

REPORT OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE 8th SEPTEMBER 2009

MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE

Chairman: * Mrs J Worrall

Councillors: * Mr M Green
*Mrs M Hampton
*Mrs A Hayward
* Mrs M Jarrett
* Mr R Kipps
* Mr K Morris
* Mr S Watkins

*Denotes members present
Also in attendance Cllr N Eve

RECOMMENDATION

TO APPOINT A CONTACTOR TO SUPPLY AND FIT THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Clerk advised that two quotations had been received. The Council had agreed a budget of £5150 agreed at full council. Members needed to consider if as the Parish Council were paying for the lights that Main and New Parade should be included in the scheme for the motifs that would hang from the light columns, this would have additional financial implications as the lights would have to be converted. Members also need to consider a colours scheme and choose the motifs. It was agreed that all the lights should be white and therefore it was also agreed that the lights in the trees should be changed from blue to white to match.

The additional cost amounted to £1500 and therefore members suggested that the Clerk apply for a grant from the Herts County Councillor under the Locality Budget, but make recommendation that the Council make up the shortfall if the grant application was unsuccessful.

The Committee

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

That company B be awarded the contract the supply and fit the Christmas Lights for a sum of £6100 plus the cost of new tree lights in white.

That the Clerk make an application for grant funding to the Herts County Councillor

That the Parish Council agree to make up the shortfall if the grant application was unsuccessful.

This was proposed by Cllr Kipps, seconded by Cllr Watkins and unanimously approved

09/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

09/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

09/12 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Committee

RESOLVED

The minutes of the meeting dated 16^h June 2009 were approved as a true and correct record.

09/13 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

09/14 FINANCIAL COMPARISON STATEMENT 2009/10

Cllr Kipps asked about expenditure for late night shopping. The Clerk explained that the Parish Council paid for the Christmas lights and were reimbursed by the Business Association. The invoice for last year's lights had not been paid until this financial year. Cllr Mrs Hayward suggested that there appeared to be a shortfall between income and expenditure. The clerk stated she would investigate.

It is confirmed that an invoice for £274 to the Business Association for the Christmas lights is still outstanding and they have been written to accordingly.

The Committee

RESOLVED

To note the report

09/15 TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF VILLAGE DAY FOR 2010

The Clerk circulated correspondence from the Horticultural Society stating that they were happy for Village Day to remain the same day. Cllr Kipps confirmed that this year both visitors and income were up on previous years. Members felt that it would be a good idea to pursue the idea of transportation between the three venues, the fete, arts centre and flower show in the form of a horse and cart. Cllr Kipps also stated that as the event was getting more popular the Councillors should take a more active role and help at the event. He also stated that the Officer should be more forthcoming asking for help. He said he hoped that as the date was to be agreed this evening all councillors would have the date in their dairies for next year.

The Committee

RESOLVED

That the date for Village Day remains the second Saturday in July.

Those officers try to organise a form of transportation between the venues

This was proposed by Cllr Kipps, seconded by Cllr Morris and unanimously approved.

The Clerk advised that there had been issues with the use of the Cricket Club permissive parking area. The Cricket Club had been advised that there would be no parking in the area from 11.30am until 4.00 for health and safety reasons, as in previous years the route had been blocked for emergency vehicles. It was agreed that the Cricket Club would be allowed a certain area and the rest of the available space would be set aside for disabled visitors.

This unfortunately had not worked resulting in a number of altercations with members from the Cricket Club demanding parking spaces and on one occasion blocking the emergency exit and refusing to move. The Clerk advised that the staff were not able to police the area and therefore an alternative solution would have to be made.

The Chairman stated that this was serious enough to defer the decision to the next meeting, however Cllr Eve stated that due to the partiality ruling the area would have to be open to all or closed to all and therefore he felt that the council only had one choice.

The Committee

RESOLVED

That the Cricket Club permissive parking area, be closed for parking to all vehicles at next year's village day.

That the Clerk writes to the Cricket Club accordingly.

This was proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded by Cllr Watkins and carried four in favour with 3 abstentions.

09/16 TO APPOINT A CONTACTOR TO SUPPLY AND FIT THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

See Recommendation 1

09/17 GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Committee

RESOLVED

That the Council have no objections to the policy

That the Clerk writes to TRDC accordingly thanking them for the opportunity to comment and the reasonable consultation time

09/18 OFFICE COVER WHILST THE CLERK IS AWAY

The Clerk drew Members attention to the 7th paragraph regarding the budget setting process and encouraged all committee chairmen to actively consider their requirements for the next financial year as there would be insufficient time to do the preparatory work in time to set the precept after her return.

The Committee

RESOLVED

To note the report and to express thanks to the Clerk of Abbots Langley

09/19 CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.14pm

These minutes have been checked by the Chairman.

Signature..... Date.....

These minutes were agreed as a true and correct record at the Policy & Resources meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Signature Date