

Community Services Committee
Minutes of Meeting Held on 24th January 2012.

Attendance:

Councillor Maria Aguado (Chair)
Councillor Ian Orton
Councillor Norman Mahony
Ken Peak
Judy Barker
Linda Gibling
Mary Crouch
James Murphy (NFT)
Leigh Casling (part)

The Chair requested that item 6 could be considered first. This was agreed.

Item 6. Shenley Lane Sports Facility

Leigh introduced the item providing details of the four bids that had been presented as part of the market testing exercise. The Committee recommended that the contract be awarded to Miracle 11 at a cost of £48,902.03. As there was still a balance remaining from the s106 monies it was agreed that this sum could be used to upgrade the changing facility within the park plus a contribution towards a van and picnic facilities. Leigh also added that Shenley Park was a very underused facility and that during 2012 there would be greater promotion of this park.

Item 1. Apologies

Cllr Blyth, Cllr Gardiner, Karen Shaw and Linda Gibling

Item 2. Minutes of Community Services Committee
Held on 22nd November 2011.

The minutes were agreed.

Item 3. Matters Arising

All matters arising would be discussed as part of the agenda.

Item 4. River Colne and the Ford

Maria outlined the position regarding the drought and the impact on the river flow and the recent publicity about vehicles crossing the ford. Car parking was considered to be the on – going challenge around the ford and it was agreed Cllr Jacob Quagliozi be approached to work with St Albans Parking Enforcement to see if the car parking issues could be resolved.

Action: Jacob

Item 5. Meals on Wheels

Agreed that 9 was too small a number for the MOW contract to be viable. Linda and Ian to produce a report for next meeting:

Action: Ian and Linda

Item 6. Shenley Lane Sports Facility

Above decision to be referred to Finance Committee on 30th January and Parish Council on 3rd February 2012:

Action: Ian

Item 7. Cotlandswick Leisure Facility

Ian indicated that it was very likely that the new Cotlandswick Leisure Facility would not have the soft play facility that was so popular at Adventure World. It was agreed this was unfortunate but it did present a 'business opportunity' that should be explored.

Action: Ian

Item 8. Allotments

Ian gave details of a recent meeting held with the agents for the Church and that it was likely the unused half of the glebe land field would be subject to a planning submission for housing on the site. It was agreed that new sites be identified for more allotments and if the housing submission becomes a reality then a s106 agreement be pursued to upgrade the tennis courts/paddling pool/play equipment on Morris Playing Field.

Action: Ian

Item 9. Speedwatch

Ian briefed the meeting on Speedwatch the Herts Police initiative using volunteers to reduce speeding. Maria, Ken and Norman volunteered to help. It was agreed that the 20 20 initiative should be revived. Report to next meeting.

Action: Ian

Item 10. Village Green Applications

Ian confirmed the Waterside Bid would be heard on 28th February and the final paperwork for the Thamesdale bid had to be in by 27th January 2012.

Item 11. Footpaths

- a) Maria updated the meeting on the progress with extending the footpath network giving details of the HCC officer allocated to the project
- b) Confirmed that Leigh had included all P3 projects as winter work.
- c) It was confirmed that to produce a Walks Booklet would cost £1700 for 2000 copies. James agreed to see if NFT could help. Ian indicated the Parish Council would match any offer from NFT. James was thanked for all the support from NFT for community projects within the village.

Action: Maria

Item 12. Parish Buildings Green Energy Measures

Agreed this item should go on hold owing to the reductions in 'green subsidy'

Item 13. Community Safety

Ian read out the St Albans DC core strategy re Community Safety and it was agreed a SADC officer should be invited to a future meeting of the committee to discuss community safety issues within the village.

Action: Ian

Item 14. Woodland to the Rear of the Colney Fox

Maria updated on the progress with the land transfer to the Parish Council. The meeting supported the concept of the woods being named after Robin Cooper an environmental community activist who died in 2010.

Item 15. Reports from Meetings

Ken spoke about a recent meeting he had attended with the EA Agency in Hatfield on the state of the River Colne and the impact from the Aldenham Reservoir.

Item 16. AOB

There were no items

Item 17. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed to change the time of the meeting from 4.30 to 7.30 to allow Cllrs Gardiner and Quaglioizzi to attend.
The meeting of the Community Services Committee will be held at 7.30 on Tuesday 27th March 2012 at the London Colney Council Offices.