

PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee was held at the Sports Pavillion on Thursday, 25th January 2007 at 8.05 pm.

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

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence were received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the 2nd November 2006 were received and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk reported on matters arising from the last meeting.

Pocket Park – Rupert Cleaver will start work on the trees when the weather improves. He is unable to do a survey on the state of the trees on the main recreation ground, as he is not insured. The Clerk is currently in contact with three tree consultants, details of whom were found on a website recommended by Will Jones, HDC.

The Clerk was instructed to contact Rupert Cleaver to find out when the work will now start and to advise Phil Williams, our Tree Warden accordingly.

The Clerk is trying to ascertain the ownership of Highway 71, leading to Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground, as the owners of the house Carpe Diem state it is their private road. The footpath within the Recreation Ground will be closed from 5-9 February 2007 to allow for tree surgery to take place.

The Clerk advised members that both grants from “It’s Your Community” were declined.

Parks Department, HDC have now been requested twice to cut back the brambles growing across the footway opposite the Library.

Bridge in Pocket Park – The bridge belongs to the Parish Council and only the width of the path over and the pipes under are the responsibility of WSCC, Highways. This means that the part of the bridge either side of the path over the bridge must be maintained by the Parish Council. It is also responsible for erecting any barriers to stop toddlers falling in to the stream. The Clerk was instructed to contact WSCC, Highways to find out whether barriers could be purchased from them.

5. PRESENTATION BY CLLR. AMPSTEAD ON THE MEETINGS HELD WITH THE SPORTS CLUBS

Mr Ampstead advised members he would report on the findings of his meetings with all the sports clubs, so the Committee could decide how to take the project forward.

He stated that the present complex does not meet the needs of 21st century sports clubs, especially as the village is growing at such a rate it would soon have town status. It did not provide the right environment as the complex was built as a series of add-ons.

All the clubs had mentioned the difficulty in moving about the building due to various security arrangements. It was felt there was a need for more freeflow of movement in certain parts of the building.

All clubs wanted improved bar facilities, with a sports bar so that players could have a drink immediately after their match. A separate entrance was required so they did not have to go through the Social Club. Both Bowls and Cricket wanted a clubroom backing onto the bar for entertaining visiting teams and serving teas. Mr Ampstead stated this would be a challenge for the Council.

Improved toilet facilities were a priority, together with a kitchen for use at social functions or to prepare the cricket teas.

Everyone had agreed that the changing rooms were inadequate and both male & female should be provided, with better facilities for the officials. There was also a demand for kit storing space, better ventilation and a drying room. The showers were said to be completely inadequate.

Many wanted a sports hall which the school could use during the day with perhaps cricket nets, badminton & 5-a-side football.

The Cricket Club wanted a second pitch for the juniors; the Football wanted more pitches and the Bowling Club wanted an all-weather green, either astro-turf or carpet.

Having spoken to all the clubs, Mr Ampstead thought the Council would need to think about rebuild and to look at the figure of £1.5 million. He suggested a sub-Committee be set up who would be willing to work hard to move things forward. He felt that the Big Lottery was a possibility for some funding as the new complex would also be for new sports, children and women.

After a brief discussion it was agreed that Mr Ampstead would arrange a meeting with Chris Carey, HDC Planning Department to see what planning permission would be needed, especially if the new complex was resited. The sub-Committee would then need to find professional sports hall designers and builders and perhaps to employ a project manager. It was agreed to raise this issue at the next Full Council meeting on 15th February 2007.

6. THE VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION & SOUTH EAST IN BLOOM

Members were advised Ashington Parish Council were willing to advise on what was required to enter the competition. It was generally felt there would be no support from other groups within the village but Councillors agreed the

Clerk should visit the Parish Clerk at Ashington to discuss what Pulborough would need to do to consider entering.

The Committee agreed not to enter South East in Bloom this year. The Clerk reported a quotation had been received from Mayfield Nurseries to supply hanging baskets this year and was instructed to contact them to confirm the order.

