

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

The minutes of a meeting of the Amenities and Recreation Committee held in the Old Abbey House on Wednesday 22nd May 2013 at 7.00pm.

Present:

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|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Councillor Helen Pighills | - Chairman |
| Councillor Marilyn Badcock | - Vice-Chairman |
| Councillor Alice Badcock | |
| Councillor Jeanette Halliday | |
| Councillor Julie Mayhew-Archer | |
| Councillor Jan Morter | |
| Councillor Andrew Todd | |
| Councillor Samantha Bowring | - Mayor |

In Attendance:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mr Stephen Rich | - Head of Service Delivery |
| Mr Timothy Badcock | - Cemetery and Works Supervisor |
| Mr Nigel Warner | - Town Clerk (for item A7 & A13 only) |

A1 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sandy Lovatt, Leader of the Council.

A2 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Jeanette Halliday declared a non-pecuniary interest in Allotments as she had a close relative who had an allotment on one of the Town Council allotment sites.

A3 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolved: *that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2013 be signed as a correct record by the Chairman*

A4 **Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda**

- **A13 - MG Garden** – Members were informed that the MG Garden was almost complete apart from a few minor jobs. The MG Club were arranging to have the information boards manufactured and installed and once this was complete an official opening would be arranged.
- **A53** – Members were informed that a meeting had been held with the Council's supplier of Christmas Lights and agreement had been reached regarding the lights on the artificial Christmas trees installed around the town centre in 2012. A credit note for the lights would be issued to the Council and a new system using batteries would be purchased at cost price for this year's display. A letter was to be sent to retailers regarding the situation with the Christmas trees along with an invoice.

- **A93** – Abingdon-on-Thames Fisheries - Members requested that this be placed on the agenda for the next meeting with details of income and competitions made available.

A5 **Summer Events Working Group**

The Committee received the minutes of the Summer Events Working Group held on 21st March and 17th April 2013 and **resolved** to *approve the recommendations therein*. The Chairman of the Summer Events Working Group updated the Committee regarding the 2013 Fun in the Park event and reported that ticket sales were going well for the evening event.

The Committee were informed of the extra hours of work that the Works Team were having to put in for events in the coming weeks and the Committee **resolved** to *commend the Works Team for their loyalty and commitment*.

A6 **Abingdon in Bloom 2013**

The Committee were informed that some areas of land, belonging to the Town Council but maintained by the District Council, had reverted back to the Town Council Works Team to maintain.

Members were informed that the Town Centre flower beds would soon be emptied and new soil and manure added to ensure that the displays this year are given a good start. The beds would then be planted up with regard to Members of the Abingdon in Bloom Sub Committee requests.

A7 **Budget Estimates 2013 /2014 and Financial Report**

The Committee received and considered the report of the Town Clerk in relation to the above, as circulated with the agenda.

The Town clerk answered various questions put to him regarding the budget statements and the Committee **resolved** to *accept the report of the Town Clerk*.

A8 **Cemetery and Works Supervisor's Report**

The Committee received and noted the report of the Cemetery and Works Supervisor.

The Committee Resolved to replace a bench at "Poets Corner" to be constructed from recycled plastic.

It was **resolved** that *the Cemetery and Works Supervisors report be approved*.

A9 **Green Gym – Ock Valley Walk**

The Vice-Chairman, Cllr Marilyn Badcock, reported that a meeting had taken place with the Green Gym and that the Gym would continue to work as before in the Ock Valley Walk area. An offer of funding had been made to the Gym for the supply of wild flowering bulbs for the same area.

A10 **Publicity**

The Committee considered that the following items would benefit from publicity:

- Tickets for Music in the Park Event
- Vandalism of the Flags on the Abingdon Bridge
- Abingdon In Bloom displays

A11 **Items for Next Meeting**

Members were asked to contact officers, in writing, with any items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting of the Amenities and Recreation Committee (to be notified). The following item was notified for this meeting:

- Fisheries – Members requested a listing of all competitions for 2012 / 2013 and a breakdown of income sources.

A12 **Dates of meetings for 2013/2014**

The dates for future Amenities and Recreation Committee are:

- Wednesday 28th August 2013
- Wednesday 20th November 2013
- Wednesday 12 February 2014

A13 **Property Matters**

Members received and considered the Confidential Reports of the Town Clerk. It was **resolved:**

- *Queen Elizabeth 11 Fields. - that the deeds be sealed on behalf of the Town Council.*
- *Allotment Associations Service Level Agreements – Authority be delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Amenities and Recreation Committee, to make changes and sign off such agreements. Subject to the aforesaid process agreements be offered to all Abingdon-on-Thames Allotment Associations.*

See also confidential appendix.

The meeting rose at 9.00 pm

Signed Date