

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment and Property Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 24th October 2011** in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham at 7:00pm.

**Present:** Cllr. T. Bloomfield  
Cllr. H. Cadd  
Cllr. P. Collins  
Cllr. P. Hiron  
Cllr. D. Isham – Vice Chairman  
Cllr. R. Lehmann  
Cllr. H. Mordue  
Cllr. Ms. R. Newell - Chair  
Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue  
Cllr. M. Smith (Mayor)  
Cllr. R. Stuchbury

**In attendance:** Lee Phillips (Green Spaces Manager),  
Liz Campbell (Committee Clerk)  
Cllr. J. Harvey  
Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins

**458/11 Apologies for Absence**

**RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllr. Whyte

**459/11 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins and Cllr. P. Collins declared a prejudicial interest in minute 470/11 as members of the Community Centre Management Committee.

**460/11 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 5th September 2011, which had been ratified at Full Council on the 3rd October 2011.

**461/11 Action Report**

The report was noted, subject to the following:

211/11 The Green Spaces Manager reported that he had spoken with Mark Gadd of the Community Plan Group, and that it appeared that the Circular Walk had never been formally handed over to the Town Council by the contractors, and that his enquiries were ongoing.

66/10 Cllr. Isham asked for an update on the land that was to be registered at Gawcott, and it was **AGREED** to progress this with the Town Clerk.

**ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

213/11 The Green Spaces Manager reported that he had explored the issue of the bus shelter on the bypass with bus companies, who had confirmed that the stop was not on their timetables. Members therefore **AGREED** to authorise its removal.

**ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

Cllr. Stuchbury requested that the issue of the change in the AVDC grounds maintenance contract be placed on the next agenda; the GSM confirmed that it would as he had just received correspondence regarding the proposed changes.

**462/11 Otters Brook Play area**

Members considered a report regarding the future management of the Otters Brook play area, and asked whether the Town Council's own grounds staff could undertake the maintenance on the play area? The Green Spaces Manager confirmed that they could, apart from the grass cutting and litter bin emptying and that additional equipment would need to be purchased to cut the tall hedge. Cllr. Lehmann proposed, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury that the Green Spaces Manager obtains three quotes for providing the maintenance, including one from the Town Council's own staff, and brings it to the next meeting. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

**ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

**463/11 Grit Bins**

Members considered a report regarding requests for three grit bins from local residents. The Green Spaces Manager confirmed that BCC would fill any bins that we purchased with grit. Cllr. O'Donoghue asked the Council to consider installing a grit bin by Bourton Meadow School. The Green Spaces Manager confirmed that the £900 remaining in the grit bin budget would only be sufficient to purchase two grit bins.

Cllr. Stuchbury proposed, seconded by Cllr. P. Collins, that all three bins were purchased, with money being vired from the seats and bins budget to cover the purchase of the third bin. This was unanimously **AGREED**.

Cllr. Harvey proposed, seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue, that the Town Council purchased sticky labels for the bins, which noted that they were provided by the Town Council. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

**ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

**464/11 Vehicle lease**

Members considered a report outlining potential options for the future of the Town Council's vehicle. Members **AGREED** to purchase the vehicle at the end of its lease in July 2012. Cllr. Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, that repair and maintenance costs, and eventual replacement costs, are built into future budgets and included in the precept. This was unanimously **AGREED**.

**ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

**465/11 Memorial Safety**

338.1 Members considered a report on Memorial Safety Testing and **AGREED** that the Green Spaces Manager could proceed with the memorial testing programme, provided that every effort was made to consult with relatives of the deceased. It was **AGREED** that the Town Council would issue a press release about this.

Cllr. Smith asked for the costs of memorial testing to be included in future reports.

**ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

**466/11 Re-deployable CCTV camera**

Members considered a paper from the Green Spaces Manager regarding the cost of purchasing a re-deployable camera. Following a lengthy discussion, Cllr. Stuchbury proposed the following motion, which was seconded by Cllr. Smith: "That in principle, and subject to crime information from the Police from before, during and after the CCTV trial, the Town Council will consider precepting to purchase the camera."

This was **AGREED** with 10 votes in favour and three against.

Cllr. Stuchbury proposed, seconded by Cllr. Smith, that the Town Council seeks additional quotes for the provision of a re-deployable CCTV camera. This was **AGREED**, with 11 votes in favour and two abstentions.

**ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

**467/11 Environment and Property Committee Budgets**

The current budget position was noted.

**468/11 Parks Policy Group**

Cllr. Newell informed the committee that she had sent her priorities list which needs to be included. Cllr. Stuchbury said the minutes need to show that actions need to be recommendations and the recommendations were **AGREED**.

**469/11 S106 Funding Wish List**

Members discussed the wish list and said that the Town Council needs to pursue AVDC to ensure that the Town Council has an input. GSM to work with the Town Plan Officer to draw up a wish list. Cllr. Hirons said that it should be investigated if the public toilets could be provided using these funds.

**470/11 Renewable Energy**

Cllr. Newell thanked the Town Clerk for his report. Members discussed the paper and **AGREED** the recommendation that further information and prices be sought regarding solar panels for the Community Centre

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

**471/11 Chandos Park Signage**

A verbal report was received from Cllr. Mordue regarding providing signage for the Bowls and Tennis clubs and public toilets. The sign would be at the top of the Chandos Court access road directing people to the Park. Members **AGREED** that Cllr. Mordue should bring back costs and further information to the next meeting.

**ACTION CLLR. MORDUE**

**472/11 Green Buckingham Group**

Cllr. Newell said she would circulate minutes and that the Green Fair is on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at the Community Centre.

**473/11 Buckingham Community Wildlife Project**

Cllr. Newell updated Members about the work of the two 'Friends of' groups and reported that the water level of the pond in the railway walk is very low at the moment. Cllr Newell said that although there is no Heartlands and Bourton Park group at the moment; BTCV will co-operate with the Town Council for a series of one off events.

**474/11 Chair's Announcements**

None.

**475/11 Date of Next Meeting.**

Next meeting to be held Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

Meeting finished at 8:50pm.

Chair.....

Date.....