

**LEISURE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**  
**17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2008**

- \* Cllr. S.C. Pryde (Chairman)
- \* “ Mrs. R. Gadsby (Deputy Chairman)
- \* “ Mrs. P.C. Brooks
- “ A.B. Clark
- \* “ W.J. Pryor
- \* “ A.P. Watts

\* Denotes Members Present.

Also present: Cllr. Collier and Cllr. Mrs. Webster.

In attendance: Town Clerk and Recreation and Amenities Manager.

717. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Clark.

718. **Declarations of Interest:** There were no Declarations of Interest.

719. **Minutes:** RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2007, copies of which had been previously circulated to all Members, be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

720. **Public Questions:** There were no Public Questions.

721. **Footpath Matters:** There were no Footpath Matters.

722. **Town Mead Leisure Park:** Members referred to the Officers report and the Recreation and Amenities Manager went on to say that the extreme weather conditions had made all football pitches unplayable and bookings had been cancelled for the previous weekend and the coming weekend. The Officer went on to say that Thames Water would be starting work on the replacement sewer main in April outside the site and from September on site. This could have an effect on the construction of the baseball dugouts. It was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Webster, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers obtain a detailed programme of works from Thames Water for this project.

It was further moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the reinstatement policy of Thames Water also be obtained.

Members noted that the skateboard ramps had been vandalised and following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers obtain estimates for a replacement facility including a purpose built ramp and an investigation into relocation also be carried out.

It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

723. **Larsen Recreation Ground:** Members referred to the Officers report and the Officer went on to confirm that as with Town Mead Leisure Park football pitch hire had been cancelled. The Chairman asked for a current situation report in respect of the new path between the tennis courts and the clubhouse and the Recreation and Amenities Manager confirmed that this would be completed prior to the start of the tennis season.

It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

724. **Ninefields Recreation Area:** Members referred to the Officers report and it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted.

725. **King George V Playing Fields:** Members referred to the Officers report and it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted.

726. **Other Open Spaces:** Members referred to the Officers report and it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted.

727. **Cemetery:** Members referred to the Officers report and it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted.

728. **Churchyard and Gardens of Rest:** Members referred to the Officers report and it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted

729. **Plant and Equipment:** Members referred to the Officers report and it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted.

730. **Allotment Sites:** Members referred to the Officers report and Cllr. Mrs. Webster asked for the current number of vacant plots. The Officer informed Members that there were approximately five vacant plots which would be cleared and divided into half plots and subsequently let. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

731. **Town Mead Sports & Social Club:** Members referred to the Officers report. The Chairman made specific reference to the reduced use of the MUGA Courts affecting trade and the Recreation and Amenities Manager explained that a number of youth teams had disbanded which had resulted in reduced use. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

732. **Cornmill Suite:** Members referred to the Officers report noting the annual comparison of hall bookings and bookings for the year ahead. The Chairman suggested that a revised promotional leaflet for the venue should be produced. Following further discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

733. **In-House Promotions:** Members referred to the Officers report and the Chairman went on to say that the German Themed Evening had been an outstanding success for both the Council and the Twinning Association and that Members should consider a similar event later this year. The Chairman went on to say that he believed the Town Council should consider promoting entertainment events in the Town Hall. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

734. **Waltham Abbey in Bloom:** The Town Clerk advised Members that the Officers had no information to report at present. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

735. **Christmas Lights and Cavalcade of Light:** Members referred to the Officers report and the Chairman went on to say that it had been suggested that in future years prior to the parade starting the Salvation Army be invited to lead the singing of community carols. The Chairman then went on to thank the staff for their input and cooperation in this event. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

736. **Retail Market:** Members referred to the Market Manager’s report and the Chairman went on to say that the Council should consider a promotional scheme for the Market. Cllr. Pryor suggested that stalls needed to be spread out throughout the Town to be more attractive and that signage was needed from the Tesco Stores site. Cllr. Mrs. Webster reminded Members that they should be aware that some shop keepers objected to stalls in Sun Street. Following further discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Officers investigate the installation of signage from Tesco Stores site to the Market and  
(b) subject to the above the Market Manager’s report be noted.

737. **French Markets:** The Town Clerk advised Members that he had been able to obtain French Markets for the weekends of the Town Show and King Harold Day and he was negotiating for a French Christmas Market. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

738. **Waltham Abbey Town Partnership:** Members referred to Minutes of the Meetings of the Town Partnership held on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2007. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes be noted.

739. **Epping Forest CDRP Joint Action Group:** Members referred to Minutes of the Joint Action Group Meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November 2007. The Town Clerk then went on to refer to the Strategic Assessment of Crime and Disorder being carried out by the EFDC Safer Communities Group and following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Leader of Council and Town Clerk complete the Strategic Assessment of Crime and Disorder Questionnaire and  
(b) subject to the above the Minutes of the Joint Action Group Meetings be noted.

740. **Neighbourhood Action Panel:** Members referred to the Minutes of the Waltham Abbey Neighbourhood Action Panel meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2007. Cllr. Mrs. Webster referred to residents comments in respect of the road build outs at the junction of Beechfied Walk and Sewardstone Road and the Town Clerk went on to say that he had been copied into correspondence between residents and Essex County Council. Following a full discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) Cllr. Mrs. Webster in her capacity as County Councillor contact the Neighbourhood Action Panel and  
(b) correspondence between Essex County Council and residents be circulated to the next meeting of this Committee.

It was further moved by Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT Sainsbury’s be requested to install signage in multi European language directing drivers to the access gates of the depot.

It was then moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Minutes of the Neighbourhood Action Panel Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2007 be noted.

741. **King Harold School Pupil Survey:** Cllr. Pryor informed Members that at a recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Action Panel he had volunteered to assist with a Pupil Survey at King Harold School and he would be collecting survey papers shortly. As a result he had been invited to speak to the School Council. Would Members agree to this course of action? It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT Cllr. Pryor’s proposal be approved.

742. **Mobile Library Service:** The Town Clerk circulated details of the Mobile Library Service revised timetable effective from January 2008. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

743. **Waltham Abbey Tourism Group:** Members noted that this Group, a sub group of Waltham Abbey Town Partnership had held their second meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January and had agreed to apply for funding from either the Heritage Lottery Fund or the Regional Development Agency for the following “wish list;”

- 1) King Harold Statue Project.
- 2) Five Year Funding for King Harold Day .
- 3) Relocation of King Harold’s Tomb to a position nearer the site of King Harold’s Church.
- 4) Appointment of a Tourism/Promotions Officer for a three year period.

Members observations were requested.

Following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the “wish” list be supported subject to the addition of a band stand to be situated in the Town Centre.

744. **Exclusion of Press and Public:** It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT in view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed and listed below the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

745. **Town Mead Leisure Park:**

**S.C. PRYDE - CHAIRMAN**

