

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SERVICES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 10TH MARCH 2004

PRESENT

Mr Fletcher presided over Mesdames Harrison, Warwick and Reddick, Messrs. Mackin, Wren and Coward.

1. APOLOGIES

Mr. Dear.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

3. BROKEN FENCING – PURCELL WAY PLAY AREA

A quotation has been received from Clements Play Management Ltd to replace the broken fence in wood as is it's present construction or to replace it with galvanised metal. Two more quotes are to be sought for both fencing and safety surfacing.

4. TOWN SIGN

Best Bros to be contacted re the placing of a wedge in between the sleeve and the pole supporting the Town Sign to prevent movement.

5. STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND

A pamphlet has been received from the Standards Board for England asking the Town Council to advise it's member's on the rules regarding:-

- (1) Registering and declaring membership of the freemasons,
- (2) Registering and declaring membership of a political party council associations.

This information is to be passed on to the Finance & Policy Committee.

6. GULLY EMPTYING

Letter received from Raynesway Construction Southern regarding the annual clean of the gullies on behalf of Bedfordshire County Council. The letter asked the Council for their help by encouraging residents not to park over road drains at this time. Enquiries to be made as to the exact date of the operation in order that notices can be displayed round the town informing residents of Raynesway's request.

7. BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY – QUESTIONNAIRE

A questionnaire has been received from Bedfordshire Police Authority asking if the Town Council would be prepared to contribute to a Best Value Review. The questionnaires were photocopied and distributed to members with a request that they should be returned to the Clerk for collation next week.

8. PLACING OF TWO 'FREE CAR PARK' SIGNS

Mr Mackin produced a list of possible places where 'Free Car Park' signs could be placed along with accompanying photographs. It was decided that the matter should further be discussed at the next meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee.

9. REQUEST FROM WHITBREAD WANDERBUS COMMITTEE FOR DRIVERS

A letter has been received from the Secretary of the Wanderbus Committee enquiring if any members (or have knowledge of anybody) who would be prepared to be a volunteer driver for the Wanderbus or even a Transport Co-ordinator/Manager. The Wanderbus secretary to be made aware of the Mid Beds Volunteers Service to see if any assistance is available there.

10. FALLEN TREES – IVEL NAVIGATION

A request has been previously made to the Bedfordshire and River Ivel Drainage Board to remove trees that are causing a hazard in the river. The Drainage Board has replied by saying that the offending trees are not in their jurisdiction but are probably the responsibility of the Environment Agency. Clerk to write accordingly.

11. KINGSMEDS AND ASSOCIATED ISSUES

Information is shortly to be received from Alison Myers of Bedfordshire County Council regarding the Kingsmeds area of the town and the proposed planting on roundabouts.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Note of an unsightly planting membrane adjacent to the 'Carriage House'.

The Sandhopper device for filling sandbags has now been delivered and there is a 'flood meeting' scheduled for 18th March.

The loan of a skateboard tube from Bedfordshire Police is scheduled to arrive in the town in time for the late Spring Bank holiday at the end of May.

Note of a substantial log of wood lying alongside the riverbank at Riverside.

The changing rooms at Bellcote Meadow are to be inspected.

A note that the illuminated bollards in Ampthill Road need cleaning and a suggestion that brighter bulbs should be used as they appear hazardous in their current state.

A note that the recently painted 'white-lines' in Elm Road/Ivel Road were shorter in length than the lines previously painted. A further note that the road surface at the entrance to Elm Road was in very poor state.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.
