

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.30PM IN THE CASTLE,
HERTFORD**

PRESENT: Councillor N Wilson, in the Chair.

Councillors J F Cook, Miss K P Darby, Mrs H P Durbin, J C Hedley,
Mrs B S Haddock, and D R Poole.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor P A Ruffles
Ms N L Villa, Town Clerk
Miss M Challis, Assistant to the Town Clerk
Mr S Baker, Grounds Supervisor.

88. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Councillor Mrs S M Newton, R A K Radford and Mrs B M Wrangles.

89. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor J C Hedley declared a prejudicial interest in item number 13(a) to grant applications, as he is a committee member of Hertford Football Club and Hertford and Ware Sea Cadets.

Councillor P A Ruffles declared a prejudicial interest in item 13(a) relating to grant applications, as he is a member of Hertford Friends of Guiding. He also declared a personal interest in item 12 relating to the War Memorial.

Councillor N Wilson declared a prejudicial interest in item 13(a) relating relating to grant applications as a member of Hertford and Ware Sea Cadets and a personal interest in 13(a) relating to grant applications as a supporter of Hertford Football Club.

Councillors J F Cook declared a personal interest in item 6 relating to allotments, as an allotment holder.

Councillor Mrs H P Durbin declared a personal interest in item 6 relating to allotments as a member of the Allotments working committee.

The Town Clerk declared a personal interest in item 13(a) relating to grant applications as a member of Sea Cadets.

Assistant to the Town Clerk declared a personal interest in item 13(a) relating to grant applications as a member of Girlguiding.

It was **RESLOVED** that:

Councillor J F Cook take the Chair for item 13(a) as the Chairman declared a prejudicial interest, and the Vice-Chair was not present.

90. THE MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2008 were approved as a correct record and the Chairman authorised to sign the same.

91. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The Action Sheet be received and noted.

92. QUESTIONS AND/OR STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mr Steve Johnson from Garden Barber spoke about the company's green waste management system -a service which employs local people for simple maintenance and grass cutting. Garden Barber hopes to use this service for St. Leonard's Garden in Bengoe. A leaflet drop around the St. Leonard's area has brought some positive feed back from local residents; two people are in the process of being trained to the standards required.

Garden Barber have now tidied the garden, but Mr Johnson suggests that there is a lack of planting and mulch to suppress weed growth; expenditure estimated to be around £500.

93. ALLOTMENTS – NORTH ROAD ALLOTMENTS SITE

It was **RESOLVED** that:

the report from the North Road Plotolders Group be received and noted.

Matters Arising

- The Committee noted that the North Road site now had a waiting list of seventeen.
- Residents of no. 126 North Road have agreed access to allow the cutting back of the ash tree on the border of plot 46 and that property.

94. ALLOTMENT STATISTICS

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The allotment statistics be received and noted.

95. ALLOTMENTS MAINTENANCE

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The report on Allotments Maintenance be received and noted.

96. COMMUNITY ORCHARD

The Committee agreed to move agenda item 10 forward to agenda item 6 (d) as it was related to the allotments.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) The proposals for the creation of a Community Orchard on the area of land not required by Mudlarks be deferred for at least one year, as the demand for further allotments is high.
- (b) The said land will be offered to those on the waiting list for allotments

97. CEMETERY AND CLOSED CHURCHYARDS - STATISTICS FOR BURIALS AND INTERMENT OF ASHES

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The report on the statistics for burials and interment of ashes be noted.

98. ST LEONARD'S GARDEN AND HOLY TRINITY MAINTENANCE

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The report on the maintenance of St Leonard's Garden and Holy Trinity Churchyard be noted.

99. CEMETERY AND CLOSED CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) The report on the maintenance work programme for the Cemetery and Closed Churchyard be received and noted.
- (b) The report regarding the Mayoral Project utilising the Probation Service at All Saints Church be noted.
- (c) The skip will be repositioned in accordance with drawing supplied by Councillor J F Cook.
- (d) A contractor be appointed by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman to carry out memorial testing in the Council's Cemeteries and Closed Churchyards.
- (e) The revised Cemetery Rules and Regulations be approved.

- (f) The quotations for repair/improvement work at the Cemeteries and Closed Churchyards be approved and recommended to Council for inclusion in 2009/2010 budget.

100. SUB-COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEES - HERTFORD YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The Minutes of the Hertford Youth Town Council meeting held on 8 May and 26 June 2008 be received and noted.

101. HARTHAM SKATEBOARD PARK

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) The letter from East Herts District Council be noted.
- (b) The Town Clerk be authorised to finalise the agreement in consultation with the Committee Chairman, following clarification of the cost of the insurance premium.
- (c) A service user consultation be approved.

102. HERTFORD COUNTY TOWN GATEWAY

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) The report on the Town Centre Gateway be noted.
- (b) The application be re-submitted to East Herts District Council with a request that it be considered by members and not by officer delegation.

103. WAR MEMORIAL REFURBISHMENT

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The report on War Memorial Refurbishment be noted and the Town Clerk requested to write to Rhodes Partnership to express concern over the standard of work and withhold payment of final bill until issues are resolved.

104. FINANCE - GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Committee noted that there was a balance of £8,800 to award for Community Grants in 2008/09.

The Committee considered the following applications and **RESOLVED** in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 that the Committee should incur the following expenditure, which in its opinion is in the interest of the area, or its

inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:

(Councillor P A Ruffles left the room)

Hertford Friends of Guiding be awarded a grant of £1,000 towards the cost of a new felt roof.

(Councillor P A Ruffles returned and Councillor J C Hedley left the room)

Hertford Town Football Club be awarded a grant of £1000 towards the cost of a second hand mower.

(Councillor J C Hedley returned)

The Company of Players be awarded a grant of £1000 towards the cost of building an equipment store.

(Councillors J C Hedley and N Wilson left the room).
Councillor J F Cook took the Chair.

Hertford and Ware Sea Cadets be awarded a grant of £1200 towards the flooring and a new shower unit for able and disabled use.

(Councillors J C Hedley and N Wilson returned)
Councillor N Wilson took the chair.

105. FINANCE - BUDGET SUMMARY OF SERVICES MANAGED BY THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The budget summary of services managed by the Community Services Committee up to 30 June 2008 be received and noted.