

LEISURE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
27th MARCH 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.

In attendance: Town Clerk and Recreation and Amenities Manager.

960. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Mrs. Brooks.

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

962. **Minutes:** RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th January 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated to all Members, be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

964. **Footpath Matters:** Cllr. Clark thanked the Recreation and Amenities Manager for the work his staff had carried out in the area of the Gladeway. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT this be noted.

965. **Town Mead Leisure Park:** Members referred to the Officers report and the Recreation and Amenities Manager went on to advise that some football matches booked for the previous weekend had been called off by Match Officials. The Officer went on to say that in the opinion of the Duty Groundsman these matches could have been played.

The Chairman referred to the Officers report on the construction of temporary baseball dugouts, reminding the Officers that it had been agreed to install permanent dugouts and should damage occur during the course of installation of new rising main Thames Water would be required to make appropriate reinstatement.

The Town Clerk gave a current situation regarding the Golf Driving Range and following discussion it was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Council’s solicitors be advised that negotiations continue on previously agreed terms,
(b) the applicants be advised that terms must be agreed by 31st May 2008 and

(c) the project to be completed within three months of the contract being signed.

Skateboard Facility: The Chairman referred to his discussion with Members and Officers of Essex County Council who had suggested that funding for this project could be available. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Officers design and cost a new Skateboard Park and
(b) the Officers investigate funding from Essex County Council.

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

966. Larsen Recreation Ground: Members referred to the Officers report and following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

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

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

968. King George V/Lodge Lane Playing Fields: Members referred to the Officers report. The Officer went on to say that grass cutting only was being carried out at this site. Following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report and additional information be noted.

969. Other Open Spaces: Members referred to the Officers report and following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted.

970. Cemetery: Members referred to the Officers report and following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted.

971. Churchyard and Gardens of Rest: Members referred to the Officers report and following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted

972. Plant and Equipment: Members referred to the Officers report. The Officer went on to say that the trailed gang mowers were currently undergoing a complete overhaul. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report and additional information be noted.

973. **Allotment Sites:** Members referred to the Officers report. The Officer went on to say that as a result of plots becoming vacant the waiting list had been reduced. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report and additional information be noted.

974. **Town Mead Sports & Social Club:** Members referred to the Officers report and the Town Clerk went on to say that the Club would be closed for refurbishment with effect from the 31st March. The Chairman referred to income not reaching the estimated figure and the Officers suggested this was in some part due to a reduction in multi-use games area bookings. Following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Officers investigate the reduction in multi-use games area bookings through consultation with current and past bookers and report to the next meeting of the Leisure and Community Committee and
(b) subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

975. **Cornmill Suite:** Members referred to the Officers report and it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

976. **In-House Promotions:** Members referred to the Officers report and it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

977. **Waltham Abbey in Bloom:** Members referred to the Officers report. The Chairman went on to say that he had recently presented last year's trophy to Waltham Holy Cross Infants School. During discussion with the Head Teacher it had been suggested that this year's school prize be the creation by the Town Council of an allotment plot on the winning school site. The Chairman also suggested that this year should include an additional category "Nominate a Neighbour". It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Council create an allotment plot on the 2009 winning school site,
(b) a "Nominate a Neighbour" category be included and
(c) subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

978. **Christmas Lights and Cavalcade of Light:** Members referred to the Officers report and the Chairman expressed concern at the reported cost of hiring a platform lift. Following a full discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Officers investigate the cost of replacing the maintenance van with a van with an integral platform lift and report to the next meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee,

- (b) the Town Promotions Committee to investigate the overall cost of this project and
- (c) subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

979. **Retail Market:** Members referred to the Market Manager's report and discussed generally proposals for the re-launch of the Market, particularly the forms of entertainment and it was moved by the Chairman and

- RESOLVED – THAT (a) Saturday re-launch to include Crocodile Style, Erato Choir and a Brass Band
- (b) Tuesday to be a brass band only,
- (c) Cllr. Pryor will approach publicans in the Market Square for the provision of refreshments and
- (d) subject to the above the Officers report be noted.

980. **Waltham Abbey Town Partnership:** It was moved by the Chairman and

- RESOLVED – THAT Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd January 2008 be noted.

981. **Tourism Marketing Strategy Working Group:** It was moved by the Chairman and

- RESOLVED – THAT Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th January 2008 be noted.

982. **Epping Forest CDRP Joint Action Group:** It was moved by the Chairman and

- RESOLVED – THAT Minutes of the Joint Action Group Meetings held on 15th January, 5th February, 19th February and 7th March 2008 be noted.

983. **Neighbourhood Action Panel:** It was moved by the Chairman and

- RESOLVED – THAT Minutes of the Neighbourhood Action Panel Meetings held on 9th January and 13th February 2008 be noted.

984. **King George V Playing Fields:** Members referred to the Officers report in respect of discussions with Epping Forest District Council regarding the ongoing ownership/management of King George V Playing Fields. Following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

- RESOLVED – THAT the Town Clerk apply to Epping Forest District Council for the transfer of the freehold of the parcel of land known as King George V Playing Fields.

985. **Status List:** Members referred to the Leisure and Community Committee Status List making particular reference to the Cemetery extension. The Recreation and Amenities Manager advised that he had received three estimates for this work however there was a vast disparity between the lowest and the highest. He went on to explain what work was required and following a full discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Recreation and Amenities Manager prepare a Specification of Works to prepare the site for grass seeding and ask the contractors to re-submit their estimate.

It was further moved by Cllr. Pryor, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT in future a Specification of Works be prepared for all major projects.

It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the above the Status List be noted.

986. **Footpath at Southweald Drive:** Cllr. Clark informed Members that he had received correspondence from a resident in his Ward referring to issues in respect of their property which was adjacent to a public footpath in Southweald Drive. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT Cllr. Clark refer this matter to Epping Forest District Council and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Panel.

987. **Cemetery Boundary Wall:** The Recreation and Amenities Manager reported continuing vandalism to the Cemetery wall adjacent to the public footpath between Sewardstone Road and Brooker Road. Cllr. Pryor advised that he had discussed this situation with Essex Training Centre who had agreed to repair the damage. Following further discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Town Clerk write to the Directors of the Essex Training Centre expressing the Council's concerns.

988. **Hillhouse Square:** Cllr. Clark advised Members that paving in the Hillhouse Square was being vandalised with youths lifting and removing paving slabs. The Chairman also referred to graffiti around the Ninefields Community Centre area. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT these matters be referred to Epping Forest District Council.

989. **Sponsored Walk – Town Mead Leisure Park:** Members referred to a request from the Redbridge, Epping and Harlow Crossroads – Carers, requesting permission to hold a sponsored walk around Town Mead Leisure Park on Saturday 10th May 2008. The Chairman noted that this coincided with the re-launch of the Market and they might wish to start the sponsored walk in the Market Square. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Redbridge, Epping and Harlow Crossroads – Carers be allowed to hold a sponsored walk at Town Mead Leisure Park on the 10th May and they be invited to commence the walk in the Market Square.

990. **King Harold Costume:** The Chairman referred to the possibility of purchasing a King Harold costume which could be worn on special occasions such as King Harold Day, the Cavalcade of Light etc. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the cost of this item be reported to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.

S.C. PRYDE - CHAIRMAN