

ON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Recreation & Open Spaces Committee meeting held on Wednesday 6th January 2010 in the Council Chamber, the Corn Exchange, Faringdon

PRESENT: Cllrs. Mrs. J. Boulton (Chairman)
A.V. Hickmore
D. Keeble
S. Leniec
N. O'Keeffe
M. Wise

In Attendance: Ms. L. Owers, Leisure Services Supervisor
The Town Clerk

01/10 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mrs. M.J. Barker.

02/10 Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

03/10 Minutes of Last Meeting – 18th November 2009

The Minutes were signed as a correct record.

04/10 Matters Arising & Action List

Min. 57/09 (45/09 & 48/09): The Clerk stated that the grant cheque for £2,500 was still awaiting collection by the Football Club, and they had agreed to settle the bill for the mower at the time of collection. The Clerk was asked to ensure that the Football Club's payment was returned to reserves.

Min. 60/09: Cllr. Leniec expressed his disappointment with the reliability of the Christmas lights this year, which had left the Council open to criticism. The Clerk explained the problem and the measures which had been taken to alleviate the situation by her staff and members of her family, and stated that the contractor had shown little interest in resolving the problem. She stated that a meeting of the Christmas Lights Working Party would be held in February, and they were asked to make it clear to the contractor that this situation was unacceptable.

05/10 Public Speaking Time & Public Question Time

No members of public were present and no questions had been received.

Report

which she stated that she and her Assistant had received very positive feedback about the maintenance in the Churchyard and the Committee congratulated her and Mr. Stepp for their hard work. She stated that they had almost cleared the land adjacent to Willes Close of brambles, and would be cutting back the trees when the weather improved.

07/10 Town Park

Members received the proposed final plans for improvements being funded by the Joint Environmental Trust for Faringdon. The Clerk was asked to remind the Vale officers working on the project that the Junior School had agreed to donate £2,000 towards the cost of lighting along the pathway, and this was not included in the plans. Ms. Owers stated that a light was needed to illuminate the top end of the park, where young people often gathered in the evening, and the Clerk was asked to contact Faringdon Library for permission to install a security light on their rear wall. The plans were APPROVED, on condition that lighting was included.

08/10 All Saints Churchyard

Members received an extract of a Quinquennial report commissioned by the Diocese of Oxford relating to the boundary walls. The report identified some areas of the wall which would require attention due to loose coping stones and vegetation. The report was NOTED. It was also noted that the report was dated March 2009, and Ms. Owers stated that the vegetation had already been removed.

09/10 Willes Close Triangle

Members received a response from O.C.C. to the Solicitor's comments regarding access. The Clerk was asked to forward this to Mr. Quayle for advice on whether the Town Council would have a strong case to negotiate the lifting of the covenant, on the grounds that O.C.C. had failed to ensure the access was maintained. The Clerk was asked to seek an estimate for the cost of Mr. Quayle's work, and to make a request for the release of up to £200 from reserves for this work to the Finance Committee.

10/10 Precept 2010/11

The draft budget agreed at the previous meeting was AGREED. Cllr. Leniec asked the Committee to prioritise their list of capital expenditure items, with the following result:

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| 1. Replacement Junior Swing (Oakwood Park) | £1401 |
| 2. Dog waste bags and dispenser | £ 200 |
| 3. New climbing frame (Oakwood Park) | £2131 |
| 4. Donation to refurbishment of tombstones | £ 750 |