

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE FACILITIES & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2007
IN THE PARISH CENTRE, COMMENCING 7.30pm**

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor A Burnapp (Illness,) R Findlay (Clerk) (Conference)

IN ATTENDANCE: Sue Harrop (Office Administrator)

2007/1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH NOVEMBER 2006:

Resolved, the minutes having been read were agreed as an accurate and correct record then duly signed by the Chairman.

2007/2 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 13TH NOVEMBER 2006:

2006/56 Works to the Pavilion:

The Committee has been informed that the works have commenced.

2006/56 Report on the progress of the Scouts Headquarters Lease:

The Committee has been informed that they are all happy to instruct our solicitor to progress further. The Clerk was instructed to go back to our solicitor with the decision made at the meeting of the 5th February 2007.

2006/58 Report on The Civic Centre Lease:

At a meeting on the 5th February 2007 the Clerk brought to the Committees attention that the outstanding concerns with regard to the Civic Centre lease were currently being dealt with officer to officer and that the Clerk advised Councillors of the variant of the terms of the Civic Centre lease and that she is seeking legal advice from N.A.L.C. in order to advise the Council further.

Councillor Skidmore, Chairman of Finance, is currently scrutinising the lease in order to advise this Committee of the status of the sub-leases.

2006/60 Report on Damaged Play Equipment:

The Committee has been advised that Playdale has repaired the piece of children's play equipment and are in the process of repairing the Ariel Runway.

2006/61 WELWYN BOWLS CLUB:

At this juncture Councillor Rowland declared an interest and did not participate in any of the discussion.

It was recommended the Clerk obtain quotes by the next meeting. The quotes are to be for a freestanding vandal proof information board that will be placed on Ottway Walk showing the facilities and further relevant information as deemed necessary.

The Clerk follow-up the direction sign for London Road showing "To the Playing Fields".

The Committee asked for the Clerk to instruct the Head Groundsman to carry out the tree works required at the Bowls Club.

The Committee gave permission for the Bowls Club to plant a memorial tree near the lower gate.

At this juncture Councillor Rowland rejoined the discussions.

Chairman's initials.....

2007/3 REQUEST FOR SIGNAGE FOR MONTESSORI NURSERY:

This Committee has reviewed the request from the Montessori Nursery and we confirm that we are proceeding with the plans to place our own signage which will identify The White Hill Centre and that we confirm that we cannot allow for individual hirers to erect separate signs.

2007/4 AGREED BUDGET ITEMS FOR 2007/2008:

The Committee requests the Clerk to provide a list of the agreed Budget items for this Committee for 2007/2008 for the March 2007 meeting.

2007/5 SPINDLEBURY COTTAGE: The Clerk has arranged for the annual inspection and electrical testing of Spindlebury Cottage. During this inspection could the levels of loft insulation also be checked.

2007/6 WELWYN SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB: This Committee request that the Clerk advise the Sports and Social Club that they need to go to Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council to seek advice on planning permission for the build of a "lean to" style shelter and that we this Committee would like the Clerk to word a letter that raises our concerns about the possible abuse by youths and that we as a Committee have no intention of placing similar structures at any of our facilities.

2007/7 FIVE YEAR LEISURE FACILITIES & OPEN SPACE'S PLAN: We request members of this Committee to comeback to the March 2007 meeting with short, medium and long term plans and where possible reflect the Wards of the Council.

2007/8 WELWYN LIBRARY CLOSURE & NEW OPENING DAYS & HOURS: This Committee request that the Clerk request in addition that the Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council try to provide a mobile library during the period of refurbishment. Can she, in a letter, thank the district librarian for advising us of the new opening times and that we welcome the extended opening times.

2007/9 TO AGREE A DATE FOR THE NEXT CIVIC CENTRE WORKING PARTY MEETING: The Committee agreed that Monday 5th March 2007 would be the next meeting date for the Civic Centre Working Party.

2007/10 CLEANER VILLAGES WEEK: Councillor Blackburn reported on the meeting held on Monday 12th February 2007. These minutes will be circulated and the date of the next meeting will be on Monday 12 March 2007.

It was a recommendation from the Working Party to this Committee that the Borough Councillors be asked to join the Working Party walkabouts and that the Clerk obtain the clearing schedules for the villages in time for the April 2007 Working Party meeting.

2007/11 CLOSE OF MEETING: The Chairman said our thanks go to Sue Harrop for taking the minutes for this meeting one for the difficult nature of this meeting and two for the break of time between the Leisure Council meetings.

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

Signed.....

Chairman of the Leisure facilities and Open Spaces Committee

Date:..... 2007

Chairman's initials.....