

AMENITIES AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

28 July 2008

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

Council Members present: Cllr D Brown

Members of the Public present: Mr Baldwin, Mr B Porter, Mr R Comber, A Aindow, A Holt,
D Holt, Ms C Nel and Mr J Boyce

1. Apologies for absence
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs C Grayhurst and J Tucker.
2. Declarations of Interest
Cllrs Mrs D Crook and Miss A Moloney – Community Association
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 May 2008
Agreed the minutes are a correct record of the meeting.
4. Questions from the Public
 - 4.1 Ms Nel asked if there are any plans available to see how the proposed playing fields will be laid out. There are no plans available at the moment, although the Council hopes to have these in the very near future. It is a slow moving process and the Council will keep the public informed when it has the information.
 - 4.2 Ami Holt is a student reported from the Kent Messenger and is at the meeting to observe.
 - 4.3 Mr Comber asked if there was any progress with regard to the alcohol exclusion zone. The proposal for the whole of Snodland to be in the exclusion zone was accepted at a meeting at TMBC last week. It has to go to a Cabinet meeting and will hopefully be in place by the end of the year.
 - 4.4 Mr Baldwin asked who he should report faulty street lights to. Initially they should be reported to Kent Highways.
5. Allotments
A request has been received from Mr Vettergreen to place a shed on his allotment, 30a Sloughfields.
RECOMMENDED to allow a shed to be placed on 30a Sloughfields.
6. Clocktower (quotation for work to clean and clear)
Quotation for work to clean, repair and add pigeon mesh.
RECOMMENDED to accept the quotation and ask for the cost of a 'downpipe'. Also request they inspect the Clocktower on an annual basis.
7. Recreation Ground (easement for small drain)
The Council has received a reply regarding the easement, confirming Bennet Homes Ltd is willing to meet all reasonable costs. STC needs to appoint a land agent and the Clerk has consulted the Borough Council, who recommend BPS (Bespoke Property Services). The Committee agreed the Clerk should contact the above and proceed with this matter.

8. Carnival/Festival Feedback
 Dates to book the Community Centre for the next three years were discussed. Cllr Mrs Crook will confirm the dates with the Council and the Clerk will contact the Chamber of Commerce, the cricket club and Mr Hickmott to see if a 'beer festival' can be arranged. This may clash with the five-a-side proposed dates.
 Kevin Bush and Andy thanked the Council and their staff for a most enjoyable carnival. They have kindly offered to MC again next year.
 The Mayoress has already been booked for next year's carnival and the Office has received confirmation of the booking.
 A letter has been received from the Chamber of Commerce thanking the Council and staff for their support at the mini festival. They would like to repeat this again next year over the weekend of 18 and 19 July 2009. The Council is happy for this to go ahead, although the Chamber of Commerce will have to make arrangements with the Community Centre. At a meeting with the Chamber of Commerce the Council was asked if it would pay for the stage and toilets as it had done last year, and then the Chamber of Commerce would reimburse the Council. The Council agreed to carry out this function and will do so now the invoices have arrived.
9. Cricket Pavilion (kitchen quotations)
 The quotations were put before the committee. It was agreed by the committee this item would be discussed in Part II of the meeting before a decision would be made.
10. Brookland Lake (ventilation system updated)
 Only one quotation has been received to date. It was agreed to wait until further quotation have been received before a decision is made.
11. Football (request for pitch use)
 Requests have been received from Snodland Girls FC and Smurfit Townsend Hook FC to play on STC pitches next season.
12. Potyns – New Build at Community Centre
 Documents received from the Council's solicitor were signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council, and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Amenities and Recreation Committee.
 Potyns field extension is in hand, Cllr D Keeley is hoping to have quotations/plans in the very near future.
 Cllr Atkins asked if the Council had received any money from TMBC for the project. The Clerk explained that she will invoice TMBC when invoices for the work had been received.
13. Nevill Park
 Cllr Miss Moloney has been approached by a member of the public requesting another bench be placed in the park. The Clerk will obtain costs and report to the Policy and Resources Committee.
14. Leybourne Country Park
 Cllr Withey reported that out of only eleven parks in South East England, Leybourne has obtained a green flag. There has been an increase of 50p to park in the car park.

15. Correspondence

15.1 The Council has received two complaints regarding parking restrictions and new bays at Constitution Hill. The Clerk will acknowledge these and forward them on to Kent Highways.

15.2 A thank you for flowers has been received from Mrs Tipp.

15.3 The following information will be in the Council Offices for perusal:

Kent Highways road plan

Kent fire and rescue service performance plan can be viewed at www.kent-fire.org.

Overhead Line Refurbishment (Babcock)

Valley of Visions Training Courses

A letter has been received from Mrs S Shelton who runs the small eatery on the A228 lay by, on the outskirts of Snodland, requesting the Council's support regarding the repairs and for the lay by to remain open.

Although STC is sympathetic it is unable to support as it is out of Snodland's catchment area.

16. Any other items which the chairman has decided are urgent owing to special circumstances.

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.