

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment and Property Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 5th July 2010** in Room MB1, Masons Building, University of Buckingham, Hunter Street, Buckingham at 7:00pm.

Present:

- Cllr. T. Bloomfield
- Cllr. H. Cadd
- Cllr. P. Collins
- Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins
- Cllr. P. Hirons
- Cllr. G. Loftus
- Cllr. A. Mahi
- Cllr. H. Mordue
- Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue
- Cllr. Ms. R. Newell - Chairman
- Cllr. M. Smith - Mayor
- Cllr. R. Stuchbury

In attendance:

- Mr. C. P. Wayman Town Clerk
- Mr. L. Phillips Green Spaces Manager

201/10 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED to receive and accept apologies from Councillors Isham, Try and Whyte.

202/10 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

203/10 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 17th May 2010, which had been approved at Full Council on the 21st June 2010.

204/10 Action Reports

64/10 War Memorial: Cllrs. Newell and G. Collins and Mr Phillips would, after the meeting, arrange a meeting time to progress the matter.

985/09 Members **AGREED** to follow up on this and noted that that a salt bin had been found in Grenville garage and would be installed when there was time.

205/10 Chandos Park

205.1 Chandos Park Play Area

The Green Spaces Manager informed Members that RoSPA had carried out an inspection on the new area that day and he would arrange for some small last minute alterations to be fixed the following day. One issue which was raised by the inspection was the need for signage on both the play area and the MUGA.

Members **AGREED** that signs should be obtained for the two areas, along the lines of ones from other authorities.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

Members **AGREED** to hold an official opening of the play area and MUGA on the 17th of July at 4:30 pm. It was further **AGREED** that the office deal with details of the opening and that all Councillors would be circulated with the date and time of the opening.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

205.2 Toilets

Members discussed the report circulated with the agenda; it was felt that more in depth costings were needed. Councillors were divided on the issue with a section believing that bringing the work in-house would save the Council the most money. Other Members felt that there would be too many problems with the system such as covering holidays etc.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. P. Collins, that in principle the Town Council investigate carrying out the cleaning and maintenance in-house.

An amendment proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Hirons, that in principle the Town Council investigate carrying out the cleaning on a contract basis. The amendment was **REJECTED** by 5 votes to 6; the original motion was then **AGREED** by 6 votes to 5.

Members then discussed other issues relating to items raised in the report and **AGREED** that these be looked into further and brought back to the Committee. It was further **AGREED** to have a plumber/electrician look at the state of the toilets to arrange repairs before we take on the full responsibility.

ACTION GREENSPACES MANAGER

206/10 Cemetery

The Green Space Manager informed Members that the geophysical survey had been received in the office that morning. Although a number of clarifications needed to be sought from the company it appeared at first reading that the majority of the land is unusable for full burials as the area which may provide sufficient depth is too close to the watercourse. A full report would be brought to the next meeting.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANGER

Members discussed the possibility of carrying on as a burial authority, either through land purchase or raising the level of the land in the cemetery extension to a sufficient depth.

207/10 Dog Waste Bins

Member noted the information and **AGREED** to send a letter to AVDC asking for the increase in charges to start from the 1st June.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

208/10 Devolved Services

Members were informed that the insurance company had come back with an increase in insurance cost of £80 which could, based on the original agreement, be passed on to BCC.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Hirons, and **AGREED** that the Mayor should sign the agreement and that the Town Council undertake snow clearance and gritting on behalf of BCC.

209/10 Embleton Way

Members discussed the issue of situating a playing field on the green at Embleton Way.

Members **AGREED** to contact AVDC regarding Embleton Way and highlight again that it was the intention in the S106 to have a playing field on the site and that it was their responsibility to ensure the developer adhered to the agreement.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

210/10 Stratford Fields Play Area

Members noted the correspondence.

211/10 Winter Maintenance Feedback

Members **AGREED** to write back highlighting the roads which should be added to the schedule, which were identified earlier in the year.

212/10 County Parks and Green Spaces

Members noted that there were no areas in the parish in the report.

213/10 NAGS Report

Members discussed the report.

Members **AGREED** to write to AVDC to see if they would agree to match fund to the tune of £400 to help subsidise swimming pool prices to allow young people to swim at a lower cost. **AGREED** to use the £400 from the all-weather pitch hiring budget.

Councillors were informed by Cllr. O'Donoghue that the Youth Centre is now open for 12 year olds.

214/10 Amnesty International

Members were apprehensive about placing a tree on the green area around the church. Other places where the tree could be planted were discussed including Bourton Park and the university. Members noted that the date had passed and this would be raised with the group.

Members **AGREED** to contact Amnesty International and offer for the tree to be planted in Bourton Park and suggest also that the university could be a good place for it to be situated.

215/10 Chairman's Announcements

There were no announcements.

216/10 Date of Next Meeting: Monday 23rd August 2010.

The meeting finished at 8.55pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....