

## PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Advisory Committee on Recreation & Open Spaces was held at Pulborough Social Centre (The Village Hall) on Thursday 11 March 2004 at 7.30 pm.

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

**Representatives** Mr D Boulton (Chairman PSSC) Mr P Cooper (Allotments)  
Mr F Galloway (Cricket Club) Mr W Griffiths (Mini Rugby)  
Mrs E Henley (Bowling Club) Mr J Jupp (Football Club)  
Mr J Leadbeatter (Groundsman)

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Mr B Feest (Cricket Club) Mr K Speer (Snooker Club)  
Mr A Steele (Rugby Club)

### 2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2004 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

### 3 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

### 4 SPORTS PAVILION

The current state of the building at the Social Club end was very poor; temporary roof patching had taken place and was holding, but a substantial storm would wreak serious damage to the club's structure and revenue taking. The current set of plan proposals indicate a Stage One intention to increase bar accommodation and stabilise the structure with a steel over-frame.

**ACTION**

Charity status is to be sought, to increase various funding opportunities for the new structure and the Club is profitable enough to aid various sports clubs. The Clerk pointed out that grants would be allied with new sports activity, but not for social expansion.

The Planning Officer would need to be consulted, on site, as soon as possible and the Clerk will arrange this. An interim meeting may be required before the next meeting on 27 May.

**Clerk**

### 5 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

#### 1) Allotments

Mr Cooper reported a low level of activity in view of the weather. The tenant of number 10 had asked Mr Cooper for permission to allow a compost heap to be placed in the gap next to his plot, in an otherwise empty strip; the other plots have room for this facility. This client is particularly hard working and Mr Cooper would recommend. It was unanimously agreed.

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- 2) Cricket Club** **ACTION**
- Mr Galloway, standing in for Mr Feest, reported that the SSC have donated a shed, which will be modified to become the score box and which will be situated near the changing room end of the Club building.
- 3) Groundsman**
- Mr Leadbeatter reported that the cricket outfield was in much better condition than was usual for this time of the year. A quotation from Mr Kit White of Landare was considered. He had previously met Mr Leadbeatter and the Assistant Clerk on site, to discuss the type of treatment needed to discourage worm casts, weeds and include a feed on the field and the margins.
- A query regarding the treatment for worm casts and the effect on the worms, elicited the response that the worms were discouraged from surfacing, but not killed.
- Mr Griffiths, who has experience with treating playing fields, indicated that his company tend not to cut the grass so short as on the Recreation Ground, but this may take a couple of years. Mr Leadbeatter pointed out that it is a Recreation Ground for the general public's use and that he is able to mow it for three months per annum, May, June and July. Similarly, the proposition to lime the grounds, as it had not been done for many years, was critical as the ground is surrounded by houses and used by children and pets constantly. It was suggested that Landcare should be consulted on this issue.
- The Clerk reported that permission had been sought from HDC for a dropped kerb and prohibited stopping road markings in Nutcroft. This had been put out to tender.
- 4) Bowling Club** **JL/Clerk**
- Mrs Henley reported that vandalism has returned. One had been apprehend and his name taken. The Club would like to erect a barbed wire fence to afford additional protection, but their desire for a cranked over top was thwarted by HDC, who would only permit a vertical fence up to 6' 6". The Clerk suggested splitting the costs between the club and the Parish Council and would liaise with Mr Henderson.
- Top dressing is imminent and the groundsman will level the green.
- 5) Football**
- Mr Jupp reported that both teams were well placed near the top of their divisions. A three year, £1500 sponsorship deal had been struck with Messrs J M Wadey and this would allow the kit to be sorted out during the summer. A forthcoming two week lull in the fixture list will allow the goal posts to be removed. The pitch condition was currently very good.
- 6) MSF**
- Bookings for this are going very well, with takings averaging £350 per month.
- A netball taster is being requested by Horsham; currently one group is due to finish at the end of March and then it will be

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- free from 6.00 – 7.30 on Thursday.
- 7) Rugby Clubs**
- Mr Griffiths reported that recruitment was still very active and that 75 had joined since the World Cup. There are nine age groups, all needing pitches simultaneously, totalling 200 boys each Sunday, with parents and vehicles. It is traditional that if you invite a club, then all age groups come and this could be as many as 600 boys. The permission granted for the temporary fence around the Cousins Way pitch, to repel dogs and their fouling, has not been activated because the rugby posts are in the middle of the football pitch. Mr Jupp pointed out that the football pitch is not required currently. If the Dog Warden was told of the time and place of fouling then she would be on site to trace the owner. Given the extreme congestion in the neighbourhood of both pitches, there has been a search for a new playing field and the current target is adjacent to the oil field at Parham, for lease or to buy in the first five years. The asking price is £160,000 for a ploughed field, with all the infrastructure to do. Therefore they expect to be three more years at Pulborough. Mrs Barnett pointed out that the use of the area by the youth shelter was unlicensed. All work done by the club is voluntary and Mr Griffiths reported that the club felt unwelcome. Mr Boulton assured him that the mood was changing and assured him that a welcome would be extended to the club. Regarding their storage shed, the door was in poor condition and easily broken into. A plan to extend the tractor shed should be continued, but the possibility of purchasing another steel container, like the one currently on site was an attractive possibility, with no planning permission needed and removable when required. This committee asked the Clerk for a letter of support to be sent to the Planners. On 18 April, the Awards Day is to be held and permission was sought to erect a marquee for this, that would be up for one day only. This was unanimously agreed, provided there was no cooking in the Youth Shelter and all ash was removed from the barbeque site.
- 8) Cousins Way Skate Park**
- Mrs Botting had recently attended a meeting of the Pulborough Partnership and on one of their wish lists was a Skate Park. A connection has been made with Christ's Hospital, that has a redundant wooden one, originally worth £10,000, for £500. HDC would be asked to assist with the moving costs and the site, near the school on the Cousin's Way field, was not seen to be a problem to the other clubs.

**ACTION**

**Clerk**

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**6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 27 May 2004**

The Sports Representatives left the meeting at 9.25 pm

..... Chairman

..... Date