



Cricklade Town Council

First Town on the Thames

The Council Office
Ockwells, 113 High Street, Cricklade Wiltshire SN6 6AE
Telephone: 01793 751394 – Fax: 01793 752515
E-mail: admin@cricklade-tc.gov.uk
Website: www.cricklade-tc.gov.uk

COMMUNITY AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 22 June 2010

7pm at Ockwells

Councillors present:

Cllr T Robertson– Chairman
Cllr G Chapman

Cllr B Beasley
Cllr M Hatton

Cllr R Case
Cllr R Szybiak

2 Members of the public

The fire instructions on the entrance door were pointed out.

Public Question Time – There were no questions.

MINUTES

10.30 Apologies for absence – Cllr B Atfield, Cllr T Clements, Cllr P Colmer and Cllr D Tetlow

10.31 Declarations of Interest – None Declared

10.32 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 25 May 2010 were signed by the Chairman and adopted as a true record.

10.34 Cllr Robertson introduced and welcomed Sebastian Williams - Dog Warden, Public Protection Dept. Wiltshire Council to the meeting. Seb is the only sole dedicated Dog Warden in Wiltshire, the other nine are joint Dog Warden/Pest Control, and his main area is North Wiltshire. An agreement to run a countywide dog mess campaign has recently been agreed, which will be launched in Warminster as it is badly affected with dog fouling at their Area Boards request. WC are hoping to launch in conjunction with a planned event by the RSPCA, the WC event trailer will be in the town centre and the main aim will be to promote and raise awareness of the Dog Wardens roles. This will then be rolled out to other towns in Wiltshire, following on from this will be visits to schools which will be kept going on an annual rotation. Cllr Robertson said that education of dog owners is required as they believe any public green space is countryside and dog fouling is allowed - Seb is hoping once the campaign is launched people will be more aware of the laws surrounding this. Cllr Robertson asked if there was an action plan for the problem areas in Cricklade – Seb stated there was no specific campaign but he planned to do an early morning blitz with two other officers to enforce, hopefully, some notices will be issued which will act as a deterrent to others. The fine is currently £75 with 14 days to pay, reduced to £50 if paid within 10 days, if taken to court the maximum fine is £1000. Cllr Hatton asked if the NWDC bye laws were still in place on all green space areas - Seb confirmed they were with a flat rate fine of £75. A review will be taking place in January 2011 to bring all existing Dog Control Orders in line. Cllr Szybiak said there were polite signs in some areas of Cricklade asking people to clean up after their dogs but not in others and could more signs be erected – Seb will see what he can provide although metal signs are expensive, laminated ones are pulled down and aluminium are difficult to get hold of. Cllr Robertson said when dog walkers were warned by a resident that Fairview Fields might become an exclusion zone for dogs there was a marked reduction in dog fouling. Cllr Beasley said there was not enough dog bins in Cricklade and often were overflowing which did not encourage people to use them – Seb said dog bins are classed as a luxury however, if a full bin is reported it will be emptied as soon as possible. Councillors AGREED to promote the bye laws on open spaces and the existing penalties by placing either a one page article in the Chronicle or a leaflet drop, ATC to cost out. Seb was asked if any funding would be available from WC, he will enquire and get back to us, however he will also provide posters and see if he can source some signs.

Clerks Report from 25 May**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.

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

Officers to prepare a listing of all our potential commitments (assets and services), once prepared to presented to each relevant committee for approval, prioritised in order of preference. A meeting has taken place with the WC Service Development Manager, Bob Chequer, who deals with transfer of assets and delegation of services to local Councils. **Cllr Chapman updated members, WC are still finalising the details as some assets have services attached to them which makes possible transfers difficult. CTC now has the necessary transfer forms although the process is quite involved and Area Board support is also required. Cllr Tetlow left a written comment which was considered and reinforced by Cllr Chapman to pursue the transfer of the Bath Road Play Area as there are no WC services attached to it. Bath Road is not an asset that would entail further maintenance/service costs to CTC as we already have responsibilities to maintain and we would expect the transfer to be FOC.. Cllr Chapman proposed and Cllr Beasley seconded, all were in favour and it was RESOLVED to move forward immediately with the transfer process.**

09.18 - Exclusive Rights of Burial

Suitable package identified and agreed to take to FTC for approval and funding. ATC looking at in house provision – all old papers have been located.

