



**SUNNINGHILL & ASCOT  
PARISH COUNCIL**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Leisure & Cultural Committee held at the Parish Council Office, High Street, Ascot, SL5 7JF, on Tuesday 11 July 2017, commencing at 7.00pm

Members Present: A Nehra (Vice Chairman), B Hilton, B Humphreys, P Morris, S Jones, A Sharpe

In attendance: Councillor Charlotte Herring and Elizabeth Yates, Clerk to the Council

**6773 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors Robert Ellison and Spike Humphrey.

**6774 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chairman asked to receive any Declarations of Interest in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct. None were given.

**6775 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 23 May, were approved as a correct record and signed as such.

**6776 THE KINGFISHER HERITAGE LOTTERY PROJECT (BLYTHEWOOD)**

The Clerk and Councillor Pat Morris went through the report that had been previously circulated to Members. It was unanimously agreed by a show of hands that the Parish Council would give support in principle to the Wildlife in Ascot Kingfisher Heritage Lottery Bid. The aim of the bid was to improve the bio-diversity within the Blythewood Nature Reserve and the adjacent Blackmoor/ Ancaster Lodge Pond through dredging the pond and thus improving the quality and habitat for aquatic life and kingfishers. Within the bid the Parish Council's budgeted funds, of up to £10,000 over two years, would be itemised as match funding as a means of giving leverage to the project. Councillor Barbara Hilton questioned the effectiveness of dredging the pond without looking to improve the condition along the length of the stream that feeds into it. Councillor Pat Morris replied that the Wildlife Group were seeking co-operation with all landowners throughout the course of the stream so that a joint approach could be adopted along the 'Green Corridor.'

**6777 THE PAVILION PROJECT**

Councillor Nehra gave feedback from a meeting he had attended with Councillors Peter Deason and Robert Ellison with Mr Paul Ansell of the Anthony Smith Partnership, regarding the Victory Field Pavilion project (further to minute 6742.) A fee bid and proposal had been previously circulated to Parish Councillors from Mr Ansell in advance of the meeting and the committee unanimously agreed, by a show of hands, to recommend the fee bid at the next Parish Council meeting, to be held on 25 July. Discussion followed on the need for and form of public consultation on the project proposals. Following the meeting with Mr Ansell, the Committee Vice-Chairman had drafted a questionnaire in the form of a survey monkey. The committee thought that such a survey could be carried out in parallel to Mr Ansell's work and that such consultation should be further considered at the forthcoming Parish Council meeting. Members felt that the basis for the re-furbished Pavilion had been largely agreed upon as set out within Councillor Deason's latest paper and that the consultation and discussions with existing and potential users of the Pavilion fine tune this. Councillor Charlotte Herring gave feedback from the consultation she had carried out at the Party in the Park stating that the majority of those she spoke suggested having a café at the park and baby changing facilities within the toilets. She had not received many suggestions for using the Pavilion for sport and/or club use. Other Members added that thinking of the 'spare room' as an informal social space for park users, families and dog walkers fitted in with their understanding of the use of the Pavilion, adding their support to one of the original suggestions of having a small kitchen area, as in the Parish Council Office, located within the room.

**6778 THE PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND SITES UPDATE**

The Clerk informed Members that works had started at the allotment site in Cheapside to replace the gates and fencing. The Michael Hunter Allotment Shield had been judged and the Shield presentation was to be held on 21 July. Following a number of inspections Councillor Barbara Hilton had advised certain allotment holders that their plots needed greater attention and the allotment holders had proposed setting up an allotment group to assist with the running of the site.

Further to minute 6743 the Clerk provided a specification and quotation, based upon the use of tegula sets, from the Borough's Term Contractors for the seating area at Brockenhurst Road. This was approved by a show of hands. She went on to inform Members of structural problems with the War Memorial at the cemetery and provided a specification and quotation from the Borough's Term Contractor for remedial works for the Memorial and the proposed path works as discussed at the last Leisure Committee meeting. As the quotation for these works was above the spending limit of the Leisure Committee it was agreed that the specification and quote be considered at the forthcoming Parish Council meeting. The Clerk noted that the Committee Chairman had proposed the planting of three trees within the cemetery where the Cypress Lawson trees had been removed, with perhaps the additional planting of rose bushes to be used for the scattering of ashes. Members asked that a plan was drawn up for the cemetery as a whole, as the trees had been removed to open up the site and the impact of re-planting on burial spaces need to be considered.

Next various options for the replacement signs at Victory Field were considered, further to minute 6704. The Clerk was asked to obtain samples of both recycled and aluminium signs and a mock-up of these signs, with suggested wording, in black and a royal blue colour as used within the Parish Council's notice boards. In advance of the meeting two contractors had been contacted by the Clerk for estimates and one of the contractors was approved to take this project forward based on quality and cost.

Both Councillors Charlotte Herring and Allison Sharpe thought that having a consistent use of the logo and colour scheme be useful in terms of branding. The Clerk added that she was chasing the Borough regarding the Sunninghill Village Signs.

#### **6779 THE 'PARTY IN THE PARK' DE-BRIEF**

The Vice-Chairman thanked the Committee Chairman and all involved for their help with the Party in the Park, which was considered to have gone well. Discussion followed regarding the role of committees in assisting with event management and their relation with paid contractors and staff. Councillor Allison Sharpe thought it would be useful to send out a map in advance to all involved so that everyone knew where they were located and that additional bins would be useful. She also suggested discussing with the Brewery if there were any specials on offer to provide a variety of beers, adding that she thought about the right quantity of beer had been ordered. Councillor Brian Humphreys noted how full the car parking area was and suggested that thought be given to this for the 2019 Party. Suggestions such as better signage, an increase in car parking donation and the use of adjoining local fields was discussed.

#### **6780 OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor Barbara Hilton stated that she had been advised by the Borough that a statement of support for the proposed 3G pitch at Ascot United was necessary and the following statement was agreed and approved:

'The Parish Council is supportive of a strategic decision for the provision of a 3G all weather surface to be installed on Ascot United ground in Ascot. The Parish Council understands that the S106 funds that would be used to support this project are allocated to increasing football playing surface capacity in the area and the proposals make a very significant contribution.'

Councillor Allison Sharpe noted the thank you email from the local Scouts for funds given from the Victorian Street Fayre in 2016 and the use of the funds for the purchase of a new tent which was in use at the Summer Party. She informed Members that she had been invited to the South Ascot Brownies event to celebrate the completion of the renovations to the Sunninghill Guide Hut, for which the Street Fayre grant had assisted. The Clerk was asked to put the Scouts email on the Parish Council's web site and to include these matters within next year's Annual Assembly presentation.

Councillor Pat Morris asked if it would be helpful if he drafted the next stage for works at Blythewood and Tom Green's Field. The committee thought it would be and asked if he could write a draft to be considered at the August Leisure Committee. Approved works could then be scheduled to start in the autumn/ winter of 2017. Councillor Morris also raised resident concerns about the use of the skate park at Victory Field after dark, resulting in an increase in noise and litter. Discussion followed including matters such as by laws, enforcement and the need to balance security and access. The Clerk was asked to attend the next meeting of the Ascot Neighbourhood Action Group to raise these concerns.

Councillor Brian Humphreys stated that the Committee Chairman had asked him to raise the need to open up the site lines at the entrance to Victory Field and the Clerk was asked to look into this.

There being no further business, the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

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Councillor Ajay Nehra, Vice- Chairman