

AT A MEETING OF THE DIRECT RESPONSIBILITIES COMMITTEE OF
BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE UPPER HALL, TOWN HALL,
BRACKLEY ON MONDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2007 at 7 pm

Present: The Worshipful the Town Mayor (Councillor P J Broomfield)
Councillors K D Bonner-Dunham (Chairman), C O Cartmell,
K Dixon, J R Hawkins, P Joyce, G Rhys, W B Stimpson and
P H Stocker

Apologies: Councillor P M Titchener

In attendance: Councillors C S Billingham, C J Blunden, D Dunham, T D Hayward
and D Shaw

322. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Stimpson declared a non pecuniary interest in item a) of the Officers Report relating to licensing.

323. PREMISES LICENCE

Reference Minute 304(b)/07, an extract from the licensing application made by Martin McColl Limited was attached to the report. No objections had been raised by the stakeholders consulted and therefore the licence had been concluded and granted. Councillor Stimpson said he would bring this matter to the attention of the relevant Committee at South Northamptonshire Council.

324. THE BARREL LINE

Members were advised that the small parcel of land was no longer required by Bromford Housing Group as the development is to be contained within the area owned by South Northamptonshire Council. (Minute 304/06 refers) Members noted.

325. MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS (APPROVED PREMISES) REGULATIONS 2005

The Town Hall's Certificate of Approval of Premises as a venue for marriages expires on 31st August 2008 and Members views were requested on whether to renew this. Details of the number of ceremonies held over the last three years were contained in the report and two further weddings have already been booked for 2008 prior to the expiration of the licence.

Discussion ensued on whether this should be renewed in view of the low usage but other Members felt that this was a service to the public, as it was set up when the registrar office was closed in the town. Members also felt that if this Certificate was renewed, the fee to the public for the service should be increased to £250.

After much discussion it was

CONTINUATION OF A MEETING OF THE DIRECT RESPONSIBILITIES AND
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD
IN THE UPPER HALL, TOWN HALL, BRACKLEY ON MONDAY 17TH
DECEMBER 2007 at 7 pm

325. MARRIAGES AND CIVIC PARTNERSHIPS Cont'd....

RESOLVED:

That the Certificate be renewed at a cost of £1,650 for three
years and that the fee for weddings/civil partnerships be increased
to £250.
be increased to £250.

326. PLAY AREAS

Members were advised that there had been a very successful meeting with Mr Newman from the National Trust and Mr Knight from Sutcliffe Play. Councillor Dixon had suggested that the site for the small equipment could be raised by 5/6" by covering the ground with hardcore thus protecting the foundations underneath. The site for the large equipment could be looked at later. Mr Newman agreed that this could be an acceptable solution and it was hoped that the work could be started in March with a possible opening date in May. A planning application and archaeological survey for the large equipment would have to be looked at after the installation of the small equipment.

Details of the costings for the small equipment were given to Members and the Town Clerk was asked to check whether the cost of the raising of the groundworks was included in the price.

After much discussion it was

RESOLVED:

To proceed with the installation of the small play equipment

To defer the installation of the large equipment until after the
work on the small equipment had been completed.

Councillor Billingham suggested writing to the National Trust to ascertain what would happen to the Park if the Town Council were no longer taking responsibility for it. The Town Mayor said he agreed with this comment but would not be happy for this letter to be sent at the present time.

CONTINUATION OF A MEETING OF THE DIRECT RESPONSIBILITIES AND
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD
IN THE UPPER HALL, TOWN HALL, BRACKLEY ON MONDAY 17TH
DECEMBER 2007 at 7 pm

327. ST JAMES LAKE

A quotation from Complete Ground Management for the works required to the path around the Lake was attached to the Agenda for Members consideration. The Chairman commented that the work needed to be undertaken fairly soon and she proposed that this goes ahead. Councillor Joyce said that complaints had been received by the working party and Councillor Dunham reminded Members that comments had been made at the Council's public question time. Councillor Cartmell said that if there was money in the budget for this work it might as well be undertaken. It was therefore

RESOLVED:

That the work be undertaken by Complete Ground Management
at a cost of £895.00 plus VAT

328. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from this Meeting during
the discussion on matters relating to grass cutting, as publicity
would be prejudicial to the public by nature of the business to be
transacted.

329. GRASS CUTTING

Further to Minutes 242/07 and 283/07 details were given to Members in a confidential report on the tenders received for the grass cutting for 2008. After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

That the decision to award the contract to Complete Ground
Management for a period of one year be ratified.

That in six months time work commence on re-tendering the
grass cutting for a three year term.

Meeting closed at 7.40 pm

Chairman