

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the **Recreation and Amenities Committee**, which was held on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2004** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 7.11pm

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PRESENT

Councillor M. C. Curtis	Chairman
Councillor G. Francis	Town Mayor
Councillor Mrs H. A. Cripps	Deputy Town Mayor
Councillor M. P. Cooper	
Councillor P. B. Cossey	
Councillor D. L. Parker	(in attendance)
Mr Nigel Kerton	Wiltshire Gazette
Jonathan Mansfield	Civic Secretary
Sue Fry	Office Manager

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CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chairman reported that a number of complaints have been received due to the amount of illegal parking on Frees Avenue and Hyde Lane during a Rugby Match at the weekend. The Police were notified and issued a number of parking tickets. The Chairman believes that this was due to a lack of communication between the Rugby Club and the Police/ Marlborough Town Council. In order for this not to happen again, Councillor Curtis will ask Councillor Mrs P. A. Dow to include this matter on the next available meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

345/04 APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs P. A. Dow, Councillor S. R. Dobson, Councillor W. B. Cavill and Councillor R. J. Allen. In the absence of Councillor Mrs Dow, the Vice Chairman took the meeting.

346/04 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor M. P. Cooper - **Item 9** (son works for the Tree Surgeon).

347/04 MINUTES:

Proposed by Councillor P. B. Cossey, seconded by Councillor Mrs H. A. Cripps and –

RECOMMENDED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2004 be taken as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

348/04

TOWN HALL:

(a) Maintenance

Councillor D. L. Parker asked the Recreation and Amenities Committee to consider the purchase of a 'wet-dry' machine to clean the Town Hall floors. Currently the Caretaker is using a mop and bucket and a buffer machine. Councillor Parker said that the purchase, or hire, of such a versatile piece of machinery would reduce the cleaning time by a quarter. Although he did not have the exact price with him at the meeting, Councillor Parker said the machine would cost approximately £975.00 minus 15% discount from the supplier.

Proposed by Councillor G. Francis, seconded by Councillor M. P. Cooper and –

RECOMMENDED: Unanimously, to purchase the 'wet-dry' cleaner, subject to the funds being available in the Town Hall Maintenance budget.

(b) Events

Councillor Mrs H. A. Cripps asked the Committee to support her idea to hold Tea Dances in the Town Hall on a regular basis, which are very popular in other Towns. Councillor Mrs Cripps is waiting to receive an estimated cost from a local three-piece orchestra, and would like Marlborough Town Council to provide the refreshments (tea and sandwiches).

Discussion followed on whether Marlborough Town Council should make all the arrangements for the Tea Dances or whether the Council should provide the facilities and ask a local group to take on the responsibility for organising the events and refreshments.

It was proposed by Councillor M. P. Cooper that Councillor Mrs Cripps is asked to bring any quotations and an idea of who might organise the Dances to the next available meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

(c) Part-Time Caretaker

Councillor D. L. Parker reminded the Committee that Alan Brown and Mark Harding had agreed to cover weekends and busy periods between themselves for a trial period of six months. Councillor Parker asked the Committee to recommend that there be no trial period and, if Alan or Mark have any problems covering these periods, that it is brought to the attention of the Recreation and Amenities Committee immediately.

Proposed by Councillor M. P. Cooper, seconded by Councillor Mrs H. A. Cripps and –

RECOMMENDED: That Mark Harding and Alan Brown cover weekends and busy periods between themselves, but if they encounter any difficulties, that the matter is brought to the attention of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

349/04

MANTON PLAY AREA:

The Committee discussed the replacement of the fence posts around the Manton Jubilee Field play area. It was agreed that this matter required more details and would be discussed at the next available meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

350/04 HIRE CHARGES:

The Committee considered Marlborough Town Council's hire charges 05/06 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2005.

Proposed by Councillor M. P. Cooper, seconded by Councillor Mrs H. A. Cripps and –

RECOMMENDED: Unanimously, to increase Marlborough Town Council's current charges by 3%.

It was also proposed that the hire charges for 2006/2007 be discussed in May rather than November 2005.

351/04 CIRCUS ON THE COMMON:

The Committee considered an application from the Famous Robert Brothers to hold a circus on the Common between 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs H. A. Cripps, seconded by Councillor P. B. Cossey and –

RECOMMENDED: Unanimously, that approval be given to the Famous Robert Brothers, subject to the following:

- A copy of the company's Public Liability Insurance certificate and
- A copy of a Risk Assessment for the event are deposited at the Town Council Offices at least one week prior to arrival.
- The Health and Safety Officer also completes a Risk Assessment on behalf of Marlborough Town Council.
- A refundable Bond to cover possible damage to the Common in the sum on £500 be deposited at the Town Council Offices at least one week prior to arrival
- A hire charge of £360.50 for use of the Common be deposited at the Town Council Offices at least one week prior to arrival

352/04 LICENSING ACT 2003:

The Committee discussed Kennet District Council's Draft Licensing Policy.

Proposed by Councillor M. C. Curtis, seconded by Councillor Mrs H. A. Cripps and –

RECOMMENDED: That Marlborough Town Council welcomes this document and the extra powers that the new regulations will provide.

**Councillor M. P. Cooper left the room at 7.55pm**

353/04 PRIORY GARDENS:

The Committee discussed a request from a local resident to crown raise the large Yew tree at the entrance from the Sarsen car park and the removal of an overhanging tree into the car park from the cottage adjacent.

Following discussion, it was agreed that no further action be taken with the tree in the Priory Gardens, however, Marlborough Town Council would write to Sarsen to ask that they contact the new owner of Wall Cottage, Figgin's Lane, Marlborough to request the removal of overhanging branches.

**Councillor M. P. Cooper returned at 7.58pm**

354/04 CEMETERY:

(a) Exclusive Right of Burial

The Committee has received the following applications for Exclusive Right of Burial –

Lesley Churchill-Birch  
Grave Space 16, Section (G)

Brian Edgar Hanes  
Grave Space 125, Section F(CR)

(b) Memorials and Inscriptions

The Committee has received the following application for an additional inscription:

Grave Space 292, Section (C)  
'Also his Wife Elsie Louise Pile died 27<sup>th</sup> June 2004 aged 86 years'

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Meeting closed at 7.59pm