

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES
COMMITTEE OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL,
PORTWAY, ON MONDAY 6 JULY 2009 AT 8.00 PM**

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

Members of the public: 15 members of the public

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 1 June 2009

The minutes were approved and signed

7 Statements and Question from the Public

The Chairman welcomed allotment holders to the meeting and requested that a representative of the Grove Road allotment tenants report to upon the recent incident of vandalism at the Grove Road site.

8 Allotment matters

a) Grove Road allotments

Mr A Barlow reported that the vandals had entered Grove Road allotments on Saturday 27 June and caused severe damage to a number of plots. The local police had been informed and extra patrols of the area have been requested. Allotment holders were requesting a higher, fully flushed lightweight metal gate be installed. Members enquired if a second hand gate would be available from Oxfordshire County Council. A letter from Mr M Waring of Grove Road allotments requesting consideration be given to additional security at the Grove Road allotment site was noted.

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Reynolds

SECONDED by Councillor Morgan

IT WAS RESOLVED that costings for a new metal gate be obtained, and Oxfordshire County Council contacted to enquire whether a suitable second hand gate was available. This was to be referred to the next meeting.

Action: Deputy Clerk

b) Plots 25 and 26a Stockham Park – update

The Deputy Clerk reported that the District Council's Waste Officer for Wantage, will visit the site and then liaise with the Waste Contractors. The Deputy Clerk was again requested to contact Earthline to discuss access to the site. Members also voiced concerns that the soil underneath these two plots might be contaminated.

Action: Deputy Clerk

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c) Plot 2 – Larkhill allotment site

It was reported that plot 2 at Larkhill allotment site was still uncultivated, despite several letters from the Council.

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of Councillor Mrs Reynolds

SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby

IT WAS RESOLVED that a final notice letter be sent to the tenant informing him if the plot is not cultivated prior to the tenancy agreement letters being sent out in September, his tenancy will be terminated.

Action: Deputy Clerk

9 Matters arising

a) Stockham Park Amenity Area

The Committee noted a request for a hawthorn hedge to be planted to separate the play area and the allotment site. Councillor Mrs Hannaby agreed to liaise with the Vale of White Horse District Council's Parks Department.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Reynolds

SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby

IT WAS RESOLVED that costings be obtained for two signs to be erected at Stockham Park Amenity Area, i) 'No cars beyond this point' and ii) 'Please do not allow your dog to foul the play area'.

Action: Deputy Clerk

b) Allotment Holders meeting. An allotment holders meeting was to be held on Monday 5 October 2009 and the County Council's Waste Officer be invited to attend to give information on both individual composting and communal composting.

Action: Deputy Clerk

10 Alfred's Bath

A report from Ms Sally Wallington on the proposed maintenance of Alfred's Bath, was noted.

11 Leisure Facilities update

Councillors Mrs Reynolds and Mrs Brundle gave a verbal report on the meeting with Kit Campbell, the District Council's Leisure Consultant. Both Councillors expected a written report of their meeting to be sent to the Town Council. Facilities such as a learner pool and all weather football pitch had been discussed. It was acknowledged that Wantage was already adequately provided with tennis facilities. The members noted that a letter had been sent to Garry Kingett, inviting him to present his ideas for leisure facilities in Wantage and Grove at either at the Policy, Management and Finance meeting or a Town Council meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Reynolds

SECONDED by Councillor Armitage

IT WAS RESOLVED that if Mr Kingett is unable to attend meetings, he be requested to email or write to the Council with his requirements for use of facilities in the area.

Action: Deputy Clerk

12 General correspondence

None

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.
