

Report of the Grounds Committee to the Parish Council

The Committee met at 8.03 pm on **Monday 22nd February 2010**, in Committee Room 1 at the Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Cllr T Miller chaired the meeting.

Present: Cllrs T Miller, Mrs D Ronaldson, K Ronaldson, Mrs V Sadowsky, Mrs C Shaw, A Sosin and Mrs J Sosin

In Attendance: The Clerk of the Council
 The Administrative Assistant

671/09 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Martin, B Heelis and the Deputy Grounds Manager.

672/09 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interests.

673/09 Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present

674/09 Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting held on 28th September 2009 were signed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr T Miller and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw.

Cllr T Miller raised the matter of planting on the Roundabout on Maldon Road. The Clerk advised that the matter would be discussed in the Clerk's report.

675/09 Clerk's Report

There was no written report but the Clerk updated the meeting on the following items:

1. Meadgate Play Area

The Clerk informed the meeting that an email had been sent to David Archer but no reply had been received. The Clerk told the meeting that she believed there were problems with emails being sent from the office to Chelmsford Borough Council, as several appear not to have reached the recipients. The matter will be taken up with Chelmsford Borough Council's IT department and the Clerk will telephone David Archer.

2. Roundabout

The Clerk reported that no further progress had been made in relation to this matter. The Clerk will speak to the Grounds Manager about this and the matter will be referred to the Ground Committee meeting on 28th June 2010.

3. Seat at the Sensory Garden

The Clerk has contacted Chelmsford Borough Council and it was advised that any new seat to be installed must be suitable for disabled users. Further enquiries will be made with Chelmsford Borough Council about the suitability of the seat that has been quoted before the matter is progressed. Chelmsford Borough Council has agreed to the use of S106 monies to install a seat. The matter of siting will be discussed with the Grounds Manager.

4. Youth Council

The Clerk and Cllr Mrs C Shaw advised that no further progress had been made on this matter due to a lack of interest received from the young people. It was agreed that the matter will now be taken off the Grounds committee agenda.

5. Fencing at the Foxholes Road Entrance to the Recreation Ground

The Clerk told the meeting that the matter is being progressed by the Finance and General Purposes Committee and is subject to negotiations relating to the renewal of the Noakes Place licence agreement.

6. Skateboard Ramp

Cllr A Sosin asked for an update on the progress of the provision of a skateboard ramp in the Recreation Ground. The Clerk advised that the matter had been overtaken by recent proposals for a BMX track in Noakes Place and correspondence is awaited from Chelmsford Borough Council about this matter.

676/09 Recreation Ground

a) To receive an update report on the possible siting of an Outdoor Gym in the Recreation Ground

The Clerk informed the meeting that an application for funding submitted to Essex County Council's CIF fund has been refused. As a result of this the Parish Council may have to consider installing a smaller number of items of equipment. A review of S106 monies awarded to the Parish Council will be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 6th April 2010.

b) To receive an update report on the resurfacing of and the installation of lighting in the entrance to the Bowling Green

The Clerk advised that a quote had been received for the installation of lighting in the entrance to the Bowling Green but this had been lost when the Clerks computer failed. The Clerk will obtain another copy of the quote and the matter will be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on 6th April 2010.

677/09 Lawn Cemetery

To consider ground fixings for the existing benches at the Lawn Cemetery following advice from Chelmsford Borough Council

The Clerk told the meeting that the Council has been advised that in the interests of health and safety, all benches in Chelmsford Borough Council run cemeteries are now fixed to the ground. The Clerk advised that four new benches in the Lawn Cemetery have been purchased with fixings but that there are 38 benches that are currently freestanding. It was proposed by Cllr A Sosin and seconded by Cllr T Miller to commence in April 2010, a programme of fixing ten benches per year, starting with the newest benches. The monies for this would be sourced from existing budgets.

678/09 Matters of Information

- Cllr T Miller asked whether any further correspondence had been received from Chelmsford Borough Council relating to the installation of new Dog bins. The matter is being dealt with and will be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 6th April 2010.
- Cllr T Miller told the meeting about information he had received from Chelmsford Borough Council detailing an Annual Telecommunications

Rollout Plan. The matter will be included on the next Planning Committee Agenda for consideration on 1st March 2010.

It was resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to close the meeting to the public and press for the following items.

679/09 Noakes Place

The Clerk reported to the meeting that following discussions and emails to officers at Chelmsford Borough Council about the renewal of the licence agreement, no further correspondence has been received. The matter will be chased.

680/09 All Weather Cricket Practice Facility

The Clerk had circulated a draft licence prepared by the Great Baddow Cricket Club for the All Weather Cricket Practice Facility and the main pitch. A number of issues were raised in relation to the draft licence, which will be detailed in a response to the Cricket Club. It was agreed that the Clerk would refer the matter to the Grounds Manager before responding to the Cricket Club.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.03pm.

Signed.....Dated.....