

AMERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

To: The Chairman and Members of the **Community Services Committee** at their Meeting on Tuesday 05 August 2014

**TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

1. **To review the design boards from PCMS re: Hervines Park** (Agenda item 5)  
The boards are ready for discussion and the Mayor will invite a small team of Councillors to review these designs.
2. **Up-date on the playground project – Amersham Fun Day** (Agenda Item 6)  
We have had some very good feedback from interested parents following putting or designs on the web site. We intend to feature the designs at the forthcoming Fun Day on KGV on 06 August. Zoe is working on a form for parents to vote for their favourite and on activities for the children. The next thing is to apply for any available grant funding and to target Amersham companies to sponsor individual items.
3. **To discuss the litter on KGV and the hedge along the skate park** (Agenda Item 08)  
It is always difficult to control the litter on KGV in and around the skate park. The Depot do a litter pick every morning at the weekends and three times a week in the summer holidays. But it does not take long for the litter to return. I think there may be mileage in the Depot guys doing a better litter pick but this would not resolve the problem. We have had this on the agenda before and Councillors suggested that the police get involved with educating the park users. I have not approached the police but I can imagine they will not be unduly interested as it is not really their remit. Perhaps Councillors have some ideas? Secondly, it has been mentioned that the tatty hedge along side the park and Chiltern Road does harbour litter among its branches. A suggestion is to pull out the hedge and replace with a fence.
4. **To discuss the recent flooding meeting held by CDC** (Agenda item 09)  
The Emergency Planning Officer from CDC, Glynis Chappell, held a wash-up meeting post recent flooding. I attach those minutes and am relieved to see that CDC have only managed to give themselves one action – and lots to everyone else! There is a financial implication to ATC relating to the Trash Rods as we seem to be responsible for them. The other comment to note that future householders wanting bridges from their properties will have to consult the EA as three bridges came adrift this year and helped block the culverts.
5. **To agree a fair rental charge for the new art screens** (Agenda item 10)  
ATC has invested in some new art screens that fit under the low beams of Flint Barn. It would be sensible to rent out the screens. If they get damaged, we retain a deposit to make replacements. These screens were made by the two carpenters at ATC and they have done an excellent job. I would suggest £100 per five screens @ £20 per screen, per week.
6. **To note the extra charges for replacement electrical works and new lighting for Seymour Hall** (Agenda item 11)  
At the last meeting of the Finance Committee, a budget of £20,000 was approved to refurbish Seymour Hall. The quote did not include the electrical work and the new lighting which has to be replaced as the existing electrics and lighting did not conform to EU regulations. In short, the Judo Club have been using a

building that was not fit for use by members of the public in any way. I attach the revised quote which is now in full and includes an extra £9,936.66 for all the works – making a total of £29,936.66. I also enclose the revised quote that the nursery will meet with a grant from Bucks. I also enclose the costs that Karen Hazell has personally put in to this project. I think you will agree that all three stakeholders have contributed fairly to this building and it is ATC who will benefit with a building fit to rent outside of nursery hours. There is no reason why the Judo Club cannot return in September but they must have new mats and some storage.

7. **To discuss a possible item for the next round of LAF monies** (Agenda item 12)  
I attach a proposal from Cllr Seymour to apply for LAF funding to make improvements in School Lane for residents to park.

8. **Two requests from Amersham Museum** (Agenda item 13) Gary Gotch has now withdrawn his request for reduced rental fees at Flint Barn. He is also requesting a letter of support for the museum to move into the Lemon Rooms. He is due to attend this Council Meeting to enable Councillors to make an informed decision on any letter of support.

9. **Up-date on HS2 Petition and the Property Consultation** (Agenda item 14) The Petition is with the Government and our Barrister will be visiting the Amersham area to note the places relating to the proposals in the petition. I hope Cllr Shepherd can help with suggestions of where our barrister should visit. This will be on Friday 08 August. There is also a consultation on compensation for affected properties which has a deadline in September. Councillors need to consider whether to make a response.

Mrs J. Wheeler  
Town Clerk

30 July 2014