

PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground Sub-Committee was held at the Sports Pavillion on Thursday, 22nd March 2007 at 7.00 pm.

Present: Mrs C Barnett (Chairman)
Mrs J Botting
Mr D Boulton
Mrs A Lawson

11. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Denison and Mr F Riddle.

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

13. MINUTES

The Minutes of the 22nd February 2007 were received and signed.

14. Matters Arising

The Clerk reported that the Owners of Carpe Diem had responded to the letter from the Parish Office, concerning the two large dogs that roam free in Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground and the lane and surrounding fields. The owners of Carpe Diem only own one dog but do have the two large dogs coming into their garden. As they do not mind this, they will not be fencing the east side of the Common. It was agreed the Council will take on this responsibility.

15. PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no public speakers.

16. Public Right of Way – Footpath 2432

After a brief discussion, the Committee instructed the Clerk to write to the 6th Marquess of Abergavenny's Estate manager, requesting the footpath and verges be properly maintained. It was also agreed the signage erected by the owners of Carpe Diem was overstated, giving the impression the public was walking onto their land. Members felt that one sign at the entrance to the Public Right of Way, stating it was leading to Carpe Diem, Bramfold Court and the Recreation Ground would be more suitable. The Clerk was instructed to write to all concerned to arrange this.

The Clerk was also instructed to contact Cllr. Pat Arculus (WSSC) to enlist her help in confirming it is in order to take cars along the path to access the Recreation Ground.

17. Fencing

The Clerk advised members that Shane Keen, the fence erector, had visited and measured the perimeter of Nutbourne Common and would supply a quotation to erect green stock fencing. He stated some clearing and trimming would be necessary and he also suggested a single wire at the top, as the green stock fencing was only 80cm high. He would also supply quotations for work on the stile and the enclosing of the gap adjacent to the gate.

It was suggested the fencing be erected six inches off the ground, as this would still prevent children and dogs running out of the Common.

Mrs Barnett showed members a copy of the 1855 enclosure award, stating the fences around the Common must “from time to time, be repaired and maintained”, which proved they Parish Council is responsible for having the area fenced in.

Members instructed the Clerk to procure a good copy of the enclosure award to have framed and hanged on either the Parish Office or meeting room wall.

18. Email from Mr Riddle

A copy of Mr Riddle’s email had been previously circulated to the Committee. His comments were noted and it was agreed he could act independently, as long as he stressed he was not acting for the Parish Council, as he was on the Committee in an advisory role and had no voting rights.

The Clerk was instructed to obtain a copy of the survey of Nutbourne residents wanting to see a “management plan” for the Common. With regard to the felling of the birch tree and the supposedly “grossly overzealous” pruning, it was stated that the Common had not been touched in 40 years and so there was obviously much tree surgery to be done. The tree surgeon is an expert and did not cut down any trees with Preservation Orders on them.

Finally, Mrs Barnett stated she clearly remembers saying “for now” regarding the size of the clearing. This was confirmed by another member of the Committee.

19. Additional Items for the Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground sub-Committee

19.1 Fingerpost for the end of the Footpath leading to the Recreation Ground

The Clerk advised members that Mark Weston had finished the new sign – a replica of the old – but had informed the Assistant Clerk that day he was not insured to erect the sign, as the verge was too narrow. He had taken the sign away with him. The Clerk was instructed to ask Danny Flynn to do the work.

19.2 Dog Fouling Notices

Members were asked to decide where the two dog fouling notices should be erected. It was agreed that one should go by the gate at the entrance to the Common and the second, at the other end of the path, by the stile. The Clerk was instructed to ask Danny Flynn to erect these when erecting the fingerpost.

20. Urgent Matters Raised by Councillors

Mrs Lawson asked when the next meeting would be held. Members agreed that the majority of the work had been done and the Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground could now be dealt with at Recreation and Open Spaces Committee meetings. If anything urgent needed discussing, a meeting of the sub-Committee could always be called. Mrs Barnett reminded members that a new sub-Committee would be elected after the elections.

The Meeting Closed at 7.40 p.m.

..... Chairman

..... Date