

Report of the Grounds Committee to the Parish Council

The Committee met at 9.22 pm on **Monday 28th September 2009**, 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, B Heelis, Mrs C Shaw, A Sosin and Mrs J Sosin

In Attendance: Cllr G Jarvis
The Clerk of the Council
The Administrative Assistant
The Grounds Manager
The Deputy Grounds Manager

375/09 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Martin

376/09 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interests.

377/09 Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present

378/09 Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting held on 27th July 2009 were signed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr T Miller and seconded by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky with the following amendment: Item 256/09, third line, the word 'Aqauplankton' to be deleted and replaced by 'Aquaplankton'.

9.24pm Cllrs Mrs D Ronaldson and K Ronaldson entered the meeting

379/09 Clerk's Report

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

1. Meadgate Play Area

The Clerk has tried e.mailing David Archer at Chelmsford Borough Council but it was returned. Another attempt will be made as a matter of priority.

2. Roundabout

A report was not ready in time to refer back to this meeting and so the matter will be held over until February 2010.

3. Seat at the Sensory Garden

The Clerk needs to write to Chelmsford Borough Council before the seat can be installed. This will be done as soon as possible.

4. Youth Council

A meeting was held on 22nd September 2009 to re-establish the Youth Council. The meeting went well and contact is expected through the Youth Drop-In to take the matter forward.

380/09 Recreation Ground

a) To receive the results of the questionnaire on the possible siting of an Outdoor Gym in the Recreation Ground and confirmation of an application to the ECC CIF Fund

The Administrative Assistant had circulated a report, which was discussed. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Sosin that the installation of outdoor gym equipment should go ahead and that an application should be made to the Essex County Council CIF Fund for a grant. It was also agreed that an amount of the S106 monies should be set aside for this project.

b) To consider a request from Great Baddow Bowling Club regarding the resurfacing of and the installation of lighting in the entrance to the bowling green

A letter from the Bowling Club and a quote for resurfacing had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr T Miller and seconded by Cllr B Heelis that option 2 on the quote should go forward and that repayment of the cost of the work should be requested from the Bowling Club. The Clerk was also requested to get quotes for the lighting.

c) To consider further information received from the Cricket Club and the England and Wales Cricket Board relating to the installation of a cricket practice facility on an All Weather Sports Court

The Clerk had circulated a report prior to the meeting, which was considered. The committee had grave concerns about the additional requests regarding the potential licence/lease. It was agreed that the Cricket Club should be informed that the committee was only willing to recommend the original conditions.

d) To receive a report and recommendation about the installation of a new skateboard ramp

A report had been circulated by the Administrative Assistant prior to the meeting, which recommended that a consultation should take place with local residents and with the young people of the parish. It was agreed to accept this recommendation.

It was resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to close the meeting to the public and press for the following item, which had been brought forward with the agreement of the meeting

381/09 Noakes Place - Update on the renewal of the Licence Agreement

The Clerk had circulated a report prior to the meeting, which was considered. It was agreed that negotiations should continue to renew the licence but that a lesser degree of responsibility should be sought.

The meeting was re-opened to the public and press but there were none present

382/09 Noakes Place

a) To consider repairs to the pathways in Noakes Place

In view of the outcome of item 381/09, it was agreed that this matter should be deferred until more is known about the renewal of the licence.

b) To receive the results of a letter written to residents regarding the change of fencing at the Foxholes Road entrance to Noakes Place

It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain an indication of price for installing bow top fencing.

383/09 Budget

To review the budget Spending for 2009/2010

The report that had been circulated was noted.

To consider the draft budget for 2010/2011

The report that had been circulated was considered and the following points raised:

- The training budget (3110) was queried but the Clerk said that at least three members of the Grounds Staff need to attend First Aid Training Courses, which would be quite costly.
- The amount given for Electric (3111) was considered to be too high and that for water rates (3112) too low. The Clerk was asked to re-consider these.
- The Clerk was asked to find out what had happened to the payments from the Community Association and the Playscheme Grant for both last year and the current year.

It was agreed that the following items should be added to the budget for consideration:

- Bowling Green access pathway construction and lighting
- Replacement of fencing in the Recreation Ground (£1585.00)
- Replacement of fencing on the tennis courts (£5445.00)
- Maintenance of the changing rooms including replacement of the roof and fascia boards

It was agreed that with the above changes, this should go forward to the Finance and General Purposes Committee as the recommendation of the Grounds Committee.

384/09 Matters for Information

- Cllr Mrs C Shaw reminded the meeting about the public meeting that is being held at Sandon School at 7.00 pm on Thursday 1st October 2009. She said that she and Cllr T Miller would be attending.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.50 pm.

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