09.72 – Closed Churchyards/Cemetery Maintenance

Following meeting of 3 Oct - WC contacted English Heritage (EH) 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. EH provided possible sources for grant funding not successful. Advised to contact. John Earney, WC - Inspection and adoption for Closed Churchyards in Sth Wilts was provided with further information on 16 April and a request for grant advice was made as the EH recommended sources of grant funding cannot be accessed by local councils. EH have supplied other possible grant streams which have been contacted - awaiting replies. Cllr Robertson has spoken with Mr Hickman regarding recently restored tombs; the work was completed with a grant from Cotswold Churches, ATC to follow up to see if a similar scheme in Wiltshire. **Cllr Beasley asked if there were any other schemes or options available following discussions ATC will continue to try to obtain grants for repairs.**

09.92 – Italian Market

Following discussion it was RESOLVED to cancel the market by four votes to one, with two abstentions. All Cllrs agreed to see if it was possible to hold next year on a more appropriate date. Reply attached – NOTED & CLOSED

09.106/10.22 – Cricklade & Purton Youth Services & Building Lease

Minutes of the C & L meeting 25 May refers to the history of item. A method in which Youth Services could work in conjunction with the Leisure Centre to ensure the youth service provision in Cricklade is maintained/enhanced by utilising the under used building Stage One is to write to WC informing them of our decision to remove the offending clauses with immediate effect. Stage Two is the reassigning of the Youth Centre Lease to Cricklade Leisure Centre with effect from 1 April 2011. Stage Three is to pursue the transfer of the land associated with the Leisure Centre to CTC. ACTION: ATC and TC to prepare letter to Wiltshire Council with Cllr Colmer's input, letter drafted for Cllr Colmer's approval.

09.114 - Pollarding St Sampsons Trees

Planning consent has been granted. A certificate of approval from the Diocese of Bristol has been received, however, we need to apply for a faculty – apparently a faculty has never been required before. ACTION: ATC to follow up – Bristol Diocesan contacted and the Registrar has given details of The Archdeacon of Malmesbury who may give permission without a faculty. Details sent.

PQT – 30 March

Request for an adopted footpath between Stones Lane and West Mill Lane and removal of brambles. ACTION: ATC to investigate the possibility. Following the site visit with WC they are prepared to match fund the work however they are unable to do the path where the footfall is at the moment due to the additional maintenance work it would incur, the proposed location is on the other side of the brambles. **Cllrs considered the quote but unfortunately due to other financial commitments felt we were not able to continue with the work. Councillors would like the project to be considered for the Parish Improvement Grant (PIG) if it is available again this year.** CLOSED

09.133 - Fairview Fields Ditch Maintenance

Due to a tree the bank on the River Thames is breaking up and the water is flowing up the nearby ditch. The tree needs to be removed, the bank rebuild and replanted, the existing ditch filled in and another one created further down angled to flow with the river. The EA are offering to provide funds to do the work with a small contribution from CTC. ACTION: Cllrs AGREED with the request from EA to obtain quotes for relaying the ditch. **Quote received which was higher than expected, Cllr Chapman is meeting with the EA to discuss other options, EA may be able to provide a culvert, Cllr Beasley may be able to source a digger, volunteers will be required to do the work with EA managing the project. Councillors were ALL IN FAVOUR of Cllr Chapman taking this project forward.**

10.24 – Waylands Footpath

Request to change a stile for a gate on Waylands made by The Footpaths Group. ACTION: ATC to write letter of support to WC. Letter sent. CLOSED

10.25 – Dance Common

Following the report from J Barratt & J Nevill regarding the maintenance of Dance Common. Cllrs AGREED the ATC would write to the High Bailiff of Cricklade Manorial Court and request they take an active role in maintaining Dance Common. Letter drafted and attached with copy of TC previous letter. **Councillors considered and AGREED for the letter to be sent.** CLOSED

10.27 – Skate Park

Cllrs agreed to the purchase of pour in filler, replacement of grind rail, additional signage and funding to enable a match funded grant application for new fencing.

