

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE FACILITIES HELD ON
TUESDAY 11th APRIL 2006
IN THE PARISH CENTRE, COMMENCING 7.30pm**

PRESENT: Chairman, Councillor M Benson and Councillors,
J Blackburn, C Passmore, J Roper and M Rowland.

APOLOGIES: Councillor A Burnapp (illness)

IN ATTENDANCE: Rebecca Findlay (Clerk), Lorraine Ellis (Asst Clerk),
Mr Andrew Barclay (Welwyn & District Bowls Club) and one member
of the public

2006/22 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th MARCH 2006:
In Minute No.2006/17 Tree Warden Scheme, it was **RESOLVED** to remove the
word “not” to reflect that Dr Ober did attend the meeting at Welwyn Hatfield
Council.

It was **RESOLVED** the minutes of the meeting were an accurate and correct
record then duly signed by the Chairman.

2006/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Tree Warden Scheme

It was reported that, also in attendance at the meeting at Welwyn Hatfield
Council was Councillor Hukin. A questionnaire was completed at that meeting.
In future all correspondence will be forwarded to the Parish Office.

Cobb Lane Common

The Clerk reported that the advice from NALC has been received. NALC have
informed the Council that we have in law no rights or duties to the land other
than to protect the Common. The Council are not in a position to grant the
easement. The Clerk has written to NALC to ascertain whether the Parishioners
at the Annual Parish Assembly are able to vote for the Parish Council to take
over ownership of Cobb Lane Common. A reply is awaited and will be reported
at the next meeting.

Cleaner Village Week

A preliminary meeting has already taken place and the Terms of Reference have
been discussed. A second meeting is arranged for Monday 24th April, several
members of the public have been invited to attend. District Councillor, Mandy
Perkins has also agreed to be involved to identify areas which need attention.

Football Protocol

The Clerk has reviewed the current Football Protocol and the Committee concur
with the amendments that have been made.

Chairman's initials.....

Youth Shelter

The Clerk reported that invitations to the official opening of the Youth Shelter have been sent out although only a few responses have been received. Councillor Roper will ‘cut the ribbon’ together with one of the youths who attended the last Annual Parish meeting requesting something for the youths in the village. The Chairman will then give a speech.

It was agreed that a display of photographs should be set up at the Whitehill Centre for the opening. The Clerk to contact Michael Freeman to request that he supplies us with some of his material to display.

It was reported that a number of bolts have been removed from the Shelter. The Assistant Clerk to contact Monster Play Systems to request they supply some replacement nuts and bolts. Anti climb paint will shortly be applied to the roof of the shelter as soon as the warning signs can be erected.

The Clerk reported that there had recently been some vandalism at the playing fields, the ‘Springer’ on the small children’s playground had been damaged which needs to be replaced. The wire on the aerial runway had also been cut.

Two windows at the Whitehill Centre were broken in the same incident. The damage has been reported to the Police. Playdale, the suppliers of the play equipment are due to visit the site to ascertain whether the equipment can be repaired or will need to be replaced.

2006/24

DISABLED ACCESS RAILING:

A quotation to install an additional handrail has been received. The Clerk suggested that this item could be a budget item for next year. The Welwyn Playing Fields Working Party would bear this in mind when they meet.

At this juncture, The Committee agreed to suspend the Council’s Standing Orders to enable a Mr Andrew Barclay the Chairman of Welwyn Bowls Club to speak. He gave an update on what is happening at the Bowls Club.

The Committee thanked Mr Barclay for attending the meeting.

It was then agreed that the Council’s Standing Orders be reinstated to proceed with the rest of the meeting.

2006/25:

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:

The Clerk reported that a meeting had been held with Mr Taylor from Lamps & Tubes Illuminations Limited following the issues with the lights at Christmas. Through wear and tear and vibration caused during transit of the lights the company cannot place any guarantee on the lights as they now are 5 years old.

RESOLVED, The Clerk to request a quotation for upgrading of the lights with LED strip lights as these are guaranteed to last for approximately 80 years .The Committee **RESOLVED,** the lights should not be used for Welwyn Festival Week but that bunting should be purchased instead, to be erected around the village in conjunction with the bunting put up by the Welwyn Festival Group.

Chairman’s initials.....

2006/26: SPINDLEBURY COTTAGE:
Lowering of hedge
The Committee **RESOLVED** the hedge be lowered in line with Welwyn Bowls Club's hedge.

Replacement of Carpets
The Clerk to arrange for a quotation for the replacement of the carpet in the hall, stairs and landing, this could possibly be a budget item depending on cost.

Climbing Plants/Hanging Baskets
The Committee **RESOLVED** that additional climbing plants and hanging baskets can be erected. The Clerk to write to Dr Ober to advise him of the decision.

Alarm System
As a safety matter, the Clerk requests that we should investigate having an alarm system installed at Spindlebury Cottage. The Committee agreed in principle with the request that the Clerk should investigate the cost. The Assistant Clerk was requested to contact the Crime Prevention Officer to request a survey of the premises.

2006/27: WELWYN FESTIVAL – PARISH COUNCIL STAND:
The Clerk requested ideas for the stand. The Parish Plan Steering Committee will also share the stand. One suggestion is to advertise our facilities but a theme is required. The Assistant Clerk was requested to purchase an additional stand, the banner could then be hung across both stands.

2006/28: CIVIC CENTRE:
Entertainment Licence
It was agreed that the Chairman, Councillor Benson and Councillor Roper have a meeting to discuss in depth the entertainment licence granted for the Civic Centre, a copy will be placed in the Members Room for Councillors to read and feed back comments to the Clerk. A report will then be prepared for discussion at the June meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.33pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date:.....2006

Chairman's initials.....