

Minutes of the Meeting of the Operations Committee Held on Wednesday April 21st 2010 at 10.00am in the Community Office

Present:
Councillors: Roger Beattie- Chairman
Barry Adby
Tony Williamson
Linda Nicholson
Neil Boddington (later)

Officer: Sarah Pullen

Members of the Public: 1

21/10 Apologies for Absence
Ted Backhouse, David Shannon, Angie Paterson.

22/10 Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th February 2010 were accepted by Council on the 9/3/2010
Resolved: That these minutes are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

23/10 Declarations of Interest
There were none.

24/10 Matters arising
There are no matters arising.

25/10 Outstanding Issues
Metal Bollards – church path – we now have the paint and will schedule the work to be done in good weather.

Parking Ticket Machine - This machine is currently in a Councillor's garage. Need to decide to either throw away or return to SODC. Agreed to refer this to the Strategy Committee.

Redo markings in the Car Park – The Clerk to obtain quotes.

26/10 Property

Public Conveniences – Neil Campbell has been asked to carry out the work as previously agreed as there is no asbestos present.

Community Office – Electric and water billing is now sorted.

Car Park – Tony Williamson has drafted a sign showing alternative parking in the Pavilion and Church Hall car parks. We will need to put a map with it. It will be located on the post as you enter the car park (laminated and mounted to a board). Operation of this scheme should start after the 7th May as the Pavilion car park has been booked for the BBC. It was suggested that we ask each business to put an A5 version in all the shop windows.

The office is designing a map with photos/arrows to each business that has contributed toward the car park costs. This should be drafted within the next few weeks.

We continue to enforce the 2 hour parking. We will also request office and shop workers to park in the Pavilion and Church Hall car parks. Tony Williamson is happy to take leaflets around to all the businesses.

Rate Relief for Car Park (letter 434)

It was noted that the rateable value has gone up. We are not entitled to relief at present. The issue is whether this is our only commercial property. The Public Conveniences is the only other property listed. It is thought that the Pavilion does not come into this category. The Community Office is not on the list.

Resolved: That the Clerk investigate this issue and it is then referred to the Strategy Committee.

27/10 Open Spaces

Recreation Ground

Fitness equipment - This is being installed week commencing 17th May and will take 2 days to complete. If it has to be delivered before installation date it can be stored in the changing rooms of the Pavilion. When it arrives the football posts will need moving. To move will cost approx £350. The white kick board – fittings not satisfactory and we need to speak to Playdales to take back as not fit for purpose. RB to talk to RW regarding this. We have also asked Playdale for change of times to 9.00am – 9.00pm (i Play).

Hire of Pavilion and Recreation Ground - The BBC are hiring the Pavilion and Recreation ground from May 3rd at 7.00pm. They are using the Pavilion as a canteen and require additional parking for 25 cars. On the Bank Holiday the car park will need to be closed from 9pm. Signs will be erected.

Cleaning of Recreation Ground during the Summer Months – last year there was a problem with wasps. Would like to make sure that the bins are emptied on Friday afternoons and again on Monday mornings.

Trees on the border of Lampits Close. Martin Gammie came out to discuss siting and suggested in the Autumn some pruning required. The Clerk to ask for a specification from our Tree Warden with a view to get pricing for the work to be carried out in the Autumn.

28/10 Correspondence

1. Lil Roe – SODC – organisation of sessions for new fitness equipment and possibility of other sessions at the recreation ground – **It was thought that this would be a very good idea and will try to schedule these in for early June.**
2. OPFA – Questionnaire – **This was completed.**
3. Kate Chown – Request for dog bin (424 attached) – **It was agreed that more information was needed on this. Would it be on private land or SOHA land? It was agreed that this be an agenda item for the next meeting.**
4. SODC – Dog Bin Invoice- **These have now been re-issued.**
5. Grundon – Changes to Waste Wheeler invoicing - **Noted**
6. Thames Valley Police – Community Policing Awards (414 attached)- deadline has passed.
7. Energy Saving Trust – asking us to join green communities (412 attached)-**Noted.**
8. Jo Tribe – re dog fouling signs (407 attached) – **No Dogs in the Paddock - Agreed to refer this to the Strategy Committee.**
9. Article on potholes – **It was noted that there is now a new OCC Contractor in place who took the contract over on 1/4/2010. They are now trying to catch up.**

29/10 General Issues

White gates at entrances to the town – Refurbishment and painting of these gates(was discussed in Strategy previously)

Barry Adby has looked at all the gates – not much structural work required. Shirburn Road has some reparable damage. Britwell Road needs fixing. Christmas Common needs replacing. Need to get quote again for paint and repair. Roger Beattie has obtained a price for gates which cannot be repaired. Do we need them? We are waiting for Robert Barber to feed back about Christmas Common. The gate outside the care home doesn't seem to serve a purpose. In general they are in a pretty good condition. Agreed to defer for 1 month to get pricing for cleaning and painting. Request for list of gates with comments for quotation.

Tubs/Planters in the Town - Toad Hall have large range. KT has suggested we plant existing and remove broken ones and then get ready for next year Britain in Bloom. Robin Holmes Smith was going to talk to Corian for granite ones.

Spring Clean in Town - list of areas cleaned has been given by Terry Jackson (428)

Dog Bins in Town – Plan was available at the meeting.

30/10 Any Other Business

New Leaf Blower Vacuum. We need to replace our old one which no longer works and is beyond repair.

Resolved: that we purchase a new leaf blower for approximately £230.

Changes in the CRB laws. Should our Watlington Caretaker be CRB checked?

Resolved: That we CRB check our Watlington Caretaker.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 11.00am

