

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SERVICES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 8TH APRIL 2009

PRESENT

Mr. Wren presided over Mesdames Harrison and Reddick. Messrs. Mackin, Coward, Dear, Wilson and Pollard.

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Bralant.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. HIGHWAY REPORTS

The March Highways Report has been received from the County Council and all items requiring attention were noted.

4. PLAY AREA REPORTS

The March play area reports have been received from the contractor and all items requiring attention were noted.

5. TOWN & PARISH PARTNERSHIP FUND SCHEME – 2009/10

The committee has received details of the proposals regarding the above funding scheme along with Shefford's allocation. It was agreed to register for the scheme immediately and then to further discuss the possible uses for the money at the next meeting in conjunction with the latest *Five Year Plan* as previously issued by the Beds Highways.

6. RESIDENT'S COMPLAINT – 'GOALFORCE' - BELLCOTE MEADOW

A resident from Bury Road has complained about the noise emanating from the *Goalforce* situated on the Millenium Green. The contractor is to be requested to see if any modifications can be made which would reduce the noise. The manufacturer of the equipment has been previously been contacted about this problem but was unable to offer any solution. However, it should be noted that both the choice of a *Goalforce* and where to place it was the result of both a consultation and advice from the District Council's Play and Open Space Officer.

The resident is to be informed that the committee is awaiting information from the contractor.

7. NOTICE BOARD

The clerk is to investigate the costs and styles of a town notice board.

8. GRASSCUTTING

As the grass is now in the full growing season, the new contractor is to be requested to carry out the first cut prior to the contract being finalized. The committee is to issue a letter of intent *without prejudice* and inform the contractor that he will be paid subject to the work being of an acceptable standard.

9. RESPONSE FROM ARAGON HOUSING ASSOCIATION

The committee has received a response from the Aragon Housing Association in answer to their enquiry as to whether or not they would like the Council to cut various areas of grass for which Aragon has a responsibility. The committee was thanked for their offer but they have decided to stay with their current contractor.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Both Mrs Harrison and Mr Mackin said they would attend the Town & Parish Conference at the Central Bedfordshire Council's Offices on April 29th 2009.

A speed and volume survey is to be requested in Hitchin Road prior to the building of the new Health Centre.

Concerns were raised about the state of the pavement in Ivel Road particularly bearing in mind the extra foot traffic caused by the closure of Somerfield. This has had the 'knock-on' effect of people using Ivel Road to access the Tesco Express store.

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.