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# MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD AT 7.45 PM ON TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2011 IN THE JOHN GROBLER ROOM

**PRESENT:** Cllrs J Plant (Chairman), F Breedlove, E Cooke, D Green, L Lainsbury, J Southgate.

In attendance: Clive Hudson (WPC Clerk), 1 member of the public.

### 1 APOLOGIES

**1.1** Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey.

### 2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- 2.1 Members were reminded that declarations of interest should be made where appropriate.
- **2.2** The Clerk re-presented to the Committee the information and advice from BALC, which had been presented to the Full Council meeting in February 2011, regarding Cllr Lainsbury's interests. The Clerk also presented the SLCC advice regarding Cllr Lainsbury's interests in the Pavilion Cafe.

A full discussion took place regarding the declaration of interests regarding the Pavilion Café and the Allotments and the effect that these declarations may have on the quorum of the R&A Committee meetings.

### **3 R&A COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIRMAN**

**3.1** Cllr Breedlove **PROPOSED** and Cllr Southgate **SECONDED** Cllr Cooke to be vice-chairman of the R&A Committee and this was **RESOLVED**.

### 4 PUBLIC SESSION

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the member of the public to speak. A discussion took place regarding the progress of the allocation of vacant plots and the distribution of water tap keys. Standing Orders were resumed.

WPC R&A 110607

### 5 CLERK'S REPORT

### CLERK'S REPORT as at 7.6.11

#### Update on items since the meeting of 05.4.11

# Play Area/Recreation Ground

A cover has worked loose on the Adult Gym ski walker. The equipment is closed 'Out of Order'. Park Leisure have repaired it and it has failed again. Park Leisure have been invited back to make a permanent repair. The Clerk is discussing repairs to the matting on the Kompan Elements Edge Unit.

There have been two unusual instances on the field. The police have been informed. There has been a dog-attack incident in the car park. The WBC dog warden is investigating. The bollards have been serviced. One permanent replacement is required.

The Clerk reported that the Reading Rangers booking, including the hire of the field, would take place on Sunday 26 June 2011.

### Pavilion

The caretaker is putting a coat of preservative along the wooden fence around the pavilion. The new electrical circuit for the kitchen has been installed.

### Main Hall/Offices

The drains have been blocked again three times and have been cleared by the caretaking staff. Problems have again occurred regarding loss of pressure to the cold water taps and toilets. The Clerk has contacted a plumber and temporary repairs have been made.

Repairs have been completed to the main electricity supply to the Community Centre. Repairs have been made under guarantee to minor faults in the Community Centre floor. A pane of glass has been broken in a French Window in the Community Hall. The breakage is not considered to be malicious. The Committee **RESOLVED** £150 for emergency repairs. **ACTION: Clerk** 

# Allotments

Allotment holders have been informed of the workings of the temporary tap at the allotments. A permanent repair is awaited and new water tap keys have been purchased.

# 6 MATTERS ARISING

**6.1** none

# 7 R & A BUDGET

### 7.1 To discuss the current budgetary position

The Committee noted the details and asked for the figures committed for the internal decorations to be included in next month's figures. **ACTION: FAO** 

# 8 REFERRALS FROM COUNCIL AND OTHER COMMITTEES

**8.1** From Full Council; the Committee was asked to review the public use of the Community Centre toilets and report back to Full Council.

The Clerk gave a summary of the problems raised by opening up the Main Hall disabled toilet to the public. The discussion progressed to creating external toilets at the Pavilion. Cllr Plant presented two quotes she had requested to do this work. The Committee thanked her for this information and noted that formal quotations should always be made through the Clerk's office. The Committee noted that there is no budget for this work in the current year.

The Committee agreed that Cllr Plant should create a paper containing the justifications and feasibility of external toilet facilities at the Pavilion and present this to Full Council. **ACTION: Cllr Plant** 

### 9 ALLOTMENTS

**9.1** The Clerk asked for clarification of whether a person on the waiting list is eligible for a second half-plot. The Committee confirmed the principle that many people on the waiting list had joined the list when full plots were still being offered and that now the policy was to restrict allocation to a single half-plot in order to reduce the lengthy waiting list.

The Clerk reported a query from an allotment holder regarding the use of sprinklers. The Committee confirmed that in order to reduce the wastage of water, sprinklers were not permitted. Other matters considered to be subject to 'reasonable use' were fires and dogs when kept under control: use of the donated stable manure is at a plotholder's own risk.

The Clerk was asked to report this to the plotholder.

**ACTION: Clerk** 

The Committee confirmed that of the plots subject to query at the Spring inspection only 2 were continuing to be reviewed.

