

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities and Open Spaces Committee** held on the 30th June, 2008 in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 7.45pm**

PRESENT	Councillor B. Castle	Chairman
	Councillor Mrs P. Dow	Town Mayor
	Councillor Mrs E. Fogg	
	Councillor S. Radnedge	
	Councillor A. Spranger	
	Councillor R. Pitts	
	Councillor G. Loosmore	
ALSO PRESENT	Mrs Pam Dobson	Town Clerk
	Mrs Sue Fry	Office Manager
	Councillor N. Fogg	Observing
	Councillor G. Francis	Observing
	Councillor A. Ross	Observing

Joe Witcomb, Tom Whant, Callam Martin, Peter Case, Gwyn Barry and James Smith.

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

100/08 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

101/08 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs P. Dow – Agenda Item 5 (b) Personal

102/08 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman thanked the ground staff for all their hard work with regard to the hanging basket display at the Town Hall.

The Chairman informed members that an acknowledgement to the Town Council has been printed in the Jazz Festival programme.

103/08

BMX/SKATE FACILITY

Councillor R. Pitts gave a brief introduction to this item.

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that Standing Orders be suspended so that the points of view of the young people attending the meeting could be heard.

A discussion then took place.

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that Standing Orders be re-instated.

Councillor R Pitts thanked the boys for attending the meeting and giving their valuable points of view.

Proposed by Councillor G. Loosmore, seconded by Councillor Mrs P. Dow and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that the skateboard scheme should be progressed with the assistance of these young people and that Councillors Loosmore, Pitts, Mrs E. Fogg and the Town Clerk look in to the possibility of setting up a Youth Council.

104/08

SALISBURY ROAD RECREATION GROUND

a) Update on consultation on play equipment and tender process required.

The Town Clerk reported that the consolidation of the forms received on the consultation for this project would be taking place shortly. It was agreed to seek advice from Kennet District Council on what tender process should be followed. The Chairman thanked Councillors Pitts and Mrs E. Fogg and the Town Clerk for all their hard work on this project.

The Mayor Councillor Mrs P. Dow left the room at 8.11 pm

b) Poor surface of area adjacent to Bowls Club

It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged between the Bowls Club, the A & OS Committee and the Property Committee.

105/08

UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS AND ANY OTHER ITEMS RAISED FROM CHAIRMAN'S BRIEFING NOTE.

a) Old Cemetery

The Town Clerk distributed a report that had been received from Mr. O'Donohue.(attached)

The Town Clerk informed the committee that Mr. O'Donohue has reported that he has been successful in obtaining £4,398 of funding for the project, he will contact the Council in due course with a view to putting a schedule of works together for the coming year.

b) Registration of land on NE Corner of the Green.

The Town Clerk reported that this matter is with the Town Council's solicitor.

c) Elcot Lane Playing Field Improvements.

The Town Clerk reported that there is no further information on this matter to date, but ask the committee if they wished to give consideration to tree planting along the allotment fence and adjacent to the pavilion. The Town Clerk reported that the Council had received an offer of 40 saplings from Mr. Martin Harrison. It was agreed that the Council accept Mr. Harrison kind offer and a letter of thanks be sent to him.

The tree planting along the allotment fence and adjacent to the pavilion should go ahead under the supervision of the Senior Groundsman.

d) Coopers Meadow River Bank remedial improvements via ARK

The committee received a verbal update from Councillor R. Pitts.(attached)

e) Town Mill Project

Councillor R. Pitts gave a report on the Surcase funding proposal.

Councillor Mrs E. Fogg enquired as to who owned the land adjacent to the new cemetery.

The Chairman reported that consideration was being given to additional allotment land in the parish and that one possible site could be land bordering the River Og and Rabley Wood View.

106/08

RESPONSE TO TOWN COUNCIL'S CONDITIONS FROM MARLBOROUGH GOLF CLUB re: Marlborough Tennis Club Facility.

The Town Clerk circulated a report that had been received from Councillor A. Sycamore.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor G. Loosmore, seconded by Councillor Mrs P. Dow and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that a letter should be sent to Marlborough Golf Club acknowledging receipt of their letter and its contents but that there are further implications that have to be considered by this Council.

107/08 COMMONS USER GROUP

The Town Clerk reported that there had been interest shown in setting up a Commons User Group. The Mayor agreed to Chair the first meeting to try and establish a Users Group but that this should not be progressed until after the surveys have been carried out. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should liaise with the school to arrange a meeting.

108/08 PRIORY GARDENS

a) Suggestion for changes to rose beds.

The Town Clerk gave on report on proposals that she had received from the Senior Groundsman regarding suggestions to changes for the rose beds in the Priory.

Councillor A. Spranger agreed to speak to the Rotary Club regarding these proposals.

b) Completion of works by River Restoration Project.

The Town Clerk read a report received from Mrs C. Hitchmough (copy attached).

c) Update on Sarsen's claim and liability on upper lawn.

There is nothing further to report on this item.

109/08 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – Changes to Definitive Map and Statement.

After discussion it was agreed that Esther Daly should be contacted to ask if she would attend a meeting to explain and discuss the changes to the definitive map.

The Chairman urged all Councillors to walk their respective footpaths and report back to the Town Clerk with their findings.

110/08 CLERK'S REPORT

a) Jay Millers Circus

The committee received a request from Jay Millers Circus to use Marlborough Common April/May 2009.

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

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that no objection be raised to a request from Jay Millers Circus to use Marlborough Common subject to the usual conditions.

b) Request for seat in Cemetery.

The committee received a request for a seat to be placed in the Cemetery.

Proposed by Councillor G. Loosmore, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that the request for a seat to be placed in the Cemetery be granted.

c) Jubilee Field at Manton.

The Town Clerk reported that a request had been received to use the Jubilee Field at Manton for a private party.

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

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that requests for private parties to be held on such areas as the Jubilee Field or the Priory Gardens should be refused.

d) Elcot Lane Allotments/Pavilion.

The Town Clerk informed the committee that several reports have been received regarding a problem with rats at the Elcot Lane Allotments, this is being dealt with by the senior groundsman.

Councillor R. Pitts suggested that the Town Council purchase a roll of chicken wire and ask all of the allotment holders to line their compost bins with this and this will prevent the rats from getting into them.

The cleared allotment will be divided in to two and let in the next few weeks. All allotment holders were contacted last year asking if they wished to reduce the size of their allotment, but only one person was interested in doing this.

The senior groundsman is now carrying out a check on all of the allotments and those holders who are not cultivating their complete allotment will be given one month to tidy up their site or forfeit the area.

e) Update on Regular Work Plan

The Town Clerk informed the committee that this is an ongoing process and will be updated when a final version has been established.

f) Bus Shelter on London Road.

The Town Clerk informed the committee that ownership of the land needs to be established before any action can be taken and that consultation will have to take place with the Passenger Transport Group.

g) Peoples Orchard

The Town Clerk reported that MADT were not successful in obtaining funding from MCASP to support the drawing up of a bid to the lottery, therefore there is nothing further to report at this time. Some additional funding opportunities have been identified and will now be investigated.

h) Bench – Back Lane.

The Police have suggested that this bench has become a focus for anti-social behaviour and have asked if it could be removed. The Town Clerk reported that it is a concrete bench with wooden slats which will require significant work to remove entirely but that the slats could be removed.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs P. Dow, seconded by Councillor S. Radnedge and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that more information and evidence should be sought before any action is taken on this item.

111/08

CEMETERY – for information.

a) Exclusive Right of Burial/Notice of Internment.

b) Memorial Inscriptions/Additional

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm