



Cricklade Town Council

First Town on the Thames

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COMMUNITY AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 30 March 2010

7pm at Ockwells

Councillors present:

Cllr T Robertson– Chairman
Cllr T Clements

Cllr B Atfield
Cllr M Hatton

Cllr B Beasley
Cllr R Szybiak

Cllr R Case
Cllr D Tetlow

2 Members of the public

The fire instructions on the entrance door were pointed out.

Public Question Time – Mr Bob Jones, Vice-Chairman of Cricklade Bloomers, thanked Cricklade Town Council and the Councillors for all their support with the launch event for Britain in Bloom. The event had been very successful and good media coverage had been obtained. Cllr Robertson thanked Bloomers for taking the lead on the event and thought everyone involved had a great time.

Mr Bob Jones, Vice-Chairman of Cricklade Bloomers, asked if the grass area used as a footpath between Stones Lane and West Mill Lane can be adopted as a footpath and the brambles removed. ATC to investigate.

MINUTES

09.127 Apologies for absence – Cllr G Chapman and Cllr P Colmer

09.128 Declarations of Interest – None Declared

09.129 Minutes

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

09.130 Clerk's report on action points from 2 March

08.10 - Long Close

The Town Clerk has written to the MD of Taylor Wimpy (TW) regarding the transfer of land and the current state of the area. 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 historical ownership can be identified.

Town Walls – Cllr Tetlow has met with a mature student from Bristol University who will be putting together a management plan for the walls as part of his thesis. The plan will be shared with Wiltshire Council and CTC on completion. CTC can consider, comment and refine. The Student will complete in his own time as he is anxious for the plan to be adopted.

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.

09.72 – Closed Churchyards/Cemetery Maintenance

Following meeting of 3 Oct - WC contacted English Heritage as LBC 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 Sth Wilts to see if he can give any advice – not yet received

09.92 – Italian Market

The offer from WC to hold an Italian Market was considered. Cllrs and 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 – Email sent – no reply

09.93 – Fairview Fields Car Park

Request to improve the car park and signage. Quotes received to resurface – **Agenda Item**. Signage: Provision of a Blue Parking sign on left hand side of road from Swindon identified, sample sign considered but to incorporate distance. During a Suspension of Standing Orders, Bob Jones reminded Cllrs of the Pictogram Regulations 1997 – Cllrs reconsidered the design. **ACTION:** ATC to source signage

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 received. The work is due to commence as soon as the field is suitable to work on. Email sent to Open Reach requesting an update. David O believes work has been completed. ATC to follow up

09.106 – Cricklade & Purton Youth Services

WC is reviewing services and there are plans to cut the service to Cricklade & Purton. The debate on the level of youth service provision continues, with slightly different needs in Cricklade to Purton. The key issue remains as to where the additional funding is to come from if the current service levels at Cricklade are to continue in the longer term. The amount of funding required is a little less than the £6,000 figure mentioned at the Area Board. Cllr Tetlow updated members on current thinking on the issue, whereby Wiltshire Council might be able to reduce costs significantly by surrendering the lease they currently have with Cricklade Town Council. If the Leisure Centre, who have expressed an interest, were to take over the lease then Wiltshire Council would rent the premises from the Leisure Centre and continue to provide the existing level of youth service support (the savings largely coming from their cleaning costs). However there are some issues that we need to follow up on as the lease is currently with Cricklade Town Council. **ACTION:** ATC to investigate the terms of the existing lease with particular regard to whether or not the lease is a full maintenance and repairing lease, any provisions relating to opting out of the lease and anything in the lease that gives rights to any other parties. Also to investigate the potential legal and any other costs should the lease be cancelled and a new one issued in favour of the Cricklade Leisure Centre, without a condition being applied that the building would only be for youth provision. Finally, also to investigate the position should the lease terminate regarding the ownership of the building (our assumption being that it would in any event belong to Cricklade Town Council in 2026 when the Youth Centre lease expires, until the end of the 90 year lease we have with Wiltshire Council on the land, but this is to be checked, as is the position on early termination of the lease.)

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 to them, Request from CTC Groundsman to remove the remaining hedge to the right side of the tennis courts was considered and AGREED – WC Tree Officer visiting on 4 March regarding removal of trees – he is happy for work to be done. Leisure Centre Management notified. **CLOSED**

09.108 Dance Common / Deansfield – Section 96's

Request to plant trees on Dance Common – permission granted providing neighbours consulted and agree. Deansfield tree planting, permission granted providing neighbours consulted. Action:

<p>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, a letter of support has been received and distributed- Cllrs noted the letter of support.</p>
<p>09.114 - Pollarding St Sampsons Trees Planning application is on the planning agenda for 29 March. I have received a certificate of approval from the Diocese of Bristol, however, we need to apply for a faculty, a public notice has to be displayed for 28 days and a copy sent to English Heritage. Cllrs said a Faculty had never been required previously - we do not need one for hedges and grass maintenance and we should challenge this decision. ACTION: ATC to follow up</p>
<p>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 – no response received. Tasks identified for Cllrs at the event. Posters and entry forms have been produced. Event to take place this weekend. A successful event took place, see PQT. During a Suspension of Standing Orders Bob Jones, Cricklade Bloomers mentioned that prior to the event they had to remove 15 lots of dog faeces from the site that had only be mown three days before .Identified problem areas are Gas Lane and the Sustrans track, Fairview Fields has improved due to recent publicity. A re-education programme and there are plans by WC to do this – meeting to take place shortly. ACTION: ATC to check signage on Waylands. CLOSED</p>
<p>09.123 - Wilts & Berks Canal Project Officer A request has been received from WC asking CTC to contribute funding for the W & B Canal Project Officer post. It was AGREED to write and explain that the precept had already been agreed, suggest they make an earlier request in the future and ask for an explanation as to how the figure was reached. Letter Sent – Cllr Tetlow confirmed the letter sent to CTC had been a mistake and the request to CTC was for £500 as previously requested. CLOSED</p>
<p>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. Letter sent CLOSED</p>
<p>09.125 - North Meadow Cairn – CTC Map Updated of new map has taken place with the addition of Saxons Rest, Parking and Public Conveniences now identified. Building of Cairn has commenced.</p>

Update on other Items

Wiltshire Dog Warden – Drop in Surgery planned for Friday 26th March – posters on display
 The surgery was well attended and felt to have been successful. **CLOSED**

Youth Services - Battle of the Bands to take place on 30 April – posters to display have arrived
 Bands to play two songs with a prize of £100 Venue Memorial Hall Wootton Bassett

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

Christmas Lighting – Cllr Robertson and Bob Jones to meet to discuss options - we have met with one supplier, to meet with others asap then to provide report for committee.

09.131 Correspondence

- i) **Parish Steward Programme:** The dates for the Parish Stewards visits and the tasks he is assigned to do were noted. A questionnaire from Wiltshire Council relating to the Parish Steward Scheme was considered and Cllrs agreed with the recommendations made by the Assistant Clerk.

09.132 Bath Road Play Area

Following the Policy & Resources meeting held on 15 March, Councillors were asked to consider the installation of a fence at the play area. Councillors discussed at length the pros and cons of placing a fence on the site. In a recorded vote Cllrs. Robertson, Szybiak, Beasley, Case, Hatton and Tetlow were against the installation of a fence whilst Cllrs Atfield and Clements voted for. It was carried not to support this proposal by six votes to two.

09.133 Fairview Fields Ditch Maintenance

The Environmental Agency (EA) are looking at the River Thames and River Key regarding tree

clearance. There is a tree rooted in the River Thames near to Hatchetts that is forcing the flow of water into the bank causing it to break up, the water is also flowing up the ditch. The tree needs to be removed, the bank rebuilt and replanted, the existing ditch filled in and another one created further down and angled to flow with the river. The EA have responsibility for navigation on the river but are not responsible for the banks on either side, CTC are responsible for the bank running alongside Fairview Fields. The EA are offering to provide funds to do the work (some of which will need to be done by canoe) with a small contribution from CTC. Cllr Clements asked if special permission was required if work was to be done on Ridge and Furrow land. **ACTION:** ATC to investigate if permission required. Councillors **AGREED** with the request from EA to obtain quotes for relaying the ditch.

09.134 St Sampsons School Fence

The report from the Town Clerk was considered - CTC maintain the fence between the cemetery and St Sampson's School, for health and safety reasons the metal spikes are covered with wood to deter children from climbing through or over. St Sampson's Infant School has approached CTC and asked for a donation towards the installation of a new 1.8 metre high fence system in front of the existing fence. As precautionary measures will not be required in the future, the Town Clerk recommends a donation of £100 (CTC Groundsman would have replaced the wood in the very near future). All **AGREED** with the Town Clerk's recommendation.

09.135 Fairview Fields Car Park

Councillors considered the quotes received for the resurface of the car park, after discussion it was **RESOLVED** to accept Quote One - Option Two, with the costs to be met from the Fairview Fields Maintenance Budget. Cllr Clements asked if the manhole to the left as you enter the car park could be checked prior to resurfacing, the manhole covers the old septic tank and pipework installed by the contractors who built Stockham Close. **ACTION:** ATC to contact Contractors and ask for manhole cover to be checked and if appropriate to be covered with concrete prior to resurfacing and to arrange annual inspection by CTC Groundsman.

09.136 Working Party Update:

Cricklade Country Way – No update since outline planning submitted to NWDC. Cllr Tetlow is the representative for CTC and he said the working party has not met since 2007 and he feels it is time to disband the working party and report to Full Town Council if any updates are available. All **AGREED** with this suggestion.

Meeting Closed at 8.34