



The Oakwood Centre, Headley Road, Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 4JZ
www.woodley.gov.uk

To: **Members of the Leisure Services Committee**
Councillors: D. Stares (Chairman); D. Bragg; K. Gilder; M. Green; A. Heap;
S. Rahmouni; R. Skegg; B. Soane; A. Swaddle.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Leisure Services Committee is to be held at the Oakwood Centre at 8:00pm on Tuesday 4 June 2019, at which your attendance is requested.

Deborah Mander
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive any declarations of interest from Members on agenda items.
3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 APRIL 2019**
To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on 9 April 2019 and for the Chairman to sign them as a true and accurate record. *(These minutes were provided in the Full Council agenda of 14 May 2019.)*
4. **JUST AROUND THE CORNER (JAC)**
To receive the report from JAC, attached at **Appendix 4.** Page 3
5. **COMMUNITY YOUTH PARTNERSHIP**
To receive **Report No. LS 11/19** of the Community Youth Partnership meeting held on 22 May 2019. Page 4
6. **BUDGETARY CONTROL**
To note **Report No. LS 12/19.** Page 6
7. **WOODFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE, SPORTS DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES**
To receive **Report No. LS 13/19.** Page 8

8. **PARKS AND BUILDINGS**
To receive **Report No. LS 14/19**.

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9. **TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC TOILET UPDATE**
To receive a verbal update from the Town Clerk.

10. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
To propose future agenda items for the Committee's consideration.

11. **PUBLICITY & WEBSITE**
To consider which items to publicise.

JAC Detached Youth work in Woodley between April-May 2019

Detached: The team have been engaging a lot of young people at Woodford Park during the Wednesday and Friday early afternoon sessions. There has been a lot of interest in playing football which we have facilitated and joined in with. We have had conversations during play, but mostly during drink breaks or after the game and has enabled greater engagement. Similarly, a breakthrough was achieved with a 'distant' group when they asked us if we could help fix one of their bikes. This was completed with the help of a tool from the receptionists in the Oakwood centre. Community partnership at its best. As a result, we have been able to maintain regular contact with this group and others on the fringes leading to open conversations with them on various topics including drug use. It has been encouraging to hear that the young people know the damaging effects that drugs have when discussing the topic. We have encouraged them to think more deeply about their needs hoping to empower them to make wiser choices.

Another popular topic of discussion has revolved around GCSE mock tests, GCSE's themselves and most recently, 'End of year' exams for those in lower years. Most of the young people discussed their stresses and worries with one very in-depth discussion with a young person suffering from severe anxiety. Although this conversation was a sensitive one, it was encouraging that they felt safe to verbalise their continuing battle over this and we were able to re-iterate that we are here for them when needed.

The later Friday evening session has been quieter than the earlier sessions. Whereas the earlier sessions normally focuses around Woodford Park and the Woodley Town Centre, the evening session always includes the team visiting Southlake Crescent, Vauxhall Park the Airfield. The conversation subjects tend to have more depth as we engage with older young people in particular in relation to apprenticeships, further education or full-time work. We have had a few occasions when we have had to challenge anti-social behaviour that included loudness, 'knock-down ginger' and riding bicycles dangerously. We believe that the discussions were taken seriously through sincere and open dialogue. It is positive to note that alcohol drinking on the streets is still fairly low.

Parkour: We have refitted one of the JAC youth outreach vans with espresso/hot chocolate machines as a mobile café instead of the container type café originally planned. The van can easily be set up and used in the area. Designs for the graphics are completed and currently out for quotes.

We are looking into providing timber logs of different heights, sizes and distances for steppingstones and jumps, this could be an area for younger people or a training area before moving to more complex equipment. The cost would be lower to get the park started and would be simple to install with young people and designing steel pipe structures with them as a follow-on plan.

Schools: Well-being sessions covering, horticulture, equine, small animals and mechanics from Woodley schools continue to grow at Rehoboth and a good number of young volunteers are helping out at weekends and holidays.

Journey to Independence House: Plans are underway to provide accommodation in the house for a homeless single mum and teenage and 1 year old daughters. Support is being provided by a network of people from various organisations and JAC is very pleased to be able to offer a home for the family at this time.

Woodley Town Council

Report of a Meeting of the Community Youth Partnership held at The Oakwood Centre on Wednesday 22 May 2019 at 5pm

Present:

Cllr Kay Gilder (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Michael Forrer - WTC
Cllr David Stares – WTC
Cllr Jenny Cheng - WTC
Cllr Nada Al-Sanjari - WTC

Paul Cassidy - ARC
Steve Outen – Woodley United FC
Trina Farrance - Bulmershe Gym Club
Laurie-Ann Price - Emmanuel Church
Graham Sumbler – Woodley Baptist Church

Officer present: Deborah Mander - Town Clerk

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Having been duly nominated Sam Milligan was appointed Chairman and Cllr Kay Gilder was appointed Vice Chairman of the Community Youth Partnership

Apologies: Sam Milligan - JAC, Cllr Richard Skegg- WTC

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

LODDON MEAD AREA - PROPOSED PROJECT

The meeting received a written report from Sam Milligan about progress and plans for developing a Parkour area under the A3290. He reported that JAC has refitted one of their youth outreach vans with espresso coffee/hot chocolate machines as a mobile cafe and this could easily be set up and used in the area with young people. He also reported that he is considering using timber logs of different heights, sizes and distances for stepping stones and jumps, and that this could become an area for younger people or a training area before moving to more complex equipment. This would reduce the cost to get the park started and would be simple to install. Steel pipe structures could be designed as a follow on plan. He was hoping to visit schools to talk to sports departments to engage staff and young people. Young people meeting up with JAC when they are out and about are a bit non-committed about the park - possible because this is a concept, rather than a reality at the moment.

PARENTS SELF HELP GROUPS PROJECT

Catherine Barratt, who is leading this project on the partnership's behalf, also provided a report about the parents self help group, set up to help parents deal with anxiety in their families. The groups have five participants who have now met monthly since the groups was set up in February. The participants have set up a What's App group and the feedback from the participants is positive.

Catherine has reported that in terms of the project it had been challenging to reach families and advertise the groups and get consistency in the group attendance, as well as the groups forming together because they only meet once a month.

Two more groups are planned and this will require more facilitator training and reaching parents who could benefit from a self help group. We would also need to decide when these would run and when signposting to more informative services/information would also be appropriate.

In response to a question Graham Sumbler explained that the group met at Woodley Baptist Church and that the group needs a few more members for it to develop. He also explained that

the partnership's thought process in setting up the groups had been to build support to try and prevent a situation from becoming serious. He had emailed schools and publicised the self help group.

The Town Clerk suggested that new self help groups could be a news item for the November Woodley Herald newsletter and Cllr Nada Al-Sanjari said it would be important to reach families who might need this kind of support and that she would be willing to help with this.

It was agreed that the Partnership invite Catherine Barrett to the next meeting on 28 August to discuss plans for more self help groups to be set up.

OPEN FORUM/REPORTS

Woodley Baptist Church

Graham Sumbler reported that the Friday night Vibe group of fifteens and over were struggling to find volunteers to help at the sessions. Another 20 young people were due to come into the group and they could run until July but after that would need more volunteers (who would alternate on a rota basis) or have to close the session. It was suggested that the need for volunteers be advertised with Reading and Wokingham's volunteer centres/services.

Woodley United FC

Steve Outen reported that the club's charity match last Sunday had raised £1,500 for the Sport in Mind charity and this had been so successful the club will look to continue to hold a charity match each year and if possible would look to raise funds for ARC.

Emmanuel Church

Laurie-Ann Price reported on the Fun Days events on 31 May and 1 June and said all would be welcome. The Town Clerk confirmed that her colleague would attend and provide leaflets and other information about the Town Council.

ARC

Paul Cassidy reported that ARC's AGM had taken place earlier that week. He had also recently attended a meeting for Behavioural Leads at secondary schools where the theme had been reducing school exclusions. The police raised their concerns about the potential for excluded young people to be attracted to gangs, and an increase in young people carrying knives and using and dealing cannabis. Schools are looking to address and reduce exclusions.

The meeting then discussed issues about youth club/sessions provision and some of the difficulties in running/managing these. It was agreed that it would be helpful for the representatives on the partnership to look at provision in the town - it was noted that St James Church haven't filled their part time youth worker post.

Agreed: That representatives organise a meeting to discuss youth provision in the town before the next Community Youth Partnership meeting.

Meeting closed at 5.50pm

LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE**BUDGETARY CONTROL 2019/20****Report No. LS 12/19**

EXPENDITURE	Budget 2019/20	Actual Exp as at 30/4/18	Actual Exp as at 30/4/19	Actual Exp as % of Budget	Information
Woodford Park LC & 3G pitch	383381	27074	24702		6.4 Coaching, rates, certification, washroom costs over 8%. All other costs under.
Grounds Maintenance	31126	4247	1290		4.1 Repairs over 8%, all other costs under.
Football	21743	1187	1559		7.2 No expenditure yet on horticultural supplies or equipment.
Cricket	11647	853	780		6.7 No expenditure yet on horticultural supplies or equipment.
Bowling Green	13993	1115	953		6.8 No expenditure yet on horticultural supplies or equipment.
Woodford Park	34757	2680	2574		7.4 No expenditure yet on horticultural supplies, water, repairs, or play equipment.
Memorial Ground	10017	629	795		7.9 No expenditure yet on horticultural supplies or play equipment.
Garden of Remembrance	8575	396	520		6.1 No expenditure yet on horticultural supplies or inscription costs.
Play areas and open spaces	15280	1039	1184		7.7 No expenditure yet on horticultural supplies or play equipment.
Coronation Hall	29000	1542	2336		8.1 Staff, rates and certification costs over 8%, all other costs under.
Chapel Hall	20165	1494	1748		8.7 Staff, rates, cleaning materials certification over 8%, all other costs under.
Allotments	19399	-371	977		5.0 All costs under 8%.
Amenities	6571	339	543		8.3 No expenditure on repairs or amenity repairs at this point. First quarter of street lighting paid.
Events	7503	204	204		2.7 All expenditure under 8%.
Public toilet	10718	0	0		0.0 No expenditure at this point, toilet not yet open.
Youth Services	28565	6187	0		0.0 Quarterly SLA payment to Just Around the Corner to be paid in May.
TOTAL	652440	48615	40165	6.2	
Month 1 - 8%					

INCOME	Budget 2019/20	Actual Inc as at 30/4/18	Actual Inc as at 30/4/19	Actual Inc as % of Budget	Information
Woodford Park LC & 3G pitch	372279	54976	53278	14.3	Rent, letting income, sports hall, courses, Healthy Habits cards, 3G pitch and gym income all over 8%.
Grounds Maintenance	500	0	0	0.0	Grass cutting charges to Earley Town Council in respect of Bulmershe Park not yet charged.
Football	5075	353	1013	20.0	End of football season income.
Cricket	2455	0	0	0.0	Cricket season not yet underway.
Bowling Green	7919	0	5	0.1	Licence and ground rent agreement with Woodley Bowls Club to be charged in May/June.
Woodford Park Memorial Ground	6750	1152	0	0.0	No income in April from fairs.
Garden of Remembrance	118	115	0	0.0	No income yet received.
Play areas and open spaces	1100	216	120	10.9	Demand led.
Coronation Hall	0	0	0	0.0	
Chapel Hall	34000	8281	8009	23.6	Income in advance.
Allotments	35000	6651	6199	17.7	Income in advance.
Amenities	12252	87	24	0.2	New allotment tenants.
Events	0	0	0	0.0	
Public toilet	0	0	0	0.0	
Youth Services	1460	0	0	0.0	
TOTAL	478908	71831	68648	14.3	
NET	173532	-23216	-28483	-8.2	
Month 1 - 8%					

WOODFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE, SPORTS DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES

REPORT OF THE LEISURE SERVICES MANAGER

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform and update Members on developments at Woodford Park Leisure Centre.

SPORTS DEVELOPMENTS AND EVENTS

Woodley 10km & 2.5km – Sunday 14 April

635 adults took part in the 2019 10km and 75 children took part in the 2.5km. Barnes Fitness, the organisation which manages the events, also donated £1,000 generated from the runs to the Mayor's chosen charity (The Multiple Sclerosis Society).

Woodley Schools Sports Week, 20 - 24 May

The 8th annual Woodley Schools Sports Week ran smoothly, with highlights being the opening ceremony Dance Festival and the Paralympics Celebration. Winners of the competitive events were as follows:

- Kwik Cricket Competition (Boys) – Willow Bank Primary School
- Kwik Cricket Competition (Girls) – Southlake Primary School
- Swimming Gala (Mixed) – St Dominic Savio Primary School

Pulmonary Rehabilitation Coffee Morning – Tuesday 7 May

Following on from the successes of our Silver Circuit sessions (group exercise classes that are well suited to older individuals or those recovering from a period of inactivity) we were invited to attend a local coffee morning for a NHS linked Pulmonary Rehabilitation group. The session allowed us to meet a variety other healthcare professionals and patients (a number of whom now attend our Silver Circuits classes regularly).

WOODFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE

Function Room redecoration

The decorating of the function room is now mostly complete, with only the kitchen area (which needs additional work) remaining. Feedback from hirers and customers has been positive.

Work experience

We have taken on a large number of work experience pupils from various local and more distant schools and colleges over recent months. Students are mostly on placement for a week and help with general operational duties as well as cleaning and coaching tasks.

Gym lights

The colour changing lights in the functional area of the gym are now working. The lights had been out since mid January.

3G Pitch (repairs and maintenance)

Two small tears in the 3G pitch carpet were repaired at no cost to the Council by our maintenance contractor during their last scheduled visit in mid May. The tears were likely a result of general wear and tear but could also be caused by birds pecking at the coloured pitch marking lines.

Posters

Three local companies / groups have taken up the opportunity to display posters within the Leisure Centre. The additional income from the posters for the year will be just over £500. All three companies / groups are current hirers of facilities at the leisure centre.

Paddling pool

Issues relating to the pool liner have prevented the opening of the paddling pool in May. Further information on this matter is provided in the Deputy Town Clerk's Parks and Buildings report.

RECOMMENDATION:

- ◆ **That Members note the contents of the report.**

PARKS AND BUILDINGS

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Purpose of Report

To inform Members of matters concerning the Town Council's buildings and maintenance of the facilities.

Woodford Park Leisure Centre

Paddling Pool

The paddling pool liner has been replaced by the supplier following problems with the new liner that was installed last year. This work was carried out under guarantee from the supplier. Some works were carried out by the Council's Maintenance Team to ensure that the new liner could be installed more securely and avoid future problems. The work did result in the paddling pool being opened to the public later than usual.

A protective cover for the pool – for use in the colder months when the pool is out of use, will be purchased in time for this Autumn. Funding for this has been agreed through the Capital Programme.

Woodford Park

Rotary Garden

The seats have been refurbished by the Grounds Team and reinstalled on new concrete bases.

Wildflower beds prepared and seeded.

The Friends of Woodford Park continue to maintain the shrubs in the garden.

Garden of Remembrance

New planters, box hedge, path surfacing/repairs and planting were carried out during April/May by the Grounds Team.

Seats

Various memorial seats in the park have been refurbished and new memorial seats installed.

Bowls Green

The Bowls Green has been prepared, is in good condition and is open for the season.

Lake Regeneration Project

New signage will be installed in the coming weeks around the lake including advice on appropriate food for ducks.

Water and marginal plants have been ordered and are expected for delivery shortly. The Grounds Team will plant these and there will be opportunities for volunteers to take part in planting of some areas. Post markers have been installed in the lake – these mark the locations for lily pad cages which will protect these plants until they are established.

The Grounds Team will be reinstating a low level fence around the eastern end of the lake and laying the hogging path along the northern bank.

Malone Park

Repairs

Repairs have been carried out to the fencing around the play area.

Lease

The Council has received a response to its request to Wokingham Borough Council to take ownership of the park, which has been managed by the Town Council on a lease agreement that expired some years ago and was not renewed. The Town Council has managed and invested in the park over many years and has expressed a wish to take ownership of the site in order to continue doing this.

This was discussed by the Wokingham Borough Council Asset Review Board on 8 April, which agreed that either a lease on the current (previous) terms could be granted, or a community asset transfer lease of up to 30 years. Wokingham Borough Council wishes to retain the freehold for the site. Members are asked to consider the offer of a lease or community asset transfer for site and make a recommendation to the Strategy and Resources Committee.

Allotments

The grass areas have been cut by the Grounds Team – this is carried out 3 – 4 times per year depending on the weather and growing conditions.

Skips were brought in to the site over the late May bank holiday weekend as in previous years. This provides an opportunity for tenants to dispose of items on plots that are not required and have often been left by previous tenants. This system works well as the Council would otherwise need to remove this waste from individual plots and helps to keep the site tidy through the year.

Officers continue to meet regularly with representatives of the Tenants Committee and the administration and management of the site is working well.

'Bee Roadzz' Project

A presentation took place in the Oakwood Centre on Monday 3 June to look at creating a project in Woodley to encourage bees and other pollinators, through the planting of wildflowers and other appropriate plants at key locations. A similar project was piloted in Wiltshire and it is hoped that this could work well in Woodley. This initiative has come from an allotment tenant – supported by the Tenants Committee, and the allotment site has been identified as good location for some of this planting. Representatives from other local Councils and environmental groups were invited to attend. Progress on the project will be reported to the Committee.

Roadways

Work on the roadways at the site are scheduled for the August bank holiday. As in previous years the Council will supply materials and a work party of tenants will provide the labour to repair the roadways. The Tenants Committee organises this and also uses it as a social event to encourage tenants to take part and meet others at the site.

Community Halls

The removal of asbestos from the roof space at Coronation Hall scheduled for week commencing 12 August. This work will include replacement of the suspended ceiling and decoration of the hall. The works will be completed over a three-week period and funded from the Building and Facilities fund.

Recommendations

- ◆ **That Members note the contents of the report.**
- ◆ **That Members consider the offer to enter into a new lease or community asset transfer lease for the land and play equipment at Malone Park and make a recommendation to the Strategy and Resources Committee.**