



AMENITIES & LEISURE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Amenities & Leisure Committee, held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Radstock Lane, Earley, Reading at 7.45pm on Wednesday 5th December 2018.

Present

Chairman - Councillor L Chambers

Councillors A Bradley, D Chopping (from 8.00pm), P Dunn, S Matthews (left at 8.45pm) and B Wedge.

In attendance: Jo Friend (Town Clerk), Jo Shaw (Deputy Town Clerk), Stewart Walton (Facilities Manager), Debbie Faris (Hall Booking Assistant) and Councillor J Rance JP (left at 8.50pm).

41. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L Blumenthal, N Brock, T Chambers and M De Jong,

42. ESTIMATES

Consideration was given to whether there were any major projects which this Committee would wish to undertake in the 2019/2020 financial year, in order that the Town Clerk could ensure adequate provision is made in the Estimates for that period. Further, to consider future projects for the following financial year, as part of the three year financial planning.

RECOMMENDED that provision be made in the 2019/20 Draft Capital Budget for the following -

Allotments	- Renew Water Butts & Pipework
Radstock Lane Community Centre	- Renew Front Door/Emergency Exits x2 - Renew internal fire door & Door to Main Hall
Maiden Place Community Centre	- Renew interior doors x2 - Upgrade air conditioning system
Silverdale	- Replace Boiler - Refurbish flat roof - Replace exterior cladding - Upgrade lighting/ceilings
Maiden Erlegh Lake Nature Reserve	- Lighting for night work at dam - Pathways (rolling programme) - Signage
Sol Joel Park	- Car park extension (x15) - Earmark reserves (toward upper floor)

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Laurel Park Pavilion | - Mains water-fed shower/toilet |
| Maintenance | - Transit Tipper |
| Cemetery | - Extension to burial/cremated remains sections, including excavation, road, planting & signage |

The Facilities Manager will prioritise these recommendations before they are presented for consideration to the Budget Working Party on 23rd January 2019.

43. FEES & CHARGES REVIEW

43.1 Current Charges

Consideration was given to any necessary amendments to the fees for 2019/20 as follows:

43.1.1 Hall Hire Fees

The Hall Bookings Assistant presented her suggestions to Council. Following discussion, Councillors

RECOMMENDED

1. Hall hire fees be increased by 3%, rounded up to the nearest 50p and a new style charges table be designed and presented to the next meeting of the Amenities & Leisure Committee
2. A Radstock Lane Community Centre ‘Party Package’ rate to be introduced
3. To remove the restriction on holding parties on a Sunday, with effect from 1st April 2019
4. To increase the amount of publicity and advertising of the halls on the Council website

43.1.2 Burial Fees

Following considerable discussion and cost comparisons with other burial authorities, Councillors

RECOMMENDED that the schedule of fees be amended and increased. A revised schedule and further comparisons will be provided to Councillors for consideration at the next Amenities and Leisure Committee meeting.

43.1.3 Allotment Fees

Members were reminded that allotment rental was paid annually at the beginning of the calendar year, therefore any amendments would not apply until January 2020. Councillors

RECOMMENDED that the annual rentals be increased by £1 per annum, as follows :-

All Tenants	3 Pole Plot	£31.00
	4 Pole Plot	£37.00
	6 Pole Plot	£49.00
	8 Pole Plot	£56.00

43.1.4 Fishing Permit Fees

RECOMMENDED that fees be increased by 3%, rounded up to the nearest £1.00 (adult) or 50p (junior).

43.1.5 Sports Pitch and Park Hire Fees

RECOMMENDED that the fees be increased by 3%, rounded up to the nearest £1.00 for adult and 50p for junior.

44. OTHER MATTERS

44.1 Maiden Erlegh Parent & Toddler Group

Following a request for assistance from the parent & toddler group, Councillors

RESOLVED to use discretionary funds to offer a temporary reduction in rent. The situation will be reviewed in 6 months' time.

44.2 Cemetery Administration

It was agreed that no service for cemetery administration would be provided whilst the Council Offices are closed to the public over the festive period, between 24th December 2018 until 9.00am on 2nd January 2019. A statement to this effect to be placed on the Council website and notice boards.

45. TERMINATION OF MEETING

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 9.54pm.