

HARTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council Office, Hartley Library, Ash Road, Hartley, Longfield, Kent DA3 8EL

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18th September 2009

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee to be held on **Thursday 24th September 2009** commencing at **7.30 p.m.** at **Hartley Library, Ash Road.**

Yours sincerely

Julie Hoad
Proper Officer

AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive Members' declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

(WHITE)

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held on 27th July 2009 as a correct record. (Annexed).

4. Cricket at Manor Field

To receive a report from New Ash Green and Hartley Cricket Club.

5. Cricket at Longfield Hill

To receive a report from Meopham Cricket Club.

6. Football at Manor Field

(a) To receive a report from Hartley De Sales FC.

(b) To consider the football fees for the 2009/10 season.

7. Financial Report

(BLUE)

To consider a financial report indicating the net position of the allotments, open spaces and Manor Field Pavilion as at 18th September 2009. (Annexed).

Background document

Net financial position as at 18th September 2009

8. Budget 2010/11

(PINK)

To consider a draft budget for 2010/11 in respect of the allotments, open spaces and Manor Field Pavilion.

Background document

Draft budget 2010/11

9. Pavilion

Programmer on the boiler serving the showers

At a meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held on 16th June 2009 it was reported that difficulties had occurred with the hot water services to the showers caused as a result of an interruption to the power supply and it was resolved that, “*advice be sought from the plumber responsible for installing the new boiler serving the showers in the Pavilion.*”

The plumber has advised that the existing programmer operating the boiler serving the hot water to the showers is installed with an integrated battery which, due to its age, is now defective. In order to avoid future problems regarding the supply of hot water to the showers he recommends the programmer is replaced.

The Committee is requested to consider the above report.

10. Manor Field

(GREEN)

(a) Storage container

At a meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held on 21st April 2009, it was resolved to accept a quotation from Kevin Abraham for the sum of £460 to apply 2 no coats of Sika Icosit 6630 to the external surfaces of the storage container.

The contractor has advised the Council that due to the additional cost of the materials and misinformation provided by the paint supplier he will be withdrawing the offer to paint the storage container at Manor Field.

The Committee is requested to note the report and consider whether it wishes to seek further quotations.

Background document

Letter dated 26th August 2009 from contractor

(b) Meter cupboard

To receive and note a report on progress on the relocation of the electricity meter and creation of an easement.

Background documents

Letter dated 2nd September 2009 from Solicitors acting on behalf of Messrs H F & J H Glover

Progress report

(c) Hawthorn hedge

To consider quotations to cut the hedge along the northern boundary of Manor Field. Quotations have been invited from three contractors. Only one quotation has been received.

B Ballard for the sum of £250 plus VAT to dress hedge top and Manor Field side of Hawthorn Hedge on northern boundary of Manor Field, reducing hedge to height of cricket screen.

(d) Oak trees

To consider seeking quotations to lift the canopy of Oak trees in Manor Field.

Austin Treework for the sum of £80 plus VAT to lift the canopy of 2 no Oak trees, remove and dispose of all arisings.

Austin Treework for the sum of £190.00 plus VAT to lift the canopy of 7 no Oak trees, remove and dispose of all arisings.

Above the Canopy for the sum of £250 incl VAT to lift the lower canopy of 2 no Oak trees to approx 1.5 metres. The contractor advises the work should be undertaken in stages as the trees could suffer from ring barking due to the overall scale of the wounds created by the removal of large branches.

11. Hartley Wood

Motorbikes – Beechlands Close

At the previous meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee it was resolved that the matter relating to the provision of fencing and the motorbike inhibitor on highway land at the end of Beechlands Close be pursued with the County Council's Partnership Officer. The Committee is requested to consider his response in an e mail dated 12th August 2009.

Background documents

E mail dated 12th August 2009 from KHS

12. Gorse Wood

(CREAM)

To consider a letter dated 4th August 2009 from a resident of Spindles, Gorsewood Road requesting pruning and pollarding of trees located in Gorse Wood. (Annexed).

Background document

Letter dated 4th August 2009 from resident of Spindles, Gorsewood Road

13. Billings Hill Shaw

Two trees located in Billings Hill Shaw require treework. Both trees are protected with a Tree Preservation Order and therefore permission will be required from Sevenoaks District Council before any treework is undertaken. The Committee is requested to consider quotations for treeworks.

(1) An Ash tree to the west of the entrance to Billings Hill Shaw is showing signs of decay in the trunk. The trunk is split. One contractor recommends 35% crown reduction. Another contractor recommends total felling of the tree.

(2) A tree to the east of the entrance into Billings Hill Shaw is leaning on the telephone cable supplying Hartley Grange Cottage. A number of other tree branches are leaning on the cable. Attendance from BT will be required before any treework is undertaken. This will involve dropping the cable for the duration of the tree works and re-instate on completion.

(a) Quotation from Openreach for the sum of £437.00 plus VAT to remove overhead wire that goes from Openreach pole to Hartley Grange Cottage to allow the Parish Council to remove the rotten tree that has fallen down. Once tree surgery has been completed. Openreach will reinstate the overhead wire to Hartley Grange Cottage.

14. Woodland Avenue playground refurbishment

(DARK YELLOW)

To receive a progress report on the Woodland Avenue refurbishment.

Background document

Report on consultation undertaken at Woodland Avenue during the summer holidays

15. Playgrounds

(CREAM)

To consider the Annual Inspection report of the Council's three playgrounds undertaken on 1st September 2009.

Background document

Annual inspection report 1st September 2009

16. Hoselands Green

To consider quotations in respect of treework on Hoselands Green.

17. Foxborough Wood

At the previous meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee it was reported that no response had been received to a number of letters written to the owners of Hartley Court or attempts to contact them by telephone in respect of the alleged encroachment onto land owned by the Council in Foxborough Wood. It was resolved that, “*the matter be pursued*”.

The Committee is requested to consider an update.

Background documents

Letter dated 3rd July 2008 to owners of Hartley Court

Letter dated 13th August 2008 to owners of Hartley Court

Letter dated 13th February 2009 to owners of Hartley Court

Letter dated 13th March 2009 to owners of Hartley Court

18. Allotments

(ORANGE)

To consider a report on the proposed restructuring of rental charges on the allotments and condition of a number of allotment plots. (Annexed)

Background document

Report on the allotments

19. Tree management

(RED)

The Committee is requested to consider extending the programme of quantified tree risk assessments to other areas of woodland owned by the Council.

Background document

Quantified tree risk assessment

20. Hartley Wood

To consider the placing of bye laws on land owned by the Parish Council in Hartley Wood.

21. Date of next meeting

List of circulated documents

Copies of all documents listed below are available for inspection in the Parish Office

1. Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held on 27th July 2009. **(WHITE)**
2. Financial report indicating the net position of the allotments, open spaces and Manor Field Pavilion as at 18th September 2009. **(BLUE)**
3. Draft budget 2010/11 **(PINK)**
4. Progress report on meter cupboard **(GREEN)**
5. Letter dated 4th August 2009 from resident of Spindles, Gorsewood Road **(CREAM)**
6. Report on consultation undertaken at Woodland Avenue during the summer holidays **(DARK YELLOW)**
7. Annual inspection report 1st September 2009 **(CREAM)**

8. Report on the allotments **(ORANGE)**
9. Quantified tree risk assessments **(RED)**

Committee Membership

Cllr Barnett
Cllr Gaywood (ex officio)
Cllr Granger
Cllr Sewell

Cllr Mrs P Cole
Cllr Graeme
Cllr Mrs Oxtoby (ex officio)