MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities and Open Spaces Committee** held on the 15th October, 2007 in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 7.46 pm**

PRESENT	Councillor B. Castle	Chairman
	Councillor Mrs P. Dow	Town Mayor
	Councillor R. Notton	
	Councillor S. Radnedge	
	Councillor R. Pitts	
ALSO PRESENT	Mrs Pam Dobson	Town Clerk
	Mrs Sue Fry	Office Manager
	Mr. L. Cowen	Wiltshire Gazette and Herald
	Councillor S.R. Dobson	Observing
	Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson	Observing
	Councillor Mrs M. Rose	Observing

NOTICE OF MEETING – Public Notice of the meeting has been given in accordance with Schedule 12, para 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972

283/07 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T. Spranger and G. Loosmore.

284/07 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

There were no Declaration(s) of Interest

285/07 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's Announcements.

286/07 REVIEW OF CHARGES FOR 2008/2009

A lengthy discussion took place on the proposed Cemetery Charges for 2008/2009. Councillor Dobson stated that he would like a review to take place on all council practices and costings on all the services that we offer. The Chairman agreed that this would be placed on a future agenda.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs P. Dow, seconded by Councillor R. Notton and –

RECOMMENDED by 4 votes for, with 1 against that the Cemetery Charges for 2008/2009 be increased by 4% (see attached sheet)

Proposed by Councillor R. Notton, seconded by Councillor Mrs P. Dow and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that the Allotment Charges for 2008/2009 be increased to £20.00 for a full allotment plus £2.00 admin charge and £4.00 for water where available, £10.00 for half of an allotment plus £2.00 admin charge plus £4.00 for water where available (see attached sheet).

Proposed by Councillor R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor S. Radnedge and –

RECOMMENDED: by 4 votes for with 1 abstention that The Common Charges for 2008/2009 should be increased to £75.00 per night (see attached sheet)

Proposed by Councillor Mrs P. Dow, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RECOMMENDED: by 3 votes for with 2 against that the Football Pitch Charges for 2008/2009 should remain at the current rate (see attached sheet)

Proposed by Councillor R. Notton, seconded by Councillor S. Radnedge and –

RECOMMENDED: by 4 votes for with 1 against that the Rugby Pitch Preparation for 2008/2009 be increased to £150.00. (see attached sheet)

287/07 LIVING CHURCHYARD AND CEMETERY

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor Mrs P. Dow and –

RECOMMENDED: by 4 votes for with 1 against that the Richmond Fellowship should be congratulated on producing the Conservation Management Plan but that they would like to see bog areas instead of ponds.

288/07 JUBILEE FIELD, MANTON

The committee received a verbal update from the Town Clerk on the progress with installation of gates and further proposed works to protect and enhance the riverbank. The Town Clerk informed members that the Field Gate has been erected and that the installation of the Pedestrian Gate will hopefully be completed by the end of the week.

Councillor R. Pitts reported on the proposed further works to protect and enhance the Riverbank …….

It was agreed unanimously that Ark be ask to supply the council with a Management Plan.

289/07 PRIORY GARDENS

a) River Restoration Scheme

The committee received an update on the works completed, a discussion then took place regarding a further request from Ark for permission and assistance to complete the next stage of works. The panel that has been erected in the gardens should not have been painted and will need to be removed and the paint taken off.

…….

b) Request from Ridgeway/Sarsen

The committee received a request from Ridgeway/Sarsen to reinstate the boundary around their land, which they consider extends beyond the current beech hedge. They would also like the Council to consider making a contribution towards the installation of CCTV.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk should obtain clarification on the ownership of this land and also more information as to what Ridgeway/Sarsen actually require before any decision can be made regarding the request to reinstate the boundary around their land.

It was agreed unanimously that the request for a contribution towards CCTV should be put on a Finance and Policy Agenda.

290/07 BIG LOTTERY PLAYFUL IDEAS PROGRAMME

The committee had previously received information on the availability of further lottery funding for innovative play ideas. They then discussed submitting a 200 word proposal to the County Council.

It was agreed unanimously that Councillor R. Pitts and the Town Clerk should submit a 200 word proposal to the County Council.

291/07 UPDATE FROM TOWN CLERK ON ITEMS DISCUSSED PREVIOUSLY

a) Salisbury Road Recreation Ground

The Town Clerk informed members that the funding applications contained in the Play Strategy by Kennet District Council were submitted in early September, but that it was unlikely that the outcome of this will be known before the new year.

b) Annual Meetings

The Town Clerk informed members that subject to approval by the committee a meeting has been arranged with the Rugby Club for Wednesday 24th October, 2007 at 7.00 pm. It was suggested that the current lease agreement should be made available at the meeting.

c) Plume of Feathers Garden

The Town Clerk informed members that she was in correspondence with the solicitors for the developer of the property that backs on to the Plume of Feathers Lane regarding the access gate, which has been put into the rear fence. Their solicitors are claiming that access is allowed in an agreement between South Western Gas and Pelham Puppets when the land was originally acquired as part of a larger plot. Until evidence of this has been proven the gate will stay screwed shut.

d) Town Mill Land Claim

The Town Clerk informed members that this item remains outstanding until time permits a claim being submitted.

292/07 CHRISTMAS TREE ON THE GREEN

The Town Clerk proposed that the switch on date for the Tree on the Green be the 4th December, 2007.

It was agreed unanimously that the switch on date is the 4th December, 2007 at 6.30 pm and that the Mayor should invite her Chaplain Father Philllip Thomas, Councillors and members of the public to join in singing carols around the tree and then join her for light refreshments in the Town Hall afterwards.

293/07 ELCOT LANE PLAYING FIELD

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on this item. She reported that to date no correspondence has been received from the Football Club and that only 3 out of the 5 utility services had replied to letters sent out.

294/07 CEMETERY – For information

a) Exclusive Right of Burial/Notice of Internment
b) Memorial Inscriptions/additional

That this information is noted

The meeting closed at 9.14 pm