

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 5th September 2016 in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham at 7pm.

Present: Cllr. Ms. J. Bates
 Cllr. T. Bloomfield
 Cllr. P. Collins
 Cllr. J. Harvey
 Cllr. P. Hiron
 Cllr. D. Isham Vice Chairman
 Cllr. A. Mahi Mayor
 Cllr. Ms. R. Newell Chairman
 Cllr. M. Smith
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury

In attendance: Mr. L. Phillips Green Spaces Manager
 Mrs. N. Stockill Committee Clerk

383/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Gateley, O'Donoghue and Strain-Clark

384/16 Declarations of Interest

None

385/16 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 18th July 2016 and approved at Full Council on the 15th August 2016
 Agreed

386/16 Action Report

To receive the report and note the updated information

Members discussed the following items:

96/16 Michaelmas Cottage – Cllr. P. Collins stated that the breached fenced between St. Peter & St. Paul Church and Michaelmas Cottage had nothing to do with the Party Wall etc Act 1996. Cllr P. Collins felt that the Council should 'protect their position' and move forward with welding up the breach. Cllr. Isham explained that historically, the Borough Council had paid for the entire wall to be renewed. Members **AGREED** for the Town Clerk to write to the resident of Michaelmas Cottage. **ACTION TOWN CLERK**

86.2/16 Renewable Energy – Cllr. Stuchbury suggested writing to the Cabinet Member for Finance at BCC, asking if he can prompt a response from AVE. Cllr. Newell would check with the Town Clerk on how we can progress the matter with AVE. **ACTION Cllr. NEWELL**

90/16 Table Tennis Bourton Park – The Green Spaces Manager explained that in place of a full concrete pad they were purchasing a smaller pad with a matting surround. This would protect the grass and avoid creating a quagmire

during wetter months. The Green Spaces Manager explained that the lead in time was approximately one month.

86.3/16 Festival of Health – Cllrs. Harvey and Bates have been in contact with Senior nursing staff in Milton Keynes, Bedford and Oxford to arrange an scoping meeting. Cllr. Harvey hoped that an event could be arranged for late September or early October 2017. Members **AGREED** for the draft proposal to be brought to a future Committee for agreement.

90/15 Entrance signs for Bourton Park – Cllr. Smith explained that prices are being obtained and design will be presented to the Committee for agreement. Members expressed a wish for the signs to be in place by Spring 2017.

89.3/16 Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre Dog Bylaws – Green Spaces Manager to chase a response from Neil Passmore and Joe Houston

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

904/15 Sports Pitch Provision – Cllr. Stuchbury explained that the Town Clerk was looking at the potential use of Astro Turf and had indicated that the University of Buckingham were willing to allow parking on their land.

387/16 Budgets

To receive the latest figures

Noted

388/16 Lace Hill

388.1 To discuss and agree a quote for Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre signage.

Cllr. Smith said he wanted assurance that the Perspex was sufficiently robust to withstand being struck by a football. He was also concerned that the recommended material would degrade with weathering. Members **AGREED** for the Green Spaces Manager to review the quotations and move forward, in his estimation, with the most appropriate option.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

388.2 To discuss and agree funding door installation and repair works (4161/250).

The Greenspaces Manager apologised that due to a busy workload he had not managed to obtain the prices for this month's meeting.

Cllr. Harvey express disquiet at discovering that the Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre Co-ordinator was working in the First Aid room as opposed to the purpose built office. The Green Space Manager explained that the office had been leased to the nursery group. Cllr. Smith agreed with Cllr. Harvey and said that the First Aid room should not be utilised for any other purpose. Members **AGREED** for the Town Clerk to review the use of both rooms and feedback to the Committee.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER & TOWN CLERK

Members discussed the presented list of repairs works, expressing concern that some should be categorised as 'snagging issues' and therefore become the Developer's responsibility. Green Spaces Manager to check the list and action as appropriate.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

Cllr. Stuchbury raised concern that items may have been purchased for the Centre without Committee approval and requested an inventory of items purchased for the Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre.

[Clerk Note: see following items approved at Committee. E/07/15 236.1/16 Goal posts, boot brushes and benches. R/01/16 139/16 Furniture]

389/16 Town Action Commission

To discuss and agree on how to proceed with the Town Action Commission. Cllr Harvey said the item was discussed at Full Council on the 15th August 2016 and confirmed that Cllr. Cole had agreed to lead on the matter.

390/16 Correspondence – Buckingham AED Project

To discuss and agree funding for a public access defibrillator at Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre

Members held a lengthy discussion on the proposal and noted that it had not followed Buckingham Town Council's grant funding process. Members **AGREED** to respond to Mr. G. Shaw acknowledging his request and requesting that the charity complete a grant funding application. Members **AGREED** it was a good location for an additional AED defibrillator but had to adhere to their Finance Regulations.

391/16 Access Awareness

Cllr. Newell reminded Members of the launch of DisabledGo on the 13th September at the Buckingham Community Centre.

Moreton Road Phase 2 – Cllr. Harvey noted the recent road works which were (assumedly) to clear water away from the development but as a result they have added some extra pavement to the left-hand side of the site entrance with no dropped kerb. Members discussed the issue and **AGREED** that Cllr. Harvey would raise the issue with Cllr. Warren Whyte.

392/16 BCWP

Cllr Newell referred to the minutes of the last meeting, explaining that she had not received Paul Holton's wildlife report and therefore could not be added to the Minutes. Cllr. Harvey noted the removal of a bat box in Holloway Spinney. Cllr. Newell **AGREED** to alert AVDC of the issue. **ACTION Cllr. NEWELL** Members wished to record their thanks to the Friends of Maids Moreton Avenue, Friends of Buckingham Railway Walk and the Canal Society.

393/16 News Releases

First Football Fixture at Lace Hill – The Green Spaces Manager advised Members that the first games was scheduled for the morning of 17th September 2016 and details would be circulate to all Members to consider whether they can attend. **ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

Cllr. Smith explained there had been concern expressed on Facebook regarding the pink water in the pond along the Railway Walk. Members **AGREED** to release a short statement explaining that following tests the reddish coloration in the pond had turned out to be an inoffensive sulphur bacteria bloom, from which the pond will recover.

ACTION GREEN SPACES MANAGER

394/16 **Chair's Announcements**
None

395/16 **Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 24th October 2016.

Meeting closed at: 19.44

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