

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES AND OPEN SPACES

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities and Open Spaces Committee** held on **Monday 30th April, 2007** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough** at 7.35pm

PRESENT	Councillor P.B. Cossey Councillor B. Castle Councillor M. Cooper Councillor Mrs C. Jackson Councillor M. Curtis	Chairman Town Mayor
ALSO PRESENT	Mrs Pam Dobson Mrs Sue Fry	Town Clerk Office Manager

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

588/06 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S.R. Dobson and M. Gray.

589/06 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

There were no Declaration(s) of Interest.

590/06 CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman thanked members for their support and hard work during the last year.

The Chairman reminded members that there was an addendum item which would be Agenda Item 7b.

591/06 UPDATE FROM TOWN CLERK ON ITEMS DISCUSSED PREVIOUSLY

To receive reports on the following items and make decisions or recommendations where required –

a) Priory Gardens

Sarsen have now installed replacement fencing; unfortunately, they have installed the same type of fencing. However, the fact that they have accepted responsibility for its replacement is a success. Sarsen have also confirmed that they will try to ensure that staff and residents keep the car park gates closed, when the Gardens are closed to prevent unauthorised access. The Town Clerk suggested that prickly planting on our side of the fence be undertaken as soon as possible to give it the best chance of establishing before the fence comes under attack.

RESOLVED: unanimously that the Town Clerk should be given delegated powers to purchase a form of hedging to act as a deterrent up to the sum of £700.00. Double Blackthorn and Hawthorn were both suggested species.

b) Salisbury Road Recreation Ground

Skate Aid who provided the skate training for youngsters during the school holidays has requested permission to use the area again on Tuesday evenings from 12th June to 4th September. Mr. Holcroft of Coombe End House had been contacted to ascertain if they will be starting construction before that date and await his reply.

The Town Clerk reported that a reply has now been received from Mr. Holcroft stating that they have no objection to Skate Aid going ahead as they don't envisage works starting until after September. This project will be advertised at the Schools and in the Newsletter.

In respect of the long term plans for the replacement of the play equipment, the Town Clerk had a very successful meeting in early April with Mr. Colin Brown from Kennet District Council. Mr. Brown is preparing a play strategy for KDC and is looking for projects to include which may result in funding becoming available. I would suggest that immediately following the elections the Town Council starts to consult with the local children via the Schools to obtain their views on the type of equipment they would like to see should funding become available.

c) Golf Club – Report of Meeting held Monday 26th March 2007 – copy herewith

Leisure Centre – Report of Meeting held 28th March –copy herewith.

Councillors expressed their satisfaction at the re-instatement of these meetings and hope that they will continue in the future.

d) Footpath Inspections

There are still a number of footpath inspections reports outstanding. I have written again to all Councillors reminding those who have not undertaken their footpath inspections.

The Mayor and Committee expressed dismay that some Councillors had still not returned their footpath reports therefore not fulfilling their commitment.

e) Meeting with County Council Highways

A successful meeting was held in mid February with representatives of the Wiltshire County Council Highways. The intention is to hold a further site meeting with the Divisional Engineer to consider future requirements for highway works, when the present highway works are completed.

592/06

RIVERBANK – Use of Priory Gardens for Outdoor Activities

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor M. Cooper and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that permission be granted for the use of the Priory Gardens by K.V.A.T. subject to the usual conditions, and that the Trustees are contacted asking for their approval.

593/06

MANAGEMENT OF THE OLD CEMETERY

The Committee received a report from the Town Clerk on the Conservation plan for the management of the Old Cemetery, prepared by Miss C. Wakeham and an extract was circulated. The full report is available in the Council Offices for those members who wish to see it.

Proposed by Councillor P. Cossey, seconded by Councillor M. Cooper and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that the Town Clerk should proceed with the recommendations contained in the report..

594/06

PITCH MAINTENANCE MARLBOROUGH RUGBY CLUB

The Committee received a letter from the Rugby Club regarding their ongoing problems to improve the playing surfaces.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs C. Jackson, seconded by Councillor P. Cossey and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that the Rugby Club be given the go-head to carry out repairs to the playing surfaces but that these works are carried out by qualified persons and that this Council is informed when these works are done.

Car Parking Facilities at Marlborough RFC

The Committee received a letter from the Rugby Club regarding possible options to improve the car parking facilities adjacent to the clubhouse. Members were opposed to the use of tarmac, but felt alternatives could be explored.

Proposed by Councillor M. Cooper, seconded by Councillor P. Cossey and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that the Rugby Club explore alternative surfaces or repairing what is already in situ. They welcome the siting of a barrier and feel that once this is place it may well help the situation with the car park surface.

595/06

CEMETERY

- a) Exclusive Right of Burial
- b) Exclusive Right of Burial/Notice of Internment
- c) Memorial Inscriptions
- d) Replace existing Memorial

RESOLVED: That this information is noted.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm