



© 2009

SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL

Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee

Councillor L J Bobby (Chairman)
Councillor K G Basson (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Ms L M Hall
Councillor Mrs J M Harman
Councillor P M Harman
Councillor Mrs A R Harvey
Councillor J A Hayes
Councillor B R Parry
Councillor B E Read
Councillor P A Read
Councillor P J Scanlan
Vacant Position

To all other Councillors: For information only

A Meeting of the above Committee will be held on

Thursday 27 June 2013 at 7.00pm

at: The Council Offices, The Grove, Swanscombe, Kent, DA10 0GA.

Graham Blew
Town Clerk

Dated: 20 June 2013

AGENDA

1. To receive Apologies for Absence.
2. Substitutes.
3. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda.

At the Chairman's discretion the meeting will be adjourned at this point to accept questions from the public.

4. Items as Deemed Urgent by the Chairman / matters arising from previous minutes and their position on the Agenda (for discussion/information only, not for decision).
5. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 April 2013 (*Town Council 24 April 2013*).

6. SENIOR GROUNDSMAN/GARDENER'S REPORT.

Please see the attached report.

Recommended: To discuss and advise accordingly.

7. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

7.1 ANNUAL SAFETY INSPECTION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.

Please find attached the results of the Annual Playground Safety Inspection. The Town Clerk has gone through the report with the Senior Groundsman/Gardener and added comments where appropriate.

To help reduce the costs of some of the issues raised the Senior Groundsman/Gardener has agreed to arrange for a lot of the labour / manual element of the works to be undertaken "in-house". Items that are unable to be completed this way will need to be carried out by the contractor, the cost of which is a budgeted expense; a full breakdown of this has been included with the report.

- * *It should be noted that the contents of the annual inspection report have significantly decreased over recent years and that this is due to the investment the council have made in this area and also the amount of remedial work undertaken by the council's parks department.*

Recommended:

- 1 To note the Annual Playground Safety Inspection Report and approve the actions/items, as indicated in the report (yellow) to be carried out.
- 2 To include the items as indicated in the report (pink) in the budget process for 2014 – 2015 = Manor Park £1,082.66.

7.2 FOOTBALL PITCH ALLOCATION.

Please find attached a copy of the suggested football pitch allocations for the 2013 - 2014 football season. We currently have one Saturday team that has folded (due to lack of interest from players) and one new team that have applied to play on Saturdays.

Swanscombe Tigers FC has approached the Town Council to see if we are able to accommodate additional teams from their club that were using the Knockhall School location. The Senior Groundsman/Gardener has met with the Chairman of Swanscombe Tigers FC and it has been established that we are able to accommodate these teams by locating additional pitches (as indicated). This will obviously have implications on the workload/resources of the Parks Department. The charge for mini-pitch hire is £320.00, as set by the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee, minute 428/12-13, on 7 February 2013. The Club would supply their own goals for these pitches.

Recommended:

- 1 To agree to the location of the additional pitches as indicated.
- 2 To discuss and approve the pitch allocations for 2013 – 2014.

7.3 CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (CAB) – ADVICE SERVICES TRANSITION FUND.

Further to minute 425/12-13 (RLA 7 February 2013) the Town Clerk attended a meeting with the CAB and the other 8 partners involved in this project (*AgeUK NWK, Council for Voluntary Services, NWK Womens Aid, Healthy Living Centre, Dartford Children's Centre (x 7), Stone Parish Council, Dartford Library, Kent Equality Cohesion Council*). At this meeting the CAB informed that the application to the Big Lottery Fund for the Advice Services Transition Fund had been successful.

As is the nature of funding the submission of draft agreements (attached) by the 9 partners was time critical and on behalf of the Town Council (and after this was reported to the 6 June 2013 Finance and General Purposes Committee, attended by the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor and Chairs of the RLA and FGP) the Town Clerk submitted the draft agreement.

