



Cricklade Town Council

First Town on the Thames

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COMMUNITY AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 2 March 2010

7pm at Ockwells

Councillors present:

Cllr T Robertson– Chairman
Cllr G Chapman
Cllr D Tetlow

Cllr B Atfield
Cllr T Clements

Cllr B Beasley
Cllr P Colmer

Cllr R Case
Cllr M Hatton

6 Members of the public

The fire instructions on the entrance door were pointed out.

Public Question Time – There were no questions

MINUTES

09.118 Apologies for absence – Cllr R Szybiak

09.119 Declarations of Interest – None Declared

09.120 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 2 February 2010 were signed by the Chairman and adopted as a true record.

09.121 Clerk's report on action points from 2 February

08.10 - Long Close

A meeting took place on 20 May between Cllr Tetlow, English Heritage (EH) and Wiltshire Council Archaeology Dept (WCAD) to look at the Town Wall Monument. Following this meeting EH and WCAD proposed to produce a management plan for the walls with a working group to be formed in the near future. Jan 2010 a reply was received stating we would receive a strategy for the Town Banks shortly. The Town Clerk has written to the area – the letter has been acknowledged and more information has been requested, which has been supplied. TW are speaking with employees who were in post with McLean Homes before the merger, CTC have obtained copy deeds from a North Wall Resident to see if owners can be identified through these.

08.95 - Abingdon Court Farm Open Space, Area of Land Behind Meer Stone & Hatchetts

An informal proposal from Colin Brown (WC) was considered by Cllrs who agreed to consider a formal proposal (once made) to take ownership and responsibility to these areas. I have contacted C Brown acknowledging our interest. Followed up - no reply has been received. ATC to prepare list of other WC areas – new areas identified include the Leisure Centre and a field on the Chelworth Road which would be suitable for use as allotments. Cllr Tetlow updated the committee on the new procedures regarding land acquisitions, although clarification of the process is required. **Action:** ATC to request new procedure information.

09.18 - Exclusive Rights of Burial

Suitable package identified and agreed by C & L Committee on 28 July - to take to FTC for approval and funding. ATC looking at in house provision.

09.37 – Parish Improvement Grant

Cllr Chapman met with members of the Footpath Group and identified the path between Bath Road and Doubledays for improvement. A grant application has been made and an acknowledgement email received. We were unsuccessful in this application. **CLOSED**

09.72 – Closed Churchyards/Cemetery Maintenance

Following meeting of 3 October – WC were contacted - WC contacted English Heritage as Listed Building Consent is required to dismantle the tombs, the tombs are Grade II and St Sampsons Grade I, EH will not support an application to dismantle and lay flat. They have provided possible sources for grant funding. ATC to approach sources for advice - ATC has been in contact with John Earney, WC - Inspection and adoption for Closed Churchyards in South Wiltshire to see if he can give any advice

09.73. Meer Stone Plaque

CTC RESOLVED to purchase a replacement bronze plaque. Proof received, proof accepted re wording, query regarding the shape, proof accepted. Plaque received **CLOSED**

09.92 – Italian Market

The offer from WC to hold an Italian Market during May 2010 was considered. A meeting took place on 16 Feb with WC representative. WC do not have any land in Cricklade to hold the market on therefore it would take place on the High Street on either Fri, Sat or Sunday (preferred day is a Saturday). The CBA support the idea to hold the market, however, the only date available for the Italian Market is 2nd July, this date is not the preferred date but we will go with this, if a French Market with more suitable dates is not available. CTC would be marketing the event and would like to hold on a day when other events are taking place. **Action:** ATC to follow up with WC rep – Letter Sent

09.93 – Fairview Fields Car Park

Request to improve the car park and signage. ATC to work with Planning ATC on signage. Advice and costings on possible improvements and problems that improvements might cause to the area have been received. The original plans were discussed – decision made for the ATC to obtain quotes to bring up the surface to just below the field level. Fairview Fields Maintenance Budget will cover the expenditure incurred. Quotes have been requested. Clarification of signage requested. **Action:** Provision of a Blue Parking sign on left hand side of road from Swindon identified, Cllrs and ATC to consider suitable information signage for next meeting.

