

Minutes of the meeting of the OPEN SPACES & LEISURE COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks on Monday 6 July 2009 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Cllr R J Parry – Chairman
Cllr J London – Vice Chairman

Cllr P Allen
Cllr J G Brigden
Cllr Mrs A E Dawson (ex officio) (arr 7:11)

Cllr S Raikes
Cllr M G Short
Cllr Mrs P C Walshe

(8)

In Attendance:

Chief Executive/Town Clerk
Deputy Town Clerk
Open Spaces & Cemetery Manager
Committee Clerk
Members of the press – 1

Also present:

Cllrs Canet, Mrs M Crabtree (Arr 7:35pm) Eyre, Piper

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Cllr Towell.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were received from members in respect of items of business included in the agenda for this meeting

Cllrs Allen, London and Mrs Walshe declared an interest in any matters relating to the Rheinbach Gardens being Friends of Rheinbach.

Cllrs London and Parry, being Members of Kent County Council, stated they would reconsider matters to be discussed at this meeting at County level, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at Kent County Council.

Cllr London also declared an interest in any agenda items concerning the Kent Police Authority and Kent & Medway Fire and Rescue Authority

Cllrs Piper and Brigden being Members of Sevenoaks District Council, stated they would reconsider matters to be discussed at this meeting at district level, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at Sevenoaks District Council.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Open Spaces & Leisure Committee held on 27 April 2009 were received and accepted as a true record.

4 OPEN SPACES & CEMETERY MANAGER'S REPORT

Following a general question and answer discussion taking place, the Open Spaces & Cemetery Manager's report was received and noted

It was noted that

- following the Officer's advice, the flower bed alongside the Stag Theatre approaching the Post Office will not be replanted until the current weed infestation was cleared and brickwork repaired
- the word "bunnies" be read as "banners" in the report (Stag Theatre section)
- further to the meeting held on 09 February 2009 six interpretative display boards would be sited on the Common (four would be provided by grant assistance) during the current financial year and a further four will be sited there in 2010/11.
- Members commented on the excellence of this year's hanging baskets.

5 STREET LIGHTING

The Deputy Town Clerk's report was received and noted.

It was RESOLVED that

- the quotation from the company "Direct Services" be accepted. The Town Clerk take up references on this company in advance.

It was agreed that

- i) a report be drawn up on how to recover the costs of Street lighting in unadopted roads
- ii) a letter be written to West Kent Housing Association to establish the status of the Street Lighting in Harrison Way.

6 COMMEMORATIVE FLOWER BED

A letter requesting a commemoration of the Girl Guides 100th Anniversary was received.

It was RESOLVED that:

- this proposal be accepted and the Open Spaces & Cemetery Manager investigates how the idea may be implemented.

7 TEXTILE BANK INITIATIVE

A letter from Kent Air Ambulance Trust regarding the above matter was received.

It was RESOLVED that

- the proposal to site a new Textile Bank within the existing Sevenoaks District Council's recycling centre at Raleys' car park be accepted subject to a condition being imposed regarding frequency of emptying and tidiness of the site.

8 CYCLE RACKS IN SEVENOAKS

The proposal put forward by Cllr Clayton for cycle racks in Blighs was received.

It was RESOLVED that

- this proposal be accepted subject to no loss of car parking spaces and funding being sought.

9 POLLARDING OF LIME TREES

A letter from a resident regarding the above matter was received.

It was RESOLVED that:

- the Town Council would pollard only with the understanding that the resident bears the full cost in line with the Town Council's policy.

10 LADY BOSWELL'S SCHOOL

A letter and report from the above was received.

It was RESOLVED that:

- permission be granted for the staff of Lady Boswell's school to use Raley's car park from 8am to 6pm for up to 15 cars for the period from 01 September to 31 December 2009. Cars will be identified by a permit. Contractors' commercial vehicles be excluded from this goodwill gesture.

11 CURRENT MATTERS

A list of current matters was received.

12 VINE BAND STAND EVENTS

A report from the Chief Executive was received.

It was RESOLVED that:

- an additional £1,000 be allocated to the band stand budget for entertainment on the Monday of the August Bank Holiday
- Sevenoaks Town Council participate in the Bandstand Marathon on 27 September 2009 subject to Sevenoaks Town Council receiving equal publicity with Sevenoaks District Council for the provision of the Bandstand, the licence and £200 towards the costs.

13 PRESS RELEASES

The August Bank Holiday entertainment events and the Bandstand Marathon on 27 September 2009 would be released to the Press.

The Meeting closed at 7.50 pm

TOWN MAYOR