

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment and Property Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 21st March 2011** in Room MB1, Masons Building, University of Buckingham, Hunter Street, Buckingham at 7:00pm.

Present:

- Cllr. H. Cadd
- Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins
- Cllr. P. Collins
- Cllr. P. Hirons
- Cllr. A. Mahi
- Cllr. H. Mordue
- Cllr. Ms. R. Newell - Chair
- Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue
- Cllr. M. Smith - Mayor
- Cllr. R. Stuchbury
- Cllr. M. Try
- Cllr. W. Whyte

In attendance: Lee Phillips - Green Spaces Manager (GSM)

851/10 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED to receive and accept apologies from Cllr. T. Bloomfield, Cllr. D. Isham, Cllr. G. Loftus

852/10 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

853/10 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 24th January 2011, which had been ratified at Full Council on the 28th February 2011.

854/10 Action Reports

690.2/09 Chandos Park Footpath.

GSM explained that a thorough brief is required before a specification can be sought. Members questioned if the budget is available, Cllr. Whyte stated that this has already been prioritised by the committee in Earmarked Reserves (901/9018 Repairs for footpaths). GSM will check on this.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

326/10 Cemetery.

GSM explained the Policies, Handbook, fees and forms need reviewing along with the grave space issues and the maintenance management Plan. This will be brought to the next meeting as an agenda item. Cllr Newell suggested a site visit before the next committee meeting so members can see the issues to be discussed, and this was agreed.

724/10 Extension to Riverside walk.

GSM explained issues of linking the riverside walk to the footpath on the disused railway line. Members discussed one issue is that it's unclear who owns the land along the river at the rear of the industrial estate. There is preliminary planning permission for one section of the industrial estate and the other may also be developed. Members agreed to wait for further planning applications on the site and then the matter can be pursued then.

Cllr. Newell informed Members that Dennis Osborne had sadly passed away; Members agreed that the council send a letter of condolence to the family in recognition of the work he has done for the town.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER**855/10 Bourton Park**

855/10.1 Toddlers' Play area re-surfacing.

Members discussed which budget heading the cost could come from and decided on Circular Walk Play Area budget (901/9024) in Earmarked reserves.

Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **Agreed** to proceed with the recommended contractor with the amendment that confirmation that a concrete base will be suitable and won't fail.

855/10.2 Cutting frequency of the Paddocks

Members **Agreed** to Option 3; the paddocks being cut 5 times per year.

856/10 Cemetery

856/10.1 Defects survey of both chapels.

Proposed by Cllr. Whyte, seconded by Cllr.Hirons, and **Agreed** to obtain the defects survey of the 2 chapels.

856/10.2 Cemetery Lodge.

The GSM updated Members regarding the tenancy of Cemetery Lodge and that references are currently being checked for a new tenant.

857/10 Otters Brook Play Area

857/10.1 Future Management of Otters Brook Play Area.

Members discussed the future of Otters Brook Play area but stated that more information regarding the original agreement was required and to be brought to the next meeting.

ACTION – MAY AGENDA

857/10.2 Funding Application to the Buckingham & Gawcott Charitable Trust.

Cllrs. Cadd and Smith as Trustees of the Buckingham and Gawcott Charitable Trust declared an interest in this item.

Members discussed the application to the Trust. Cllr Stuchbury said that if the application was in the Town Council's name the council could not apply for a grant again for 2 years. Members also said they would require more information about the applications before any decision could be made.

857/10.3 To consider 2 letters of support.

Cllr. Cadd declared an interest in this item as a member of the *WREN* Board.

Members discussed the 2 letters of support; Cllr. Stuchbury proposed and Cllr. Newell seconded that the letters of support be sent to other Members; however as more information was to be sought from AVDC, the resolution was amended to include "pending checking the further information", and that amendment was agreed by 8 to 2, and that became the substantive motion.

858/10 Purchase of Pole Mounted Litter Bins

Members **Agreed** to the purchase of the new pole mounted litter bins being funded from budget heading Seats and Bins (201/4101).

859/10 Environment and Property Committee Budgets

859/10.1 The current Environment and Property Budget.

Members noted the current Environment and Property budget. Cllr. Stuchbury asked that the agreements with the roundabout sponsors be investigated and information brought back to the committee.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

859/10.2 The Environment and Property Budget for 2011/2012.

Members asked to check that Earmarked Reserves budget is correct with precept figures.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

860/10 S106 Funding

Cllr. Whyte and Cllr. Smith declared an interest in this item as a Trustee of the Old Gaol.

Members suggested the Radcliffe Centre, Old Gaol Gallery Space, widening of the top end of Maids Moreton Avenue, Embleton Way playing field, Buckingham Athletic Football Club; Members also felt the north of the town, especially the Page Hill area, needed more play provision particularly following the popularity of the MUGA in Chandos Park - further provision should be investigated. The office will chase up the outcome of the leisure audit and conduct further investigations.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

861/10 Buckingham Community Wildlife Project

Cllr. Newell updated Members following the BCWP meeting and said that minutes would be circulated.

ACTION CLLR. NEWELL

862/10 Green Fair

Cllr. Newell informed members that the Green Fair would be on Saturday 26th March from 10am to 4pm and encouraged Members to attend.

863/10 Chairman's Announcements

None.

864/10 Date of Next Meeting.

Next meeting to be held Monday 31st May 2011.

Meeting finished at 8:30pm.

Chair..... Date.....