7. NEW CONCRETE WORKS TO THE FRONT AND SIDE OF THE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

The Clerk presented the quotations for the work, ranging from £3600 to £12152.70 + VAT. Due to the earlier discussion concerning the future of the building, it was RESOLVED to go with the cheapest quote and this would be recommended to Full Council at the next meeting. The Clerk was instructed to then contact KJ Plastering to ascertain when work would commence and to warn the sports clubs to remove all their belongings beforehand.

8. SHOWER CURTAINS

Members considered the two quotations for shower curtains and decided to opt for the slightly larger, heavy-duty curtains at £25. The Clerk was instructed to order them.

9. CAR PARKING SIGNS FOR SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB CAR PARK

Mrs Barnett advised members she wished to see car parking signs to prevent anyone not using the Sports & Social Club from using it. After a brief discussion, members agreed to erect one large one at the entrance and a smaller sign on the fence of the Bowling Club. The Clerk reminded the Committee the delay in erecting the “motor bike” signs was due to the time it took to get the posts. Mr Boulton suggested the large sign be placed on the side of the building and this was agreed. Mrs Barnett also wanted a sign on the Multi Sports Facility, telling users to park their cars in the Sports & Social Club car park and not outside local residents’ homes. The Clerk was instructed to order the signs from Storrington Signs. Mr Boulton reminded members the wording should include “park at own risk”.

10. QUOTATIONS FOR PLAY EQUIPMENT IN MASON’S WAY PLAY AREA

Mrs Barnett advised members this item would be carried forward to the next meeting as one quotation was outstanding.

11. PAYMENTS

RESOLVED: that the payments of the following cheques be approved and signed:

D.J. Flynn	£2787.69
EDF Energy	£279.65
Travis Perkins	£21.09
EDF Energy	£451.22
Wightman & Parrish	£16.27
Primus	£11.02
WSCC	£339.86
HM Revenue & Customs	£681.84
Staff Wages	£2431.92

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Bio-Map

Members noted the free half-day wood-heating event but no one was able to attend.

Proludic Play Equipment

Members the invitation to a free seminar in Basingstoke on parks and play. No one was free to attend.

The Wiggonholt Association

The Committee noted the contents of the letter from the association.

Action in Rural Sussex – Meet the Community Partnerships

Members noted the invitation to a meeting on 20th February 2007 and agreed that as Mr Ampstead would be attending, he could report back to the Council.

13. URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Members were asked to consider a sum for Mrs Hutcheson's electricity used for the Christmas tree lights in the fir tree outside her home. The Clerk was instructed to send a card with the remittance, to thank Mrs. Hutcheson

The Committee discussed the cost of Danny Flynn clearing the ditch in Cousins Way on a regular basis and RESOLVED to accept the quotation of £180 for the task to be undertaken in May and October.

The Clerk showed members an email from Angela of AON stating the premium payable for the insurance of the whole of the Sports & Social Club would be £2628.15 but advised that when the policy was received, this was quoted as an additional payment, though reduced to £1642.84, making a total of £4291.71. The Clerk was instructed to contact the treasurer of the Bowling Club to see what their insurance premium was at present.

Mrs Lawson stated a new fingerpost was needed opposite the entrance to the road leading to Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground. The Clerk was requested to find the original wording from Cllr. Noble and to duplicate that. Mrs Barnett also suggested that dog fouling notices were erected plus a notice at the entrance to the Common. Mr Denison was adamant that Highway 71 was a footpath. The Clerk advised she had seen a letter from WSCC Highways to her predecessor stating it was a Highway. As Mr Denison was not convinced, the Clerk was instructed to find the letter and to confirm with Highways that motorcars were entitled to use this road. Mrs Barnett also reminded members the land just outside the gate belonged to the Parish Council. This had two BT posts on it, for which BT should be paying rent. The Clerk was asked to deal with this.

Mrs Botting mentioned the empty cleaning cupboard in the Sports pavilion. The Clerk advised she had received an order from the caretaker last week and the items had been delivered to him. Members requested the Clerk should obtain a cleaning schedule from the caretaker to find if he should clean the meeting room. It was thought he was responsible for changing the fluorescent light tubes, one of which was not working in the meeting room and the Clerk was instructed to ask him to replace it.

The Meeting Closed at 9.20 p.m.

..... Chairman

..... Date