

PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Recreation & Open Spaces Committee was held at Pulborough Social Centre on Thursday 6 November 2003 at 7.30 pm

Present: Mrs L Speer (Acting Chairman) Mrs J Botting
Mrs C Barnett Mrs H Grey
Mr N Ryan Mr B Vincent

Representatives Mr D Boulton (Chairman PSSC) Mr P Cooper (Allotments)
Mr J Jupp (Football Club) Mr M J Leadbeater (Groundsman)
Mr K Speer (Men's Club) Mr E Steele (Bowling Club)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr B Feest (Cricket Club) Mr P R Lee

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2003 were amended as follows:

- 1 Mrs L Speer's apology for absence was added.
- 7 1) Allotment report: 'creosoting only' was substituted for 'refurbishment'.
- 7 5) Mini Rugby Club: 'only temporary' was substituted for 'car parking was not permitted'.
- 10 Playground Inspections: 'Raglan Housing' was substituted for 'Saxon Weald'.

The minutes were then agreed and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising

ACTION

- (i) Mr Cooper suggested that it would be helpful if the Parish Council would allow a limited number of bonfires each year. These would be supervised and only lit when the wind was in the right direction to blow the smoke away from the houses. Mrs Botting proposed that three bonfires should be allowed each year - one in the Spring and two in the Autumn. Mrs Barnett seconded and the proposal was agreed unanimously. It was agreed to write to the residents of Aston Rise to notify them of the Parish Council's decision.

Asst Clerk

(ii) **Bollards**

The Committee noted that the retractable bollards had been installed. Mr Leadbeater undertook to remove the new bollard near the pavilion.

JL

(iii) **Byelaws**

Mrs Barnett and Mrs Speer undertook to review the Byelaws and to return to the Committee with recommendations.

CB/LS

4 PULBOROUGH SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

The revised Rules of The Pulborough Sports and Social Club had been circulated together with changes suggested by the Parish Council and the Parish Council's Solicitors

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- 1) An inclusion should be that all payments be made by two officers.
(NB the Clerk's letter of 23 October 2003).
- 2) In the election of officers, the process recommended by Mr D Boulton was that votes should be cast by the card holder, with one vote per family. This was regarded as a good idea.

**ACTION
JB, CB,
NR**

Mr P Cooper asked if the clubs were happy with the seven day posting of nominations? As voting depends on attendance, which may dwindle, then take someone from the floor to vote.

Mrs L Speer asked if the EGM had been called yet? Mr J Jupp replied that it had not yet been called and depended on whether the solicitors accepted the constitution. However, a previously mentioned date of the 24th November for the EGM was too close. The Clerk said that as the solicitors had made their suggestions, there was no need to refer to them again, so add or delete as required. Mr D Boulton said that typing and printing would be no problem. Mr J Jupp said the next Sports and Social Club meeting was next Tuesday 11th November and the Constitution would be considered finally then.

CB

Mrs J Botting and Mrs C Barnett will attend that meeting and Mr N

Ryan will, if his diary is clear and he will also review constitution and solicitors letters to check all points included.

EGM date has been provisional – must be before Christmas – 8th December in the Arun Hall was considered satisfactory.

Regarding Officers, all agreed that Mr D Boulton was a popular choice to continue as Chairman and Mr B Vincent would be happy as Treasurer, if elected. Mr John Bearstow would continue as Secretary.

5 FUTURE PLANS

New floodlights and another bench seat in the MSF.

The Play area in Stane Street Close has been the subject of complaints from it's neighbours, as to it being dangerous for children from the adjacent road and a nuisance from litter and flying balls etc. To rehabilitate the site, it was suggested that the 'no ball games' sign be removed as a starter and then a 2 metre high fence be erected around it. This course of action was proposed by Mrs C Barnett and seconded by Mr B Vincent. By doing this, it will become our responsibility and an arduous one to maintain, for whilst Saxon Weald have expressed their willingness to contribute, Ragland are not interested. The project needs to be re-costed. Mrs C Barnett will speak to Mr Robin Charter.

6 SPORTS PAVILION

Mrs L Speer stated that a plan was needed for the long term future of the building, to secure the events within. Mr D Boulton

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reported that, when the new constitution is agreed, grants will be sought for the updating of the toilet and the addition of disabled facilities; also, a new extension at the back, to release more space. The roof, although pinpointed in Crowther's report as the first of a list of priorities, is not actually leaking a present. **ACTION**
JB, LS

When the Sports Trust existed, there was £6,000 earmarked for upkeep and with an additional sum made available by the developers of the Five Bells, the total went towards the new water heaters and the refurbishment of the shower facilities. The PSSC felt that the money was for the clubs, but the Parish Council view is that it was for the benefit of the clubs.

Mrs J Botting's view of the exterior image of the club was one of flaking paint and rotting wood. With the crickets club's elevation into a higher league, then the exterior should receive attention before the next season. In recent times, the PSSC has taken on works itself, eg the revised entrance arrangements to the club room. In future tasks, there is a pool of tradespeople who can be canvassed.

Mrs L Speer thought that a separate working party was needed to determine an intermediate plan and to build a fund. Mr D Boulton thought that the manner of refurbishment should be to add the new wing, to allow trading to continue, then rebuild the current front structure, when the new build is occupied. (Mr R Patterson thinks that grant money may well be available for this). Mr K Speer thought that items 1-10 needed urgent consideration. **A.Clerk**

Mrs J Botting and Mrs L Speer combined to organise a sub committee and it will comprise m Mrs C Barnett, Mr B Vincent, Mr D Boulton, Mrs H Grey, Mr K Speer and Mr P Lee.

The first meeting is to at the Pavilion, 8.30 on Tuesday, 11th November.

7 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS AND ITEMS

1) Allotments

Bookings are now full. The creosoting is almost complete and in line with the latest directives, all creosote will be used up by 31st December.

2) Football Club

The recent rain has been most welcome for the grass and the ground has been slit. The break in home games allowed by a late start, has helped the ground quality. All teams are doing well, with a good sponsorship deal on the horizon. The football store has become very full and a request was made for an extension. The Assistant Clerk was asked to get quotations for this. **Clerk**

3) Snooker Club

The recent 24hr snooker marathon raised over £1,000 for the Mary How Trust. The season is well under way and the ABC teams are doing well.

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- 4) **Bowling Club** **ACTION**
Mr E Steele reported that the annual dinner was a great success.
- 5) **Sports and Social Club**
Mr D Boulton reported that, with membership fees due from November 31st, subscriptions were already coming in. With improvements made and in the pipeline, the social side was strengthening. All is going well.
- 6) **Cricket Teas.** **A.Clerk**
Mrs J Dorling reported that she had been approached by the Club Steward, Darren. During the cricket season, teas had to be a sit down affair and with the forthcoming Euro 2003 competition, there will be inevitable clashes with the adjacency of the projection TV. The club's proposal is, could the committee room be used for umpires' and players' tea? It would stay the Parish Council's room but the Club would fund the changes. **Clerk**
- 7) **Groundsman**
Mr J Leadbeatter reported that the rugby posts now intrude into the soccer pitch. Mr J Jupp reported that this is not a problem at present.
As to the grass, it was not surprising that it was thin after the summer we have had. The weed problem, particularly plantain, was still bad. It was recalled that the contractor had agreed to return FOC after his last spray was ineffective and this had not happened. It was decided that his contract should be offered as an annual one to weed and feed. This was Proposed by Mrs C Barnett and Seconded by Mr B Vincent. **Clerk**
Complaints are still coming in about parking on the grass and verges. This is at its worst when the rugby clubs are using the ground. Letters from locals would help and then the Parish Council could forward them to the clubs. Prices for signs indicating no parking and the direction of the car park, should be priced from Mark Weston.
The possibilities of employing clampers, installing more concrete posts and involving the police in monitoring – especially as some of the parking could easily endanger children.
Mr Leadbeatter requested permission to get the gang mower overhauled – allowed - and noted that the vacuum was at Burgess and Randall for service.

8 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 29th January 2003**

The Sports Representatives left the meeting at 9.40 pm

ITEMS FOR PARISH COUNCIL

- 9 **OTHER MATTERS ARISING**
1) **Maintenance Quotations**

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The ditch, which was recently cleared, had not been cleared for five years and contained a lot of rubble and junk, so will it need doing next year? In twelve months another quote will be sought.

ACTION

Regarding the Masons Way playground clearance, Mrs J Dorling is to ask HDC, or Downlands Housing Association’s contractor for a quotation.

HB

10 RISK ASSESSMENT

In playing grounds and playing fields. It is the Parish Council’s legal responsibility to have undertaken a RA. It was resolved to ask HDC, Southwater and Coldwaltham who did theirs. A proforma for RA would be useful, but don’t start from scratch. A list needs to be compiled of likely open areas, etc., fixtures

11 TREES

10, Nutcroft. Mrs C Barnett suggested that the overhanging bough(s) should be removed, then take the conifers away, so he can replace the fence and it becomes his responsibility. Mr Haimes parks at the end of the road, blocking access to the park by the Groundsman. A painted box was suggested, on the road, to prevent parking at this point. The whole progression of tree cutting should be photographed as a future record. A wire strung along the line of the boundary was thought to be a source of danger. For surgery and photography, the proposer was Mrs J Botting and seconded by Mrs H Grey.

12 CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

13 URGENT MATTERS

(i) Mrs H Grey needs a ‘thumbnail’ profile on each councillor for the website.

(ii) Mrs Anne Kaiser needs a piece for the Parish Magazine and the Assistant Clerk was appointed.

The meeting closed at 10.20pm

.....Chairman

.....Date

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