

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment, Property & Health Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 10th December 2012** in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham at 7:05pm.

Present: Cllr. T. Bloomfield
 Cllr. H. Cadd
 Cllr. G Collins
 Cllr. P. Collins
 Cllr. J. Harvey
 Cllr. P. Hirons
 Cllr. A. Mahi
 Cllr. M. Smith - Chairman
 Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury
 Cllr. W. Whyte

In attendance: Mr. L. Phillips - Green Spaces Manager
 Mrs C Bolton - Committee Clerk

589/12 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED to receive and accept apologies from Cllrs. Isham, Newell and O'Donoghue.

590/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

591/12 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 22nd October 2012, which had been ratified at Full Council on the 19th November 2012.

592/12 Action Reports

592.1 (211/11) Circular Walk Path. The GSM reported discussions had taken place with a contractor on a possible type of repair that could be applicable. Councillors questioned the guarantee period of the original installation and **AGREED** that BCC should be approached to ascertain the length of guarantee and responsibility for repair.

ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER

592.2 East Chapel – subsidence. The GSM reported he had instructed a surveyor come up with a proposal, but that this did not include the porch roof – ongoing.

592.3 (738/11) Moreton Rd dog bins – Councillors discussed whether one dog bin was adequate. It was **AGREED** that the GSM should refer to AVDC to explore what had been originally proposed.

ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER

592.4 Bourton Road Play Area – equipment would arrive on Wednesday 12th December, installation would take 4 – 5 weeks – ongoing.

592.5 CCTV – add to Action List. Investigation of testing was ongoing. Cost would be £500 to test suitability of positioning on lamp posts; weight of

equipment also had to be considered – which had not been applicable for the Jubilee Banners or Christmas lights. Both the Neighbourhood Action Group and Thames Valley Police might be able to share the costs.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

592.6 (339/12) Solar P-V Panels. Cllr Harvey requested an update. The GSM advised Councillors that this was ongoing and the Town Clerk had approached the Community Centre Committee for permission to install; it was **AGREED** that a report on progress was required for the next meeting.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

593/12 Bristle Hill Land Ownership

Councillors discussed the history behind the assumed current ownership of this land at length. It would appear that the land referred to as ‘the yard’ had been recently registered by the owners of number 8 Castle St. The land is currently used for car parking, or common use. Councillors felt the land had been subject to a ‘land grab’ and the land should actually be adopted by Buckingham Town Council to maintain and pursue as common land for use by all residents.

Proposed by Cllr Geraldine Collins, seconded by Cllr Stuchbury, and **AGREED** that the Town Council should contest the current registry as a matter of urgency.

ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER

594/12 Chandos Park Footpath Tender

The GSM discussed the document and 2 proposals required for pricing. Councillors commented on the options within the document, including DDA-compliant access, intersection of paths leading to toilet facilities, specification points 2 and 3 in the paperwork and the logo proposed at the entrance. Councillors also discussed concerns over the possible costs of the project and the setting of the precept budget for 2013/14.

It was proposed by Cllr Paddy Collins, seconded by Cllr Stuchbury that regrettably, because of the shortfall in budget this year, Councillors would be unable to go any further with the project until after the Precept budget is set for 2013/14. This motion was defeated 3 in favour, 6 against.

Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Strain-Clark and **AGREED** that the GSM should proceed to go to tender.

ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER

595/12 War Memorial Report EP/37/12

Councillors commented this had been discussed at length over previous meetings and that the Town Council has spent funds on regular maintenance, replacing pillars and chains repeatedly. Councillors were minded to note that something should be done during 2013 before the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War in 2014. Discussion took place over various sources for possible funding for the repair of the surround and it was **AGREED** that the GSM should look into multi source funding for the project and gain 3 professional quotations for the design of the surround.

ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER

Cllr Stuchbury requested a copy of previous minutes relating to the War Memorial repair and budget figures that had been agreed by Councillors.

ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER

596/12 Buckingham Community Wildlife Project

To be carried forward to next meeting.

FEBRUARY AGENDA

597/12 Ash Die Back Disease

Leaflet noted. Councillors discussed the possibility of issuing a press release when more information became available.

598/12 New Parks for People Programme

Councillors requested that this programme be explored further.

ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER

599/12 AVDC Horticulture and Street Cleaning Service

Noted.

600/12 Budgets

Agreed previously.

601/12 Request from Cllr. Newell – funding for a Community Fair Stall

Declined with regret.

602/12 News releases

Ash Die Back Disease – GSM to compile initial draft.

603/12 Chair’s Announcements

There were none.

604/12 Date of Next Meeting.

Monday 11th February 2013.

Meeting closed at: 8.10pm

Chairman..... Date.....