

AT A MEETING OF THE DIRECT RESPONSIBILITIES AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE UPPER HALL, TOWN HALL, BRACKLEY ON MONDAY 15TH MARCH 2010 at 7 pm

Present: Councillors C J Blunden, K D Bonner-Dunham, P J Broomfield, K Dixon, P Joyce (Chairman) G Rhys, L D Ross, W B Stimpson and P H Stocker

Apologies: The Worshipful the Town Mayor (Councillor Caryl Billingham) and Councillor P M Titchener

In attendance: Councillors C O Cartmell, D Dunham and T D Hayward

525. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

526. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Denis Ryce, Swift Way, asked the Council to give serious consideration to the proposals for provision of play equipment on the Swift Way site. The majority of residents were not in favour of the project and it was felt that there would be little benefit compared to the substantial cost and also the effect it would have on the quality of life for the residents surrounding the proposed area.

Mr Julian Chronicle, Robin Ride, asked what guidelines the Council was working to when considering the provision of play equipment. Councillor Bonner-Dunham said the guidelines were in line with the government strategy. Mr Chronicle commented that most of the current facilities were centred around the Humphries Drive area so this meant that they were not meeting the play strategy at all.

527. PLAY SPACE WORKING PARTY

Councillor Joyce said the working party had not met to consider the results from the consultation and the input from the annual town meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for 22nd March and a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Direct Responsibilities Committee on 26th April 2010. Councillor Stimpson commented that finding something suitable for the youngsters in the town had been a problem for some time and he suggested that perhaps the £40,000 could be put towards a 'Drop in Centre'.

Councillor Joyce advised Members that Councillor Bonner-Dunham had resigned as Chairman of the Play Space Working Party and he thanked her for all her hard work. Councillor Ross had been appointed to take on the Chairmanship.

528. ST JAMES LAKE WORKING PARTY

The minutes from the meeting held on 16th February 2010 were attached to the Agenda. It was

RESOLVED:

That these be accepted.

CONTINUATION OF A MEETING OF THE DIRECT RESPONSIBILITIES & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE UPPER HALL, TOWN HALL, BRACKLEY ON MONDAY 15TH MARCH 2010 at 7 pm

529. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Further to Minute 418/10 Members were asked to consider appointing T L Electrical to erect and maintain the Christmas Lights in the town for 2010. Councillor Bonner-Dunham said that there had already been long discussions about this and the company was local and gave good service. She was therefore happy to support the proposal and this was agreed by the majority of Members. It was therefore

RESOLVED:

That T L Electrical be appointed to erect and maintain the Christmas Lights in the town for 2010.

530. WAR MEMORIAL

Reference Minute 473/10 further details were given in the report attached to the agenda about the costings for the provision of two coping stones each side of the gate. Six further corners were required to complete the whole area and a decision had been made to replace just two stones this year, which had been ordered, to ensure the project was completed by the end of April.

Councillor Stimpson expressed some concern that ranks were shown against names and he asked that this be borne in mind for future inscriptions. Councillor Bonner-Dunham said this was totally out of the Council's hands as there were strict guidelines from the war memorial office.

Councillor Bonner-Dunham said she was concerned that only two stones would be installed and Councillor Broomfield questioned how these would be fixed and whether they could be levered off. He felt that they would be more secure if they were all done. Councillor Blunden also felt it would be more beneficial and better value for money if they were all done at the same time. It was therefore suggested that money be taken out of reserves. After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

That the Town Mayor and Chairman liaise with Councillor Broomfield to make the final decision.

That the costs be met from Council reserves.

531. INFORMATION REPORT

Northamptonshire County Council – Letter concerning the revival of the Tree Warden Scheme.

Meeting closed at 7.20 pm

Chairman