

Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure Committee held at Roe Hill Hall, Briars Lane, Hatfield, on Wednesday 17th May 2006 at 7:30pm.

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR P. O'BRIEN (CHAIRMAN)

COUNCILLORS: C. CROFT, MRS H LAMING,
MRS L MENDEZ, H. MORGAN, R. SMITH,
G. WILTSHIRE

ALSO PRESENT: COUNCILLOR MRS. M. WHITE

OFFICERS PRESENT: P.C. CLARK (TOWN CLERK)
P. WIDDICOMBE (DEPUTY TOWN CLERK)
M. SPEDDY (LEISURE SERVICES MANAGER)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M. Clark and W. Davies.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 23rd November 2005, 18 January 2006 and 8 March 2006 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Mendez declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 6, Allotments.

4. FESTIVAL SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Sub-Committee held on 27 March 2006 and 25 April 2006 were received.

5. ROE HILL HALL

The Committee received and noted the reports of the Town Clerk regarding transport to New Briars School and the watering of the cricket square.

The Committee then considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding fencing

RESOLVED

That the quotation from Steelway Fensecure in the sum of £914.52 for the Hillcrest entrance be accepted but that no other fencing be installed at present

The Committee then considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding the County Council's proposals for an Adult Care Hub Building.

RESOLVED

That a 50 year lease be agreed subject to 10 year rent reviews with increases in line with changes in the Retail Price Index and that a significant up-front payment be sought to enable an all-weather facility to be built in the old tennis courts.

6. **ALLOTMENTS**

The Committee noted the completion of the replacement of the gates, gateposts and signs.

7. **THE DELL**

The Committee noted the completion of the fencing along the boundary with Pleasant Rise.

8. **ST ALBANS ROAD EAST**

The Committee noted the completion of the work to the trees and the old toilet.

9. **LEMSFORD VILLAGE HALL**

The Committee noted receipt of a notice from Welwyn Hatfield Council regarding a Tree Preservation Order being made on an Ash Tree in the grounds of Barfrey House, Brocket Road but agreed that no response was needed as it would have no effect on the Village Hall.

10. **AWARDS FOR ALL – LOTTERY GRANT**

The Deputy Town Clerk advised the Committee of the receipt of a grant of £4,070 for sports coaching at the Birchwood Holiday Playscheme.

11. **BIRCHWOOD LEISURE CENTRE**

The Committee noted the receipt of the revised Premises Licence for Birchwood and then considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding the offer from Tesco to provide a 2 metre-wide tarmac path across the playing field or to fund the cost of its construction.

RESOLVED

That the Council accept the offer and ask Tesco to provide the path, together with barriers at the northern end, for most of its length but to provide the funding for the Council to install that part of the path which may be affected by the proposed new Council Offices.

12. LICENSING

The Committee noted the Legal Briefing received from the National Association of Local Councils.

13. PURCHASE OF VAN

The Committee noted the report of the Town Clerk.

14. CORONATION GARDENS

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk

RESOLVED

That the Wellfield Trust be advised that the Council is happy for a plaque to be erected provided that it showed the entire history of the site.

15. NEW HOWE DELL SCHOOL

The Committee noted the report of the Town Clerk.

16. ELLENBROOK

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk and observations from the Chairman of the Committee who had visited the site earlier that evening with Councillors Morgan and Clark as well as the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED

That 1.8 metre-high Longford fencing be erected on the two sides abutting the field at an approximate cost of £6,750 and that quotations for supplying and installing be sought from Steelway Fensecure and one other firm.

17. LOCAL AUTHORITY BYELAWS IN ENGLAND

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding a discussion paper issued by the Government on a review of Local Authority Byelaws.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk respond to the discussion paper.

18. CHILDREN'S PLAY: BIG LOTTERY FUND INITIATIVE

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk

RESOLVED

That Officers pursue any opportunities available and report back to the Committee as appropriate.

19. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the remaining items as their presence would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

20. ROE HILL HALL BAR

The Committee, having earlier inspected the bar area, considered the report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED

That the quotation in the sum of £10,827 from T & B (Contractors) Ltd be accepted and the Town Clerk be asked to ensure that there is a gap of 5 to 6 feet between the back of the counter and the front of the shelves.

21. BIRCHWOOD – CHILDREN'S INDOOR PLAY AREA

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk, which was tabled at meeting

RESOLVED

That the proposed Lease with Topsy Turvy World, as set out in the report, be approved and that two Councillors be authorised to sign the Lease on behalf of the Council.

22. BAR/CAFÉ TRADING ACCOUNTS

The Committee received the Trading Accounts for the period 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006 were received.