(the member of the public left the meeting)

### 10 PAVILION

10.1 There was nothing to report regarding the Pavilion Café

### 11 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2011

**11.1** The date for the Christmas Lights event 2011 was confirmed as Friday 9 December 2011.

Cllr Plant will invite Winnersh Primary School.ACTION: Cllr PlantCllr Cooke will invite Bearwood Primary SchoolACTION: Cllr CookeThe Clerk will invite the WBC MayorACTION: ClerkCllr Plant will contact Sainsbury's regarding refreshmentsACTION: Cllr Plant

The Committee considered some of the issues to be addressed for this year's event:

- 1) rigging of the lights/safety checks
- 2) refreshments
- 3) publicity/marketing

Alternatives to 'lights in the trees' were discussed. Cllr Lainsbury will investigate alternatives and report back to the next R&A meeting. **ACTION: Cllr Lainsbury** 

# **12 COMMUNITY CENTRE FACILITIES**

- 12.1 The Clerk reported on the cause of air locks in the Main Hall cold water supply. A temporary repair has been made. The Committee asked the Clerk to monitor the situation and report back. The Clerk was also asked to report on the intermittent leak in the kitchen roofing.
  ACTION: Clerk
- 12.2 The Clerk reported on the increased incidence of blockages in the Community Centre drains. The Clerk was asked to get a quote for a camera survey of the drains. ACTION: Clerk
- **12.3** The Clerk reported on initial investigations regarding the cold water supply and metering of the Pavilion House and Pavilion. The Clerk was asked to get further information regarding the costs and practicalities of this option and report back. **ACTION: Clerk**
- 12.4 The Committee discussed the repeated problem of vehicles driving into the bollards. The Committee briefly discussed alternatives to bollards and other options. The Committee recommended a trial period when all three bollards would be lowered, subject to security considerations. ACTION: Clerk & Caretaker The Committee RESOLVED £500 for the replacement of the damaged bollard. ACTION: Clerk
- 12.5 The Committee discussed the practicalities and constraints of new complementary signage at the Community Centre and crossroads. This is a project for this year and the Clerk will make further investigations. ACTION: Clerk
- 12.6 The Clerk reported on the progress and difficulties regarding the repainting of the teenage shelter. The Committee decided that a one-month window will be given for this to be completed in-house. ACTION: Clerk

# **13 CORRESPONDENCE**

Item 6; The Clerk confirmed that he had approved the WBC 'soccer at 6' scheme to run on the Bearwood Recreation Ground at 6.00pm on Monday evenings during the school summer holidays.

Item 7; The Committee noted the hirer's comments and suggested that she may wish to start her sessions half an hour later.

Item 11; The Committee discussed Community Theatre. The Committee showed initial interest but a project of this sort would require a volunteer to drive it forward.

Item 31; The Committee noted the increased interest in scrap metal locally.

Item 35; has been considered under section 9 above.

Item 37; the Committee noted this correspondence. The Clerk will respond. ACTION: Clerk

### 14 ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

14.1 none.

# 15 TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

15.1 The next meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at 7.45 p.m. in the John Grobler Room.

The meeting finished at 10.28p.m.

# **APPENDIX 1**

### Correspondence received prior to the issue of the agenda for the meeting of 3 May 2011

- 1 Berks Fire & Rescue Service; changes to response to Automatic Fire Alarms (already presented to Full Council)
- 2 WBC; Adopt a Street Scheme;
- 3 WBC & Community Wardens; overgrown trees along Bearwood Road
- 4 Karen Briscoe; regular hirer, thanks for facilities
- 5 ARD; confirmation of contract for 2011-12
- 6 WBC; "Soccer At 6" project; request to use the field during the summer
- 7 Wendy Hamilton, regular hirer; comments re facilities and costs
- 8 ARD; playground inspection report, March 2011
- 9 St John Ambulance; training courses July-December 2011
- 10 Cyril Smith fencing; introductory letter
- 11 Watermill Theatre on Tour; invitation to put on a show
- 12 SLCC; re beehives on allotments
- 13 CCB; workshop on Community Cinemas
- 14 Pest UK; confirmation of new contract and baiting dates, 2011-12
- 15 PCSO Williams; acknowledgement of events on field
- 16 Kelly Media Co.; invitation to advertise at Sainsbury's Winnersh
- 17 SMP Playgrounds; newsletter
- 18 ADT; request to book routine inspection of Security Systems
- 19 PCSO Nellie Williams; introduction to Allotment Watch and Community Messaging
- 20 ARD; April 2011 playground report

# Correspondence received prior to the issue of the agenda for the meeting of 7 June 2011

- 21 Glasdon; product brochure
- 22 Floors of Distinction; emails re floor damage
- 23 All-in-One Security; quote to replace bollard
- 24 Janice Burn; trees overhanging pavement
- 25 WRFC; request to change pitch sizes
- 26 Fields in Trust; information re Queen Elizabeth 11 Field Fund
- 27 Safe & Sound Playgrounds; leaflet
- 28 National Grid; 5 a side pitch usage
- 29 H J Marley; report and quote for Community Centre cold water supply
- 30 H J Marley; report and quote for Pavilion water supply
- 31 Lorraine Ferre; observation re outsider interest in scrap metal at allotments
- 32 Festive Lighting; leaflet
- 33 Aslett Maintenance; quote for external toilet work in Pavilion
- 34 ARD; May 2011 playground inspection report
- 35 Tony Howells; questions regarding allotments

### Correspondence received since the issue of the agenda for the meeting of 7 June 2011

- 36 Community Film Unit Ltd; offer of services
- 37 Tony Howells; Plot processes and allocation
- 38 Landscape & Amenity magazine, May 2011