

## AMENITIES AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

10 August 2009

Committee Members present: Cllrs D Keeley (Chairman), J Atkins, C Block,  
Mrs S Boakes, Mrs B Brown, Mrs D Crook,  
Mrs B Keeley, Miss A Moloney, L Withey,  
Ms K Woolley.

Members of the Public present: Mrs S Hunter (Town Clerk)  
Mr Baldwin, Mr M Galloway, Mr R Comber,  
Mrs J Aindow, Mr A Aindow, D Laurence,  
D Chapman, P Hickmott, D Lavery,  
R Pollington, E Maynard, J Boyes.

1. Apologies for absence  
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs L Baldock, C Grayhurst and J Tucker.
2. Declarations of Interest  
Cllr Miss A Moloney – Community Association & Allotments Birling Lands  
Cllr Mrs D Crook – Community Association
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 June 2009  
Item 10 The Firework display after the festival – There were no complaints received after the event.

The chairman announced that items 8 and 9 would be taken directly after questions from the public

4. Questions from the Public
  - 4.1 Mr Comber raised his grave concerns regarding the abuse of the recreation ground every Friday and Saturday night. Mr Comber reported that not only is a huge amount of rubbish being left behind, but the residents of the neighbouring houses are repeatedly disturbed by noise until the early hours of the morning. The bench that had been repaired by the council only a short time ago has been vandalised again and it was suggested that the bench is removed. Mr Aindow has been clearing the rubbish left at weekends. Mr Comber has made previous requests for the Police to do something to eliminate this anti social behaviour. The Police are already aware that the Council is not happy regarding this and other matters, and the Council has requested a meeting with the Police early in September, to ask for some action to be taken.
  - 4.2 Mr Hickmott asked if there would be any extra items discussed at Item 12. Cllr D Keeley replied that there would be two extra items 1) to hand over the Keys to the Changing Rooms at Potyns to Cllr Mrs D Crook.  
2) A proposal to give delegated powers to the Chairman of the Council, Vice Chairman of the Council and any other Councillors available to meet, agree, sign and seal any relevant documents received from the solicitor in relation to the New Build at Potyns, required before the next Full Council Meeting in October 2009.
  - 4.3 Mr Hickmott referred to item 11 on the agenda – Acknowledgement of STC response to TMBC Local Development Framework. Mr Hickmott suggested that reference to 'Temporary use of football pitch at Holborough Park' be removed. Cllr Atkins pointed out that the response to TMBC should be referred to when a reply is sent to Kevin Wise, as this clearly gives STC position regarding Holborough Park.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders at this point so that Items 8 and 9 could be taken.

8. Draft Master Plan for the proposed extension & improvements to Potyns Sports Field

9. Land adjoining Potyns Sports Ground – Bowls Green

These items were discussed together as they are relevant to each other.

The position of the bowls green was discussed, and the long delay in the draft plan for the extension to the playing fields at Potyns was explained. Several obstacles, for example electricity and gas pipes, have needed to be worked around in the plan to fit everything required in successfully.

If everyone is satisfied with the draft plan and the positioning of the Bowls Green, the council can reply to Kevin Wise who will then prepare the final document to send to TMBC.

The chairman asked if there was any knowledge of anyone being unhappy with the proposals. There being no negative responses it was agreed that everyone is happy with the proposed plan.

The Chairman reinstated Standing Orders.

5. Carnival Feedback

The council is unaware of any problems and has only received positive feedback.

6. Request to erect a Poly tunnel on allotment - Sloughfields

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders at this point so Mr Comber could be consulted.

Mr Comber had no objection to this request.

The Chairman reinstated Standing Orders.

RECOMMENDED – to allow a poly tunnel with the condition that the applicant undertakes to remove it when no longer needed.

7. Birling Lands Allotments

a) To confirm the proposal to hold a major clearance project commencing the weekend of 4 September 2009.

RECOMMENDED - the major clearance project will go ahead.

A large skip will be hired for this weekend and the Clerk will arrange for it to arrive late Friday afternoon, and to be taken away again on Monday 7 September 2009.

b) To consider the proposal to place hard standing at the Sharnal Lane entrance to the allotments similar to that at Sloughfields.

RECOMMENDED - to agree the proposal, to place hard standing at the Sharnal Lane entrance to the allotments which was agreed in principal six years ago.

The Snodland Partnership has been approached to fund this project.

10. All Weather Pitch

The clerk contacted Trevor May Contractors Ltd, and the costs involved for the All Weather pitch would amount to approximately £30,000.

The goal posts have been secured to the fence to prevent them from falling.

11. Correspondence

A gentleman from Bramley Road has offered his services to deal with any rabbit problems that STC may have. STC is not aware of any problems with Rabbits at the moment although the letter will be kept on file for future reference.

Acknowledgement has been received for the Snodland Town Council's Response to the TMBC Local Development Framework.

Kent Fire & Rescue Service performance plan 2009/10 can be viewed at [www.kent.fire-uk.org](http://www.kent.fire-uk.org).

12. Any Other Items which the Chairman has decided are urgent owing to special circumstances

The keys to the changing rooms at Potyns were handed back to Cllr Mrs Crook. She accepted them on behalf of the Community Association.

Resolved - to give delegated powers to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and any other Council Members available to meet, agree, sign and seal any relevant legal documents received from the solicitor in relation to the New Build at Potyns required before the next Council Meeting on 12 October 2009.

The Clerk is on annual leave for the next two weeks, and this may need to be carried out in her absence.

The Chairman moved that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted