

FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Recreation & Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 15 October 2014 at 7.15 p.m. in the Jubilee Room, the Pump House, Market Place, Faringdon

PRESENT: Cllrs Ms K Draper (Chairman)
Ms J Farmer
M Greenwood
A Marsden

IN ATTENDANCE: Deputy Town Clerk

46/14 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs I Bell and J Gregory.

47/14 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

48/14 Minutes of Meeting: Wednesday, 3 September 2014

The Minutes were AGREED and signed as a correct record of the meeting held on Wednesday, 3 September 2014.

49/14 Action List

The Deputy Town Clerk's list of actions was received and NOTED, as follows:

Min No.	Action	Person/s Delegated	Action Taken
Min 44/14(b)	<i>Christmas Lights:</i> Quotes to be obtained for installation of sockets, where necessary, and bring quotes back to Committee for consideration	Town Clerk	Costs awaited
Min 44/14(c)	An item regarding asset replacement fund for Christmas Lights to be included on the next agenda of the Finance & Audit Committee meeting	Town Clerk	On agenda for meeting to be held 22 October
45/14	All Saints' Church to be advised to apply to Town Council for a grant for this project	Deputy Town Clerk	Grant application now received from church and will be considered by Finance & Audit Committee at its meeting to be held 22 October.

Min 44/14(b): It was NOTED that costs were still awaited for installation of sockets for Christmas tree lights in London Street but that it was hoped these would be available w/e 17 October. Following a query as to who would be responsible for paying for electricity used for the small tree lights, Cllr Mark Greenwood advised that these would be paid for by respective business owners.

50/14 Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

51/14 Public Speaking Time

There were no members of public present.

52/14 Christmas Lights 2014

It was NOTED that the Finance & Audit Committee at its meeting to be held on 22 October 2014 would be considering (a) the Asset Replacement fund available for repair and renewal of Christmas Lights, (b) an inspection report by the Contractor and any purchase required for necessary replacement or repair and (c) a quote from the Contractor for the installation of a ring main in London Street.

53/14 Allotments

A written report from the Town Clerk's Assistant was received and considered. It was NOTED that everyone on the waiting list for more than one year had been contacted to ascertain whether they wished to remain on the list. The result was that there are now 26 people on the waiting list, as opposed to 54. The 5 empty plots have been offered to people on the waiting list, 3 of whom have accepted with responses awaited from the remaining 2.

54/14 Health & Safety Action Plan

Following the recent visit to Town Council's open spaces by the Health & Safety Consultant, a Safety Action Plan drawn up in respect of the activities carried out by the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee was received and considered. It was NOTED that most of the recommendations had now been addressed.

Trees: It had been recommended that the arboreal survey currently being undertaken showing all the trees under the responsibility of the Town Council, should now be completed as a matter of some importance. It was also NOTED that this map should show areas of trees that although not Town Council's responsibility may overhang its outdoor spaces and become dangerous. It was AGREED that the Town Council Leisure Services Team would continue to monitor all the Town Council trees and advise the office of any problems that may arise which could possibly need professional attention by a tree surgeon.

Cllr Greenwood stated that, through the Town Council website, the public should be made more aware of all the work carried out by the Town Council on its outdoor spaces, including work to trees.

55/14 Quarterly Play Area Service Inspections - July 2014

The quarterly play area services inspections carried out by an external contractor in respect of Oakwood Park and Tuckers Park were received and NOTED.

Seesaw, Tuckers Park: It was AGREED that quotes be obtained for overhaul of the unit, as recommended.

As the Town Council Leisure Services team already carried out weekly inspections, it was queried whether there was a need for the quarterly inspections to continue especially as an annual inspection of the play areas was also undertaken by another contractor. It was AGREED that this would be reviewed at budget setting time.

56/14 For Information Only

It was NOTED Oxfordshire County Council had confirmed that the weed killing programme for Faringdon had been completed in August 2014.