10.28 – Cricklade Heritage Trail

Request from the Chairman of CHT to hold meetings in council offices free as part of the partnership arrangement and for CTC to manage the finances. ACTION. ATC to write to Chairman. Letter Sent. CLOSED

10.36**Correspondence**

- i) Request from the Cricklade Fun Run Committee to use the Sports Field for the Cricklade Half Marathon, 10 Kilometres and Fun Run on Sunday 3 October. – Councillors AGREED to grant permission with the usual conditions.
- ii) Request from 1st Cricklade Girl Guides to place a time capsule to mark their Centenary celebrations near to their tree on Waylands. Councillors AGREED to the request providing the capsule is not planted more than 18 inches below the surface.
- iii) A letter from Cricklade Bloomers confirming CTC can use the Bank Garden to hold the Children's competition judging was NOTED. Cricklade Bloomers offered to hold the judging event prior to the C & L meeting of 22 July with the announcement of the winners of the competition at their Open Evening on Tuesday 27 July, Councillors thought this was a good idea and AGREED to the offer and hoped it would help promote the Cricklade in Bloom campaign.

10.37**Visit Wiltshire – Walking in Wiltshire**

Visit Wiltshire (VW) has put together a number of proposed walks in Wiltshire, one of which is based around the Cricklade area. VW are requesting CTC write 150 words to accompany the section relating to Cricklade and if possible provide photographs of the route. A longer term request is for someone to walk the route on an annual basis and let them know if there are any changes or issues. Councillors considered the request, but felt the starting point for the walk should be from the Fairview Fields Car Park rather than the Leisure Centre Car Park, as this would encourage visitors to visit the town and relieve the Leisure Centre Car Park from additional cars. Cllr Szybiak volunteered to write the wording and take the photographs. Anita Barratt,

Waywarden of the Cricklade Manorial Court Leet has offered to walk the route as part of her duties, Cllrs supported the suggestion. ACTION: During a Suspension of Standing Orders, Cllr Robertson asked Mr Chris Morley of the Historical Society if it was required would he check the text for its historical content, he was happy to do so. ATC to contact VW and confirm our participation in the project and request the amendment to the start point. ATC to also contact local footpath group to see if they are interested in occasionally walking the route.

10.38 Gravel Top Up in River Thames

The Fisheries Department of the Environment Agency has requested CTC permission to put gravel in the River Thames at three locations, a top up at Hatchetts and two points further down stream on Fairview Fields, the reasoning behind the request is to protect and improve the native fish stocks within the river. They have also requesting permission to access Fairview Fields to bring the gravel on to site. The letter was considered by members and Cllr Chapman pointed out that the EA introduced gravel at Hatchetts in 2008, and this action has resulted in a near by house flooding whenever the river rises and we should be very wary of the effects of adding more gravel would bring. We are on a flood plain which does not seem to have been taken into account and we should ask for verification by modelling or a hydraulic assessment prior to giving permission. Cllr Hatton said rather than top up the gravel it would be more sensible if they gently removed the existing slit as underneath would be lovely gravel. CTC could do this work but as we are only responsible for half the river we would need to liaise with the owners of the field on the other side of the river. Councillors were ALL IN FAVOUR of Cllr Chapman taking this project forward. ACTION: Cllr Chapman is to meet with an EA Flooding Dept Consultant on 23 June and will discuss the issues raised, the ATC to investigate ownership of field.

10.39 Working Party Update

Christmas Lights: NOTED

Tree of Remembrance: ATC updated members, stone for base of memorial has been identified and a request from a resident to have a carved stone memorial instead of a plaque is to be considered once a sample has been received.

Meeting Closed 8.17