

Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure Committee held at the Council Offices, Kennelwood House, Town Centre, Hatfield on Wednesday 17 January 2007 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR P. O'BRIEN (CHAIRMAN)

COUNCILLORS: MRS H LAMING, M CLARK,
MRS L MENDEZ, H. MORGAN, R. SMITH,

ALSO PRESENT: COUNCILLOR MRS. M. WHITE

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

62. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C.Croft.

63. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 4 October 2006 and 22 November 2006 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

64. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Mendez declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 11 Budget, solely in respect of Allotment Rent.

65. FESTIVAL SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 9 January were received.

66. ROE HILL HALL

a) Astro turf Pitch

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED

That in order to assess the impact of the new building on car-parking capacity any decision regarding the future use of the old tennis courts be deferred until September/October meeting of the Committee.

b) Training Areas

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED

That as it was the construction of the County Council's new building that caused the cable to the floodlights to be cut the County Council should reinstate the supply at its cost.

c) CCTV

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk who also advised Members of the recent break in.

RESOLVED

That the cost of £2415.00 for four CCTV cameras be approved and that installation of weldmesh below the roof-lights also be approved.

d) Floor

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED

That before any further action is taken the Town Clerk consult the Council's Solicitors.

67. **BIRCHWOOD LEISURE CENTRE**

a) Front Corridor

The Committee noted that the work had been completed with an additional cost of £230.00 for repairs to blown plaster.

b) Sportsman

The Committee noted that the work had been completed, including repainting of the walls, at an additional cost of £115.00.

c) Christmas/ New Year Closing

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED

That the toilet overflows be taken through the front wall of the building.

68. PLAYScheme

The Committee received and noted the report of the Deputy Town Clerk and Policy and Projects Officer. Members noted with pleasure the accreditation by the Hertfordshire Quality Standards Panel.

69. AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk and noted the accreditation but also the future viability of the Club.

RESOLVED

That parents be notified that the After-School Club will close at the end of the Summer Term 2007.

70. NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT – BYELAWS AND DOG CONTROL ORDERS FOR PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk be authorised

- i) To extend the existing “non-dog” Byelaws to other areas at an appropriate time or times during the next two years.

- ii) To work with Welwyn Hatfield Council in drawing up and processing Dog Control Orders for the new areas of public Open Spaces in conjunction with the extension of “non-dog” Byelaws, those orders to be based on existing Dog Control Byelaws.

71. BAR TRADING ACCOUNTS

The Committee received the Trading Accounts for the period 1 April 2006 to 19 December 2006.

72. BUDGET 2007/2008

The Committee considered the Leisure items in the Draft Budget for 2007/2008.

RESOLVED

That the Resources and Policy Committee be recommended to approve the Leisure items in the Draft Budget for 2007/2008.

The Town Clerk then advised the Committee that the Newgate Street Village Committee had not agreed on its proposals for refurbishing the kitchen in the Village Hall.

RESOLVED

That proposals be asked for by the end of March and that in the absence of any proposals the Leisure Committee would determine the works to be carried out.

73. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

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

74. TOPSY TURVY WORLD

The Chairman agreed to take this as an urgent item as the information had only been received in the previous two days.

Information was circulated around the table and it was

RESOLVED

That due to the lack of notice no decision could be made and the matter be referred to the Birchwood Working Party to consider and make recommendations to the next meeting of the Committee.