

## MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

### AMENITIES AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities and Open Spaces Committee** held on the 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2009 in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 7.55 pm**

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<b>PRESENT</b>	Councillor B. Castle Councillor Mrs M. Rose Councillor A. Spranger Councillor G. Loosmore Councillor S. Radnedge Councillor R. Pitts	Chairman
<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Mr. Liam Costello Mrs Sue Fry  Councillor S.R. Dobson Councillor Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson Councillor A. Kirk Wilson	Town Clerk Office Manager  Observing Observing Observing

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**NOTICE OF MEETING – Public Notice of the meeting has been given in accordance with Schedule 12, para 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972**

**438/09 APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from The Mayor, Councillor N. Fogg.

**439/09 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST**

There were no Declaration(s) of Interest.

**440/09 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Further to the publication of the Agenda a meeting was held at the Cemetery between the Town Clerk, Jim Ward and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee. The following items will be brought forward to a future meeting in 2010.

The Cemetery extension is now being actioned, this should satisfy demand for graves until 2015.

We are receiving ever more applications for trees to be planted in the Cemetery 'in memoriam'. Items 5 on the agenda refers. Locations have now been identified for the two requests that we have received, but it is a fact of nature that tree roots and grave spaces are not good for each other.

We should perhaps be thinking laterally and considering the development of a small 'In Remembrance' copse adjacent to the Cemetery.

The entrance and parking to our Cemetery is suffering from the pressure of car wheels particularly during wet weather. I would like us to consider a re-ordering of the entrance area, making it easier for more cars to access the site, without destroying the natural harmony that is still there. It may be possible to join this challenge with the 'In Remembrance' copse to make it a worthwhile landscape project.

Permission is necessary from the Council to proceed with one of the two quotations received for the removal of the large mound or bund that is necessary to open the extension of the Cemetery. These quotations will be put before the Full Town Council for action on the 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.

**441/09 SALISBURY ROAD RECREATION GROUND**

a) To receive an update on proposals for floodlighting on the recreation ground.

Councillor Pitts reported that we are still waiting for an update from the youth group.

b) To receive an update on Phase I of the Salisbury Road Rec Project and quotation for additional equipment

Councillor Pitts reported that Wicksteed had been awarded the contract for Phase 1 at the Recreation Ground by Wiltshire Council. A quotation has been received from Wicksteed, which is a special offer for a metal picnic table and a seat if order as part of your main order.

Proposed by Councillor R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore and –

**RECOMMENDED:** unanimously that we order these two products and that they are sited in the middle of the Phase 1 project.

c) Councillor Pitts reported that Maverick Industries will commence work on this project in January.

The Chairman, Councillor B. Castle congratulated Councillor Pitts on all his hard work for these projects.

**442/09 CEMETERY**

- a) Request to plant Silver Birch Tree
- b) Request to plant tree in Marlborough Cemetery.

The Committee considered the above two requests.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor R. Pitts, seconded by A. Spranger and –

**RECOMMENDED:** unanimously that these requests be granted but that the

Committee reserve the right to locate the trees where deemed appropriate. The Committee will meet in the New Year to identify possible sites and the Town Clerk will put together a policy to be presented to the next Committee meeting.

**443/09 CHURCHILL COURT**

a) To consider appointment of Land Surveyor for Churchill Court site.

The Committee discussed appointing a Land Survey to survey the riverside walk site.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor S. Radnedge, seconded by Councillor A. Spranger and –

**RECOMMENDED:** unanimously that we agree in principal to the appointment of a Land Survey but that the Town Clerk obtain two additional quotes for this work. When the work is carried out the Council will require a copy of the report in a digital form and that we retain the copyright.

b) Application to fell 3 x Italian Alder Trees

The Committee discussed making an application to fell 3 Italian Alder trees.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor A. Spranger, seconded by Councillor Mrs M. Rose and –

**RECOMMENDED:** unanimously that an application is made to fell these trees but that replacements are planted in a more suitable location.

**444/09 STONEBRIDGE LANE ALLOTMENT SITE**

The Committee discussed carrying out a site survey for the proposed new allotment site at Stonebridge Lane.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor S. Radnedge, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore and –

**RECOMMENDED:** unanimously that we agree in principle to having a site survey carried out but that we obtain additional quotations for this work.

**445/09 TREE SURVEY**

The Committee considered the updated tree survey.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor A. Spranger and –

**RECOMMENDED:** unanimously that all works highlighted as priority 1 be actioned immediately.

**446/09**

**TIN PIT**

a) Consider terms of lease of part of Tin Pit site.

The Committee discussed terms of lease for part of the Tin Pit site.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor A. Spranger and –

**RECOMMENDED:** unanimously that a lease be offered, the annual rent be set at £100 per annum, all legal costs be met by the applicant, if the applicant sells his property then the lease returns immediately to the Council and that improvements proposed by the applicant are listed and approved by the Council.

b) Consider installation of a Kissing Gate to open up access to site.

The Committee considered installing a Kissing Gate to open up access to the site at Tin Pit.

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor and –

**RECOMMENDED:** by 5 votes for with 1 abstention that a Kissing Gate be installed in April when the present tenancy ends.

The Chairman left the meeting at 9.15 pm and the Vice Chairman then took the Chair.

**447/09**

**COOPERS MEADOW**

a) Update on planning application for Interpretative Board signs.

The Committee were informed that an application is in progress for the Interpretative Board signs at Coopers Meadows.

b) Benches/Bins

The Town Clerk informed members that the siting of the wooden bench would be

rectified in the New Year. The bins that were ordered have arrived and will be put in place in the New Year, we need to investigate the original proposal as to the type of bin that was agreed on.

**448/09 RICHMOND FELLOWSHIP**

The Committee received a report from the Richmond Fellowship. It was agreed unanimously that they should be thanked for all the work that has been carried out.

**449/09 RUGBY CLUB**

The Committee gave consideration to carrying out a rent review in accordance with the terms of the lease.

After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor S. Radnedge and –

**RECOMMENDED:** unanimously that we get a professional valuation for a 'fair rent' on these premises and a measurement as to the area of land in question. It was agreed that the F & P Committee along with the A & OS Committee compile a policy for future reference on the valuation and rents on various properties.

**450/09 BUDGET**

The Committee considered items for inclusion in the 2010/2011 budget.

Proposed by Councillor R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor A. Spranger and -

**RECOMMENDED:** unanimously that the following figures for the 2010/2011 budget should be considered –

Cemetery Car Park and Entrance	10,000
Allotments Stonebridge Lane	5,000
High Street Planters	3,000

It was agreed that the project at Churchill Court should be placed on hold at the present time.

**451/09 CEMETERY – for information.**

- a) Exclusive Right of Burial/Notice of Internment
- b) Memorial Inscriptions/Additional Inscription

The above information was noted.

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The meeting ended at 9.50 pm