

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Borough Green Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Thursday 18th August 2011 in the Parish Office.

Present: Cllrs M Taylor (Chairman), M Yianni, H Willard, S Perry, G Harrington, S Millener, Ms P Moorecroft, Potters Mede Environmental Members Mr J Bailey, B Hughes, C Willsher, S Cole.

There were no other members of the public in attendance.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Dobson, T Shaw, L Chown & Cllr Mrs Gould and the Clerk. Chairman agreed to take the minutes.

Action

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Willard declared an interest as a member of PME.

Minutes of the Meeting 1 August 2011

All members had received copies of the minutes. Chairman proposed they be approved and signed.

RESOLVED

Matters Arising

Chairman proposed matters arising be deferred until the full PC meeting 5th September. AGREED

Chairman noted the Clerk/RFO had prepared up to date BGPC financial information and circulated it to all members prior to the meeting'.

Period for Public Consultation

Chairman invited Mr Bailey to present an update on progress. Mr Bailey declined and said he would be resigning.

Mr Hughes stated he was unhappy that PME had held meetings to which he had not been invited, and resigned. Chairman noted that this was an internal PME matter, and as far as he was aware, PME had only met to open tenders and appoint a contractor. Mr Hughes had attended that meeting, but Mr Willsher had declined.

Mr Willsher and Mr Cole both stated a belief that the project could not move forward without changing Facilities. Chairman noted that this was outside the scope of the meeting and PME's remit, but assured PME that the planning of the building was progressing. Cllrs Yianni and Moorecroft confirmed the PC's wish to move forward, and to ensure the correct financial support was in place

Chairman further assured PME that funding would be in place, and that the Parish Council would fully support the project, and asked if PME would move the project forward. The members declined, and the Chairman suggested there was no point in them remaining, and that he would write to PME with the outcome of the meeting. PME Members then left.

Potters Mede Ground Improvements

There then followed a general discussion about siting and size of pitches, drainage structure, cash flow problems, and the diminishing time frame of Cemex sand supply and the Entrust grant, loss of which would end the project. Chairman then tabled the below motion with Cllr Perry's assistance in drafting:

"Whilst remaining mindful of Cash Flow regarding the November Precept drawdown from T&MBC, that Potters Mede Environmental be instructed to proceed with two pitches, but to request the contractor to advise the implications of carrying out the work in two stages." RESOLVED : Unanimous.

Cllr Perry expressed his concern that Mr Bailey had underestimated the requirement for sand, had underspecified the drainage requirements, and had dispensed with the Agronomist. Chairman pointed out that all three contractors who had tendered were accredited sports ground contractors, and they would know exactly what needed to be done to fulfil the requirements of the contract. Agreed to carefully scrutinise final contracts with particular focus on drainage proposals

Discussion continued about the detailed finance. Cllr Perry noted that he was uneasy about re-allocating moneys, and was concerned about the Auditor's future comments.

Chairman made the point that whilst the timetable now meant that the project might have to be split, or even deferred, we needed to send a clear message to PME that funds were available and in place, in order to indicate our unequivocal support.

Cllr Willard tabled a plan of PM showing that there was indeed room for two adult pitches.

Chairman noted that the Clerk's financial figures supplied to the meeting showed current bank balances at £99,936. To draw £58,750 from this for pitches would possibly not be regarded as "prudent" by the Auditor, and was not "Best Practice", but it did not place the Parish Council in financial difficulties, there was enough balance to meet our commitments until the November Precept money came through from T&M. In practice it was unlikely that works could now start quickly enough to require the money, but it was important to demonstrate to PME our commitment to the project. Cllr Millener suggested that we establish how quickly the "no strings" Zurich money could be drawn, to act as an emergency supply.

Chairman then proposed the below list of financial movements:

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| 1) £21450 from Reserves | moved to pitch fund : 6 in favour Cllr Perry abstained |
| 2) £10200 from Enhancements | moved to pitch fund : 6 in favour Cllr Perry abstained |
| 3) £16100 Section 106 money | moved to pitch fund : 6 in favour Cllr Perry abstained |
| 4) £5000 building budget | moved to pitch fund : 6 in favour Cllr Perry abstained. |

Chairman then advised that the Drop-in Centre would be closing at the end of August, so the £2000 PC grant would not now be required.

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| 5) £2000 Youth fund (11) | moved to pitch fund : 6 in favour Cllr Perry abstained |
| 6) £1000 Election fund (14) | moved to pitch fund : 6 in favour Cllr Perry abstained |
| 7) £2000 Play Eqpt (24) | moved to pitch fund : 6 in favour Cllr Perry abstained |
| 8) £1000 Street lights (18) | moved to pitch fund : 6 in favour Cllr Perry abstained |

- 9) £4000 reallocation from PC Contingency Fund to Pitches Contingency (5%)

The above £52750 from the Building Fund, and £6000 from current budget, together with £23000 Potters Mede Environmental have, makes a Grand Total of £81,750, exceeding the contractor's quote of £80,800 for both pitches.

Chairman then asked permission to investigate Public Works loans to augment Building Fund : Agreed.

Cllr Millener repeated it would be prudent to contact Zurich and establish how much money was available and over what time frame, and in view of the length of time Zurich have retained the benefit of the money, whether they would consider allowing us the full £295000 but still use some to augment the pitch fund.

Chairman advised Clerk had passed on Zurich contact details, and agreed to clarify our current position with Zurich.

There was no Part 2.

The meeting closed at 22.30 hrs

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