Connexions are also looking for a winter venue.

2009/59 CLEANER VILLAGES WEEK

Three Cleaner Villages Walkabout events had taken place, two in Welwyn Village, on the 30th June and the 2nd July, and the third in Oaklands also on the 30th June 2009. Notes attached as

APPENDIX 2

Several issues were identified as requiring attention by Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council (WHBC) and Hertfordshire County Council (HCC). A meeting with Councillor Mandy Perkins is to take place in the Parish Office at 10am on Tuesday 21st July to discuss areas of concern which are the WHBC responsibility.

A meeting has also been arranged with the Assistant District Manager of the Mid West Herts Area, of HCC to discuss concerns which are the responsibility of HCC, on Monday August 3rd commencing at 10am.

It was noted that areas of concern identified as the 2008 Walkabout events were still outstanding. Copies of the notes of the 2008 and 2009 Walkabout events have been sent to WHBC and HCC.

2009/60 WELWYN FESTIVAL FAMILY FUN DAY

As this item was discussed at the Full Council meeting held on the 29th June 2009, no further discussion took place.

2009/61 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND DAMAGE – OTTWAY WALK

A letter received from PC Deal requesting the Council consider some remedial works to combat anti social behaviour was circulated with the Agenda as Appendix 2

Following discussion of the points raised it was agreed that the dusk to dawn lighting on the outside of the Pavilion would now be left on permanently and PC Deal would be invited to attend a Youth Working Party meeting to discuss this matter further, with a view to finding a more positive approach to solving the problems being experienced in this area.

2009/62 CIVIC CENTRE

a) Car Park surface

The Acting Clerk advised the pot holes in the car park had been repaired. Following discussion, the Caretaker of the Civic Centre to be requested to monitor the car park and to advise the Acting Clerk if any further pot holes occur, to enable repairs to be undertaken swiftly.

b) Three quotations from Building Surveyors to conduct a full condition survey of the Civic Centre were circulated with the Agenda as Appendix 3

Following discussion, the Acting Clerk to obtain references and clarification that

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the survey includes floor plans from Company One, plus a time scale of how long the survey will take and when can the Company, once instructed commence work.

- c) A draft Business Plan was circulated with the Agenda as Appendix 4

It was agreed to hold a separate Leisure Facilities and Open Spaces Meeting to discuss the Civic Centre once the conditions survey has been completed and a report received.

2009/63 ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ACCIDENTS (ROSPA) PLAY AREA SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT.

It was agreed that all remedial work classed as a High Risk in the report to be undertaken as soon as possible. Quotation for the required work classed as low/medium risk to be obtained for discussion at the next meeting.

2009/64 BUDGET 2010-2011

The following items were identified as items for discussion in a future budget:-

Mini Bus

Councillor Colpitts suggested the Council investigate costs associated with procuring or leasing a Mini Bus to be operated by a team of volunteers. Councillor Benson agreed to discuss this matter with a colleague who has experience in this field. Councillor Colpitts to investigate the costs associated with leasing a Mini Bus.

Proposed new Play Area

To investigate the cost implications of developing a new play area in the Oaklands Area

Civic Centre

To cost the works required both in the short and longer term for remedial works to the Civic Centre once the Conditions Survey has been completed.

Allotments

Investigate the cost implications of providing a new water butt.

Waiting Room as the Cemetery

Once plans have been agreed, to obtain quotations for the required work.

Whitehill Centre

Cost of upgrading facilities, re-decoration and refurbishment.

Christmas Lighting

Obtain quotations for replacement lighting in keeping with an historic village.

Christmas Tree

Investigate alternative local suppliers.

Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

A Public Meeting is to be held to ascertain whether the community would support the funding of an additional PCSO by Welwyn Parish Council (WPC) Costs are £ 14,000 per annum, the post would be partially funded by the Police.

Youth Working Party Projects

Yet to be identified

2009/65 WELWYN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION (WAA)

- a) Following discussion, it was agreed that the WAA could hold a small drinks/bar-b-que in the area in front of the hut or in the area down by the Willow tree next to the

river, one evening during the summer.

- b) The Allotment Judging Competition is to take place on Tuesday 21st July following the meeting with Councillor Perkins which is to take place at 10am.

2009/066 CLOSE OF MEETING.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.34pm

Signed:.....

Chairman of the Leisure Facilities and Open Spaces Committee.

Date: 10th August 2009