The CAB company secretary confirmed that this project would not have any financial implications for the Town Council but would mean that to deliver the outreach service they would require the free use of the confidential room at the Community Café for the duration of the project (2 years): he also confirmed that this would increase from fortnightly to weekly.

Recommended:

- 1 To endorse the actions of the Town Clerk in dealing with this matter to date.

- 2 To agree to the free use of the confidential room at the Community Café by the CAB , for the duration of the project (2 years).

7.4 FUTURE REQUESTS TO USE PART OF BROOMFIELD RECREATION GROUND AS PART OF BOOKINGS AT THE PAVILION.

Now that the Pavilion has re-opened it has become apparent that the Town Council will receive requests to use part of Broomfield Recreation Ground in relation to bookings at the Pavilion (children's parties, fund raising events etc.). The Pavilion has been made aware that any such usage requires the prior written permission from the Town Council.

Members previously delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee, to consider and decide requests regarding the use of the Town Council parks (minute 100, 17 June 2010).

To enable requests to be dealt with promptly members are asked to consider whether they wish to allow the use of bouncy castles as previously described and if so to agree that these must be located in the area indicated on the attached diagram. The relevant condition of hall hire in relation to bouncy castles is attached for information.

Recommended: To discuss and advise accordingly.

7.5 REQUEST TO USE BROOMFIELD RECREATION GROUND FOR CHILDREN'S SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT – DARTFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL (DBC).

Dartford Borough Council has, as in the past, requested the use of Broomfield Recreation Ground to put on a 3 day (29 to 31 July 2013) "Get Going Summer Club" as part of the Summer Sizzlers Children's Entertainment. The activities would take place from 9.30am to 12 noon and are for 8-13 year olds (tag rugby, rounders, etc. etc.); these dates do not clash with any of the Town Council's own summer entertainments.

The Town Clerk, in consultation with the chairman of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee, agreed to this request.

Recommended: To endorse the actions of the Town Clerk in agreeing to this request.

7.6 GRAVESHAM COMMUNITY LEISURE LIMITED (GCLL) – REQUEST TO PREPARE BAR AREA FOR FORTHCOMING REFURBISHMENT WORKS.

The Head of Service Delivery, GCLL, recently requested permission to close the bar so that they can make the necessary arrangements to prepare for the forthcoming refurbishment works.

The Town Clerk, in consultation with the chairman of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee, agreed to this request.

Recommended: To endorse the actions of the Town Clerk in agreeing to this request.

7.7 DAMAGE TO OLD TOILET BLOCK ROOF AND CEILING.

Members are aware of the recent damage incurred to the Old Toilet Block Roof. Attempts have been made to obtain quotations for the installation of an anti-climb system.

Quote A - £1,449.00

Quote B - £2,934.84

Members are asked to consider how they wish to proceed with this matter.

Recommended: To discuss and advise accordingly.

7.8 LAND SECURITIES SURVEY – KEARY ROAD ALLOTMENTS.

Please see the attached report.

Recommended: To discuss and advise accordingly.

7.9 DELEGATION TO CONDUCT NORMAL BUSINESS DURING RECESS PERIOD.

Members are requested to delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in accordance with section 101 (1) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972, to conduct the normal business of the Council during the recess period. The Town Clerk will consult with the Town Mayor and Chairmen of the main committees, if appropriate. If any emergencies do occur during this time the Executive & Emergency Committee would be convened.

Recommended: That, in accordance with section 101 (1) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Town Clerk be delegated authority to conduct the normal business of the Council during the recess period.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE:

- Allotment & Leisure Gardener, Issue 2, 2013.
- Talk of the Thames – Summer 2013
- Wild Kent – The magazine of Kent Wildlife Trust – spring 2013
- Southern Water – Water Resources Management Plan Consultation – May to August 2013.

Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council Website:
<http://www.swanscombeandgreenhithetc.kentparishes.gov.uk/>