09.97 – Wayleave Agreement

The request from Open Reach (BT) to replace faulty cable on the Cricket field was agreed on 1st Dec. The agreement was signed and payment has been received. The work is due to commence as soon as the field is suitable to work on. David Osborn checked the area and work is yet to commence.

09.106 – Cricklade & Purton Youth Services

WC is reviewing services and there are plans to cut the service to Cricklade & Purton. These issues were discussed at the AB on 27 Jan - Cllr Doyle (AB member) suggested the AB might be able to fund from their 2010-11 grant money. Cllr Brady (WC) informed those present he would be reporting back to WC and request that no cuts are made to the allocated hours and to fund the £6000 shortfall. ATC sent letter sent to Cllr Brady, he replied stating money would be found. Cllr Colmer updated FTC on 1 March on the loss of Sarah Howes (youth worker for Cricklade & Purton) and the immediate future of the centre – FTC agreed following actions for TC - to send letter to PH and to raise as Issue Sheet with AB with CTC's concerns. Cllr Colmer updated C & L committee on his meeting (2 Mar) with Caroline Godfrey - Head of Children's Services, apologies given for how the situation has been handled and agreement made to draw a line under recent events. **Action:** TC to raise Issue Sheet for AB and to write agreed letter to PH taking into account 2nd March update.

09.107 - Cricklade Leisure Centre

Request to remove existing trees, extend the tennis courts and resurface. Committee supported the request. Action: ATC to check if permissions from WC are required –The Planning Dept has confirmed that planning permission is not required, WC Estate Management have confirmed that the proposal is acceptable. WC Tree Officer visiting on 4 March regarding removal of trees. Request from CTC Groundsman to remove the remaining hedge to the right side of the tennis courts was considered and AGREED. **Action:** ATC to update G Walker on current situation.

09.108 Section 96's

Request to plant trees on Dance Common – permission granted providing neighbours consulted and agree. Pittsfield tree planting, permission granted providing neighbours consulted. Bloomers to write to residents affected. ATC to apply for licences – Licences applied for. Bloomers confirmed feedback from residents on enhancements to Dance Common was all positive, **Action:** ATC to obtain confirmation of Residents agreement

09.114 - Pollarding St Sampsons Trees

Request has been sent to Diocese of Bristol and to WC for consent to do the work permission has been by John Earney, Officer for Closed Churchyards. Next task is to complete application for tree works to Planning Dept.

09.115 – Britain in Bloom Launch

Launch event to be held on 28 March on Waylands. Bob Jones to complete risk assessments. CTC (office) to do admin requirements. Cllrs Robertson, Atfield, Tetlow, Colmer, Case and Beasley volunteered to help run the events. ATC has sent letter of courtesy to WC. Tasks identified for Cllrs at the event. Posters and entry forms have been produced.

Update on other Items

Wiltshire Dog Warden – Drop in Surgery planned for Friday 26th March – posters etc to be supplied. Meeting regarding Dog Control orders is yet to take place.

Youth Services - Battle of the Bands to take place on 30 April – posters to come

Repainting of the Clock – Received one quote, four refusals and two new contacts given waiting for replies.

Christmas Lighting – We have met with one supplier, to meet with others to look at best options available.

Fiddlers Allotments – Work has been done to clear ditches, urgent remedial work was required on allotment plots - a French drain was put in place at a cost of £274.79. Following the ditch and hedge work, the allotments were very exposed on the front, replaced with fencing at a cost of £195. Town Clerk authorised payment from the balance remaining of allotment set up costs and from the income received as plots were deemed as not fit for purpose.

