

LEISURE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

3rd JULY 2008

- * Cllr. Mrs. R. Gadsby (Chairman)
- * Cllr. S.C. Pryde (Deputy Chairman)
- Cllr. Mrs. P.C. Brooks
- * Cllr. A.B. Clark
- * Cllr. J.F. Collier
- * Cllr. W. J. Pryor
- * Cllr. Mrs. E.A. Webster
- * Cllr. A.P. Watts

* Denotes Members Present.

In attendance: Town Clerk, Senior Assistant to Town Clerk and Recreation and Amenities Manager.

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

100. **Declarations of Interest:**

Member	Item	Interest	Reason	Action
Cllr. Mrs. Gadsby	Golf Driving Range	Personal	Spouse of the principal of Council's Solicitor	Remained

101. **Minutes:** RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th March 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.

102. **Epping Forest Arts:** The Town Clerk informed Members that this item had been withdrawn as the project was now not going ahead. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

103. **Public Questions:** There were no public questions.

104. **Footpath Matters:** Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou referred to the Footpath from Denny Avenue through to Elm Close and the Town Clerk confirmed that details had been forwarded to Essex County Council for remedial works which had now been scheduled.

Cllr. Pryde referred to the footpath from Sewardstone Road through to Brooker Road adjacent to the cemetery and suggested that in view of the infrequent use the Council consider applying for a Footpath Extinguishment Order. Cllr. Pryde went on to say that he believed this would reduce or stop the vandalism to the cemetery boundary wall and fence. Cllr. Pryor was of the opinion that as this footpath was still used the Council should endeavour to control the vandalism rather than close the footpath.

Cllr. Mrs. Webster advised that the Council would need an extremely strong case to achieve closure and would have to go to public consultation. Following further discussion it was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT a) the Officers carryout a public consultation exercise in respect of the possible closure of Public Footpath 105 from Sewardstone Road to Brooker Road and
b) the additional information be noted.

105. **Essex County Council 2008/09 Programme for Public Rights of Way:** Members noted correspondence from Essex County Highways setting out details of their rolling programme of Works for Public Rights of Way. It was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Webster, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

106. **Town Mead Leisure Park:** Members referred to the Officers report in respect of the Town Mead Leisure Park noting that football pitches were being prepared for the coming season and that the car park adjacent to the Sports and Social Club was to be remarked. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

Cllr. Pryde referred to the recent Town Show held at Town Mead Leisure Park and thanked the Recreation and Amenities Manager and Parks Staff for their efforts in preparing the Leisure Park for this event. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT these comments be noted.

107. **Larsen Recreation Ground:** Members referred to the Officers report and Cllr. Pryde asked if provision had been made in the Capital Budget for a Bowling Green Irrigation System. The Recreation and Amenities Manager confirmed that provision had been made. Cllr. Pryde referred to the lack of accessibility for the public to use the tennis courts at Larsen Recreation Ground. Cllr. Pryde went on to say that the Tennis Club Management Committee had agreed that the Club would administer the Public Court but this did not seem to be working effectively. It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the matter of use of the public tennis court be discussed further with the Tennis Club and
(b) subject to the above the report be noted.

108. **Ninefields Recreation Ground:** Members referred to the Officers report noting that the two football pitches were being prepared for the coming season. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

109. **King George V Playing Fields/Lodge Lane Recreation Area:** Members referred to the Officers report noting that clearance work was to be carried out to the perimeter of the park. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Officers report be noted.

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

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

111. **Cemetery:** Members referred to the Officers report making particular reference to the grass cutting and general maintenance procedures. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

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

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

113. **Plant and Equipment:** Members referred to the Officers report. The Recreation and Amenities Manager went on to give further information regarding maintenance of the gang mowers. It was moved by the Chairman and

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

114. **Allotment Sites:** Members referred to the Officers report noting that Notices to Quit had been served on the tenants of un-worked plots. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the report be noted.

115. **Appreciation:** The Town Clerk circulated a copy of a letter of appreciation from a local resident for the exemplory way in which the cemetery operative had dealt with an interment. The Town Clerk confirmed that a copy of the letter had been given to the employee. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the correspondence be noted.

116. **Use of Ninefields Sports Pitches:** Members noted a request from the Young Persons Officer at Epping Forest District Council to use the sports pitches at Ninefields on 13th, 20th and 29th August for proposed Multi-Agency Youth visits. It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to there being no football bookings the request be approved.

