

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE COMMUNITY FACILITIES WORKING GROUP HELD ON
1st April 2004 AT 6.00 p.m. AT THE COMMUNAL HALL IN THE SHELTERED
HOUSING ACCOMODATION AT WELLFIELD**

Present: Cllr Mr C Alford
Cllr Mrs J Burns - Chairman
Cllr Mr B Ramsay

In attendance by invitation: Mrs J Couchman (Tenants Representative)
Linda Hogan (Association of West Kent Tenants)
Vera Kirkham (West Kent Housing Association)

In attendance: Mrs Gilder (Assistant Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mr M Harris and Cllr Mr V Sewell.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the meeting of the Community Facilities Working Group held on 19th February 2004 be approved and signed as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Bulk Refuse Collection Service

Mrs Couchman informed the Group that she had been to Caxton Close on the previous Saturday and considered that a suitable location for the additional bulk refuse collection stop would be on land between 86 and 143, Caxton Close. The Group considered that this would be a satisfactory location and it was

RECOMMENDED:
That the Assistant Clerk be asked to write to Sevenoaks District Council with details of the proposed location requesting that the additional collection commence after 1st July 2004 and that a leaflet be issued and an item placed in the next edition of Hartley Parish Council's newsletter informing residents of the new location along with times and dates.

5. Notice Board

The Group received a progress report on the provision of the new notice board. At the last meeting of the Community Facilities Working Group it was recommended that the quotation from Mr Glidewell of £285.00 for the supply and installation of a new notice board be accepted subject to confirmation of certain timber specifications. Mr Glidewell contacted the Parish Office and confirmed that the timber to be used in the construction of the notice board conformed to new legislation. The quotation was therefore accepted and we are currently awaiting contact as to when the notice board can be installed.

RESOLVED:
That the Assistant Clerk be asked to contact Mr Glidewell to enquire as to when the notice board is expected to be ready for installation.

6. Any other issues affecting the Working Group

At the last meeting of the Community Facilities Working Group it was recommended that permission be sought from Sevenoaks District Council to install a new dog bin on the grassed amenity land at the junction of Hawthorns and Brambledown.

The Assistant Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to Sevenoaks District Council and reported that to date, no response had been received.

RESOLVED:

That the Assistant Clerk be asked to send a chaser letter to Sevenoaks District Council requesting permission to install the new dog bin.

The issue of the proposed playground on an area of grassed land off Caxton Close was raised by Cllr Ramsay and the Group discussed the need for residents in the area to support the proposal by helping to ensure that the facility was not misused. The Group agreed that the responsibility for playground inspections/grass cutting and general maintenance would be the responsibility of the Parish Council but that in order to obtain funding for the project it would be necessary to invite residents to join a Community Group to facilitate a grant application from the Local Network Fund. Mrs Couchman offered to approach residents to gauge their interest in the project and Vera Kirkham offered to assist her if necessary.

RECOMMENDED:

That Hartley Parish Council formally apply to Sevenoaks District Council for a licence to use the area of grassed land off Caxton Close for a children's play area.

Vera Kirkham informed the Group that she had received confirmation that it would be possible for the Communal Hall in the Sheltered Housing accommodation to be used for a Benefit Outreach Surgery.

The Group agreed that ideally the Surgery should take place at least once a month. Vera Kirkham suggested the possibility of involving other individuals such as the Youth Worker, the Police, an Anti-Social Behaviour Officer, the Association of West Kent Tenants, West Kent Housing Association and a Member of Hartley Parish Council in order that it would be not only a Benefit Outreach Surgery but an opportunity for local residents to express their views and ask questions on a variety of subjects.

Cllr Ramsay agreed to pursue negotiations with Sevenoaks District Council and to keep West Kent Housing Association and the Association of West Kent Tenants updated with his progress.

7. Date of next meeting

Thursday 13th May 2004 at 6.00 p.m. at The Communal Hall in the Sheltered Housing Accommodation at Wellfield. 7.10p.m.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Date:.....

