

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES
COMMITTEE OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL,
PORTWAY, ON MONDAY 1 JUNE 2009 AT 7.55 PM**

Committee Members Present: Councillor Mrs J Reynolds (Chairman)
Councillors B Armitage, Mrs P Brundle, A
Crawford, Mrs J Hannaby, P O'Leary,
Major J Sibbald and Dr ICE Turcu

Deputy Clerk: Mrs H Kell

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors A Geden and Mrs E Turner

Declarations of Interest

None

Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 March 2009

The minutes were approved and signed

1 Statements and Question from the Public

None

2 Matters Arising

a) Stockham Park Amenity Area

Concerns were expressed at the untidy condition of the grass cutting at Stockham Park and requested the Deputy Clerk to write to the maintenance contractor. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

There was also concern that some allotment holders were continuing to drive their vehicles across the children's play area in order to access their plots. This could be an accident risk.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby

SECONDED by Councillor Crawford

IT WAS RESOLVED that a letter be sent to all the allotment holders at Stockham Park reminding them that their vehicles were not permitted to be taken across the Amenity Area, and should this be contravened, the Council reserved the right to withdraw their tenancies.

3 Allotment Matters

(a) Report of an allotment inspection of 25 April 2009: It was reported that all allotments appeared to be in good order. Some vandalism had taken place at Stockham Park and Larkhill allotment sites. These incidents had been reported to the local police. Members reported that the incidents can also be discussed at the next meeting of NAGS.

b) Clearing of plots 25 and 26 – Stockham Park: The Deputy Clerk reported that, unfortunately, Earthline had been unable to access plots 25 and 26 in order to clear the waste

without damaging produce on adjacent allotments. Councillors were disappointed that the site remained uncleared and it was proposed the Deputy Clerk contact the District Council's Direct Services Department for advice. It was also noted that during the allotment sites inspections, requests had been received from some allotment holders to have communal composters. Councillor Mrs Hannaby reported that the County Council's Waste Officer would come and give advice on composting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Brundle
SECONDED BY Councillor Mrs Hannaby

IT WAS RESOLVED that an allotment holders meeting be held in September and to invite the County's Waste Officer to give advice on composting.

c) Update on the Ickleton Road to Hamfield footpath: Work had now been completed. Reports that some allotment holders at the Naldertown allotment site were wishing to purchase some land from the Town Council was noted and it was recommended that these allotment holders write to the Town Council.

4 Alfred's Bath

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Reynolds

IT WAS RESOLVED that Ms Sally Wallington be asked to present a report on the maintenance and repair requirement at Alfred's Bath to the next meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee. It was also noted that funding for this work may be available from the Trust for Oxfordshire Environment. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

5 Update on Use of Leisure Facilities in Wantage

Councillor Mrs Hannaby reported that the new water feature at Manor Park was proving very popular with children and families. It will be officially opened on 13 June 2009. It was proposed that the Town Council liaise with Grove Parish Council in order to jointly support a stand alone youth and leisure facility for Wantage and Grove. Gary Kingett was anxious for one building to be provided for all youth and children's facilities. Councillors Mrs Reynolds and Mrs Brundle reported their meeting with Kit Campbell, the District Council's Consultant for Leisure Facilities, had been very useful, but additional input was required.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby
SECONDED BY Councillor Major Sibbald

IT WAS RESOLVED that a letter be sent to the County Council outlining Wantage and Grove's requirement for Youth and Leisure Facilities. A letter was also to be sent to Gary Kingett of The Sweatbox asking him to outline his requirements for youth and leisure facilities, and for him to make a presentation to either the next Council or Policy, Management and Finance Committee meetings. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

6 General correspondence

None

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

HK/ME