117. **ECC Youth Community Initiatives Fund:** Members noted email correspondence to County Councillor Mrs. Webster in respect of the Youth Community Initiatives Fund. Cllr. Mrs. Webster went on to suggest that the Council should consider applying direct to Essex County Council for funding towards Youth Initiatives. The Senior Assistant advised that he had contacted Essex County Council and the EFDC Youth Officers and

they had agreed that we could continue our consultation process using the youth bus facility. Following further discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the information be noted and
(b) the Officers continue to investigate funding.

118. **Town Mead Sports and Social Club:** Members referred to the Officers report and Cllr. Pryde went on to say that at the next meeting of the Bars Committee Members would be discussing promotional activities for the new facility. It was moved by the Chairman and

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

119. **Cornmill Suite:** Members referred to the Officers report noting the level of bookings for the current periods. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

120. **In-House Promotions:** Members referred to the Officers report noting that the Tea Dances continued to attract limited numbers. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

121. **Waltham Abbey in Bloom:** The Recreation and Amenities Manager advised Members that thirty entries had now been received including three schools however no business entries had been received this year. Preliminary judging would take place during July with the final judging in August. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

122. **Christmas Lights and Cavalcade of Light:** Members discussed the theme for this year's parade. Cllr. Clark asked if the Christmas tree could be replaced in the middle of the Market Square. Cllr. Pryde explained why this had not been in place in recent years. Following further discussion it was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the parade this year would not have a specific theme and
(b) the question of a Christmas tree in Market Square be referred to the next meeting of the Town Promotions Sub-Committee.

123. **Retail Market:** Members referred to the Officers report. Cllr. Pryde referred to the loss of stall covers and suggested this should be under the control of the Market Manager. Following a full discussion it was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the Market Manager be instructed to obtain details of hirers in order to record who has market stall covers and

(b) a full procedure for the issue of market stalls and covers be written in conjunction with the Market Manager and reported to a future meeting of this Committee.

124. **Waltham Abbey Town Partnership:** Members referred to Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st April 2008. Cllr. Watts referred to the note in the Minutes stating that information regarding the statue was to be kept out of the public domain. Cllr. Watts also queried the grant being considered for Lea Valley Church. Cllr. Pryde advised Members that he had offered Town Mead Suite for the next Business for Breakfast and suggested that the Town Council should provide the catering free of charge. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st April 2008 together with the additional information be noted.

125. **EFDC Draft General Protocol:** Members referred to a copy of the Draft General Protocol between Epping Forest District Council and the District's six Town Centre Partnerships. Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou was of the opinion that the Partnership's protocol overlapped that of the Neighbourhood Action Panels and Epping Forest District Council should be advised. Following a full discussion it was moved by Cllr. Mrs. Stavrou, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT Epping Forest District Council be advised that the Draft Protocol be investigated in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Action Panels in order to obtain clear lines of demarcation between the two groups.

126. **Tourism Marketing Strategy Working Group:** The Town Clerk advised Members that the Group had not met since January 2008. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT this information be noted.

127. **Epping Forest CDRP Joint Action Group:** Members referred to the Minutes of the Joint Action Group Meetings held on 25th March, 8th April, 22nd April and 13th May 2008. It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes of the Joint Action Group as listed be noted.

128. **Neighbourhood Action Panel:** Members referred to the Minutes of the Neighbourhood Action Panel Meeting held on 12th March 2008. It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes of the Neighbourhood Action Panel as listed be noted.

129. **Plaza Nights:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT this item be referred to the next meeting of the Town Promotions Sub-Committee.

130. **Status List:** Members referred to the Status List. The Recreation and Amenities Manager reported that he had now had a meeting with Thames Water and he gave details of the proposed contract for the installation of rising mains on Town Mead, Thames Water propose that the work should start towards the end of August. Members were concerned at the impact on the construction of the proposed golf driving range and it was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT (a) the proposed temporary haul road be re-routed in order to relieve impact on the driving range development and
(b) the Officers investigate compensation in respect of loss of revenue.

It was further moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED - THAT the Officers discuss the situation with the Council's legal advisers.

MRS. R. GADSBY - CHAIRMAN

