

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE LEISURE FACILITIES & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY 20TH MAY 2008
AT THE PARISH CENTRE LOCKLEYS DRIVE WELWYN
THAT COMMENCED AT 7.30PM.**

PRESENT: Councillor J Blackburn (Outgoing Chairman) and Cllrs M Benson, S Butler
I Colpitts, L McLusky and J Roper.

IN ATTENDANCE: J Lewis (Office Administrator)

APOLOGIES: The Clerk (other commitments).

2008/01 WELCOME. The Outgoing Chairman welcomed all present and opened the meeting.

2008/02 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN. Cllr Benson was nominated by Cllr McLusky and seconded by Cllr Butler for the post of Chairman. There being no other nominations it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr Benson be elected Chairman of the Committee for the 2008-2009 year.

2008/03 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN. Cllr McLusky was nominated by Cllr Blackburn and seconded by Cllr Colpitts for the post of Vice-Chairman. There being no other nominations it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr McLusky be elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the 2008-2009 year.

2008/04 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None.

2008/05 MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15TH APRIL 2008. It was **RESOLVED** that these were a true and accurate record and they were signed by the Chairman and Outgoing Chairman.

2008/06 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15TH APRIL 2008. The Chairman asked Councillors that for future good practice they advise the Clerk for future meetings in good time of any matters arising then these can be put on the Agenda and reports prepared.

Thames Water/Grills. It was reported that a letter had been received from Thames Water confirming their intention not to install anti-vandal devices on their sewer pipe running over the river and into the allotments. The query regarding the missing grill remained outstanding.

Meeting with Master Chime Spooner. It was reported that a meeting had taken place between Master Spooner, his friends and Councillors and that useful input and suggestions had been made that would be forwarded to the Youth Working Party for development.

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council fencing. It was reported that a letter had been received from the Borough advising that they did not intend to erect fencing on Parkside close to the sewer pipe running over the river and into the allotments.

2008/07 ALLOTMENT MATTERS

Raised by the Allotment Association. None

Correspondence. A letter had been received from plot-holder Mrs S Godman regarding the compost heap on her plot and no further action was required. The Clerk was asked to arrange the clearance of the ivy coming onto the allotments from the former pumping station site.

Verbal report from the Clerk Allotment inspections. This was given by the Office Administrator in the Clerk's absence.

2008/08 CHURCHYARD ITEMS

Estimates for repair of St Mary's Churchyard walls. A quotation had been received for the remedial repairs to the north and east walls to the Churchyard. The Clerk was asked to obtain two further quotations for this work. The Clerk was also asked to keep the Church informed of any work being done and to confirm with the Borough whether the north wall was listed.

2008/09 CEMETERY ITEMS

Tree planting. The Clerk was asked for obtain a progress report on this matter from the Head Groundsman as it appeared that no tree planting had taken place. Councillors Blackburn, Butler and Roper had inspected the Cemetery immediately before the meeting and they were asked to submit their written report for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting. The Clerk was asked to have last year's inspection report available at the next Committee meeting.

2008/10 DIGSWELL VILLAGE HALL. Request for a donation. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Committee recommends that consideration be given by the Finance Committee of a donation of £1,500.00 be made to Digswell Village Hall. The request for this donation was supported by a letter and a financial statement and accounts.

2008/11 REGISTERING OF PARISH COUNCIL LAND. Councillors Blackburn and Roper were asked to assist The Clerk with identifying any possible duplication in the various parcels of land owned by the Council so that the Council's land could then be registered with the Land Registry.

2008/12 DIGSWELL PLAYING FIELD. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Committee re-affirms Welwyn Parish Council's ambition to take over the responsibility of management of Digswell Playing Field subject to a satisfactory outcome of negotiations with Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council.

2008/13 CLEANER VILLAGES WEEK. Councillor Blackburn was asked to re-convene the Cleaner Villages Working Party with instructions that it is to review of current organisational arrangements for Cleaner Villages Week.

2008/14 WELWYN CLEANING GROUP. It was reported that this Group had been set up recently. The Clerk was asked to purchase a stock of rubbish bags, litter pickers, high-visibility jackets and warning signs which could then be loaned to any voluntary groups involved in litter picking within the Parish.

2008/15 SET A DATE FOR THE YOUTH WORKING PARTY TO MEET. This was set for Thursday 3rd July 2008 at 7.30pm meeting at the Parish Centre. The Clerk was asked to supply to Committee with the membership of this Working Party.

2008/16 CLOSURE OF MEETING. The Chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Signed:.....

Chairman, Leisure Facilities & Open Spaces Committee

Dated: 10th June 2008.