

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 20th
DECEMBER 2004 AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 9.00PM.**

PRESENT

Councillors Cllr. P Collins
Mrs. P. Desorgher
D. Isham
H. Mordue (Chairman)
Ms. R. Newell
Mrs. H. Saul
Mrs. C. Strain-Clark
R. Stuchbury (Mayor)

Town Clerk Ms. P. J. Heath

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. G. Loftus.

69/2004 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

70/2004 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th November 2004, which were ratified by Council on 6th December 2004.

71/2004 TO RECEIVE ACTION REPORTS AND UPDATES

71.1 (59.2) Cost of Cast Iron Bollards

Details of suitable cast iron bollards were circulated at the meeting. Members preferred Gregory of Cannock "Canterbury" bollard with the Council logo moulded on the front. The Clerk is to obtain full costing for 4 and 6 bollards.

ACTION THE CLERK

71.2 (60/2004) Update from the Play and Leisure Plan Group

The Working Group consists of Cllr. Saul, Cllr. Desorgher and the Clerk; it was agreed that Cllr. Stuchbury should join the group.

71.3 (63/2004) To receive a written report from Cllr. Isham

This was removed from the agenda as the report covered aspects included in the Town Audit, as well as footpaths.

71.4 (66/2004) To report the meeting arranged for 6th January 2005

Members were informed that the Chairmen of Finance & Administration and Environment & Property, with Cllr. Stuchbury, would be meeting with officers from Bucks. C.C. to discuss the transfer of services.

71.5 (59.3/2004) To receive details of the winter maintenance of the roundabouts

Members were informed as per minute number E&P 59.3/2004 3 quotations had been sought and received for the maintenance of the roundabouts. The Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, had agreed the lowest quotation received from Wyeveales.

71.6 (919.4) Purchase of bulbs – Tesco Community Vouchers

Members were informed that £20 worth of Community Vouchers had been received from Tesco's to purchase bulbs for the small roundabout at their entrance; it was agreed to purchase snowdrops.

71.7 (51/2004) Dark Alley; to report the lack of documentary response

Members were informed that following the Council's decision to support the designating of the footpath between Brookfield Lane and Chandos Road known as 'Dark Alley' no evidence of use had been received. It was agreed that a reminder be sent out to all Councillors.

ACTION THE CLERK

71.8 (59.1) Moving of the seat by Community Centre

Members were informed that no response had been received from Budgen's Supermarket as to their feelings over the moving of the bench.

71.9 To receive an update on Verney Close

Members were informed that no information or response had been received from Bucks. C.C. other than the confirmation that with the removal of the additional piece of land they had originally included the sale could proceed.

72/2004 REPORT, IF REQUIRED, ON CEMETERY LODGE REFURBISHMENT

Members were informed that there was no update on the renovation of the Cemetery Lodge.

73/2004 WORKING GROUP TO NEGOTIATE A LEASE WITH CHANDOS PARK BOWLS CLUB

Members discussed the provision of a lease with Chandos Bowls Club for Chandos Pavilion and bowling green. It was agreed to form a working group to carry out the negotiations and report back to the Committee at each meeting; Cllr. Isham, Cllr. Stuchbury, Cllr. Mordue.

ACTION THE CLERK

74/2004 (44/2004) LETTER RE BOUNDARY WALL HILL HOUSE

Members were informed that the Insurance Company had agreed to pay 100% of the Council's share of the lower wall repair/rebuild and 50% of the Council's share of the upper wall repair/rebuild.

Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **AGREED** that Buckingham Town Council will pay from Budget 4092 (Church Wall) the 50% of the upper boundary wall at Hill House's repair/rebuild not being covered by the Insurance Company.

75/2004 AVDC COSTING RE ADMINISTRATION, MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CEMETERY

Members discussed the costing received from AVDC re the future maintenance of the Cemetery and Burials. Members felt the prices quoted were very high and asked that comparable quotes for the administration of the burials be sought from other authorities. The Chairmen of F&A and E&P would be meeting officers from AVDC on 6th January to discuss the costs.

76/2004 COMMENTS MADE AT COUNCIL MEETING ON 6/12/04 CONCERNING AVDC INVOICE FOR s136 AGREEMENTS

The Chairman explained why he had advised the non payment of the s136 AVDC invoice, as he felt the Cemetery had not been cut as per specification nor had the work been done to the Bowling Green. A letter of explanation had been sent to AVDC, requesting a meeting to discuss the procedure for invoicing the Town Council and accountability of the Contractors.

ACTION THE CLERK

77/2004 SYSTEM FOR ALLOCATING ADDITIONAL WORK FOR THE COUNCIL'S CARETAKER

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman would allocate any additional work at an agreed amount of hours. The Caretaker would undertake a weekly inspection of the all areas owned or under the control of the Council, reporting back on any repair or maintenance work that was required; the Clerk and Chairman would prioritise the work and allocate a set number of hours from the budget.

ACTION THE CLERK

78/2004 REQUEST FOR SALT BIN FOR MEADWAY

Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Newell, and **AGREED** to purchase a new salt bin for the top right hand slope of Meadow Gardens and arrange for Bucks. C.C. to fill it; the Clerk is also to chase the filling of all salt bins in the town.

ACTION THE CLERK

79/2004 EXTENSION TO TOWN COUNCIL'S OFFICES

Members were informed that Cllr. Mordue, Cllr. Stuchbury and the Clerk had met with Mr C. Andrews from AVDC to discuss the extending of the Council Offices. The plans that had been drawn up were found not to be viable due to the complex structure of the roof supports. Members **AGREED** to meet with the architect after the New Year to discuss the original plan of a single storey at the Chamber end and two storey extension at the rear of the Community Centre. The Members also

AGREED to investigate the possibility of a purpose built offices elsewhere in the Town.

ACTION THE CLERK

80/2004 CURRENT BUDGET AND DISCUSS 2005/2006 BUDGET

Members discussed the budget figures circulated with the F&A Committee agenda. Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and **AGREED** that the Committee accepts the figures compiled by the Chairman and allocation of the total budget allowed at precept.

*Proposed by Cllr. Mordue, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and **AGREED** by all present and the Clerk to continue over the 10pm deadline as there was only one more item on the agenda.*

81/2004 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

81.1 Gawcott Green

Members discussed the point raised in the F&A Meeting concerning the area of land owned by Buckingham Town Council in Gawcott; this is a registered village green. It had been brought to Members' attention that activities on the area of land were not cleared or notified to the Town Council. It was agreed to copy a map of the land to all Members. It was **AGREED** to **RECOMMEND** to the Council that negotiations be reopened with Gawcott and Lenborough Parish Council for the land to be transferred to them at the cost of the legal fees.

Meeting closed at 10.10 pm

CHAIRMANH. Mordue..... DATE17th January 2005.....