09.122 Correspondence

- i) Letter from Saxon Meadows Cricklade Residents Ltd (SMCR) – Request for information regarding Long Close, Hall Close and other areas and also concerns raised regarding the hedge at Isis House. It was AGREED the ATC would write to the group with relevant information relating to the proposed land purchase as provided in Clerks Report Item 08.10. During A Suspension of Standing Orders, John Barratt, North Wall Resident, referred to NWDC planners recommendations regarding the Isis House hedge and fence. It was AGREED ATC John Coole would research the original recommendation and respond to SMRC with his findings
- ii) Wiltshire Wayfarer Winter magazine – copies distributed and noted
- iii) Dragonfly magazine winter edition – available in office, noted
- iv) Wiltshire Air Ambulance – Request to place a recycling Clothing and Shoe Bank at the Leisure Centre. It was noted that the Bank was already in place. As the land is owned by Wiltshire Council they do not need to ask permission of CTC although Leisure Centre (LC) should have been consulted. **ACTION:** ATC to sent letter.
- v) Cotswold Canals Trust – Invitation to a social event and details of an annual draw – this was noted.
- vi) Water Parks – Notification of meeting to be held on 5 March - this was noted
- vii) Letter from NSPCC – Request to promote their services through displaying of posters and the opportunity to become a campaign partner. Following discussions it was AGREED to delegate to TC the displaying of posters where appropriate and to decline offer of partnership.

09.123 Wilts & Berks Canal Project Officer

A request has been received from WC asking CTC to contribute £4250 for 2010-11 to fund the W & B Canal Project Officer post. The ATC report with details of previous contributions were discussed - CTC made a three year commitment in 2008 to pay £500 per year. It was AGREED to write and explain that the precept was agreed in November 2009 and the request is too late, to point out the terms of the funding agreement made in 2008. To suggest they make the request earlier next time and to ask for an explanation as to how the figure of £4250 was decided on, as the Cricklade Country Way Project Officer only cost £5000 to deliver the project.

09.124 Cricklade Heritage Trail Project

A letter has been received from the Chairman of the Cricklade Historical Society offering the services of Ivor Keeble as a Historical Society Link Person to organisations wishing to clarify historical data and positioning of future Interpretation Boards in Cricklade. **Action:** ATC to send

letter thanking the Historical Society for their offer as it seems a sensible approach to include the Historical Society for accuracy of content in future designs.

A request has been received from John Barratt looking for support from CTC to form a community led group to design and implement a heritage trail for Cricklade. The group will ensure uniform designs of interpretation boards, signs and leaflets, and apply for available grants. Suggested organisations are CTC, the Historical Society, Cricklade Bloomers and CBA. Cllr Tetlow suggested CTC should play a major role but not lead the group, perhaps offer to hold funds on behalf of the group as well as some administrative tasks. Cllr Atfield supported the project, but felt the CTC Officers should only be involved in a minor way. All were in favour with the formation of the group and for CTC becoming a partner, Cllr Tetlow offered to represent CTC in a liaison role.

Action: ATC to reply to John Barratt.

09.125 North Meadow Cairn

Natural England would like to enhance the entrance to North Meadow by changing the existing cairn to incorporate a Natural England notice board and interpretation board, donations box and leaflet dispensers. Natural England is offering the opportunity to CTC to re-site the existing map of Cricklade on one side of the new cairn. The existing map is on a display stand near the entrance and needs some restoration. The implications to this suggestion are that CTC would need to obtain a PDF copy of the map which we do not have at the moment. The artist has been contacted, he suggests this would be an ideal opportunity to update the map at the same time, to write a pdf and update the map would cost a maximum of £100. We could also renovate the existing board and re-site at Sustrans cycleway at the rear of the Leisure Centre. Following discussions it was agreed to:

- a. Support the request to place a new cairn at North Meadow (subject to planning regulations – ATC John Coole dealing with this)
- b. Place a CTC map on the cairn.
- c. Purchase a pdf version of the map and update- Funds from Town Enhancement Budget
- d. Renovate existing notice board and re-site at Sustrans Cycleway, Stones Lane (subject to any approvals required)
- e. Cllrs to view existing map for updating by 5 March.

09.126 Working Party Update:

Saxons Rest – Still a problem with onsite electrics – ATC to follow

Cricklade Country Way – Meeting scheduled for 3 March to discuss Moulden Hill restoration, the lottery bid for Country Park to Moulden Hill and planning application update.

Meeting Closed at 8.31