

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 24th January 2008 AT THE SPORTS PAVILION

PRESENT: Cllr. Mrs Barnett (Chairman), Cllr. Boulton (Vice Chairman),
Cllrs. Barrett, Mrs Botting, Denison, Jolliffe, Mrs Lawson and
Reeve

IN ATTENDANCE: Lesley Hoff (Clerk)

The meeting opened at 8.00pm

86. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence

87. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

88. MINUTES

The Committee RESOLVED to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd November 2007 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chairman signed them.

88.1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES WHICH ARE NOT SEPARATE AGENDA ITEMS

The Clerk advised the next meeting between the Parish Council and the Pulborough Community Partnership was to be on the 17th March 2008 at 6.30pm.

The Clerk informed members the meeting between the Parish Council and the Duck Race Committee was scheduled for the 19th February 2008 at 8pm.

Both of these meetings would be held in the Parish Council Meeting Room.

The Clerk advised that the Allotment Society had been requested to provide measurements of the area requiring grass protector and also the month in which the Society would require a skip each year.

Members were informed by the Clerk that John Longhorn of Rydon Homes had been contacted concerning the request by the Council to make use of the land behind Oddstones for a recreation ground but he was yet to respond.

The Clerk advised members that Shane Keen had increased his quotation of 24th March 2007 by 10% for the fencing of Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground. New Councillors were advised that a document dating back to 11th September 1855 put the onus of safely enclosing this part of the Common on the Parish Council. The Clerk was instructed to contact Rob Free about the provision of a dog gate by the stile.

89. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public who had given notice of wishing to speak.

90. TAPS AT ALLOTMENT SITE

The Clerk read out the quotations from three contractors for the raising of the taps at the allotments site. These ranged from £523 to over £1500. It was agreed the Parish Council would give the Allotment Society the option of using either a piece of hose attached to the tap or digging down to enable a watering-can to be placed under the tap or the provision of two new sheds, as there was not the funding available for both.

The Clerk was instructed to contact the Allotment Society for its views.

91. UPDATE ON THE FINAL STAGES OF REGISTERING THE PARISH COUNCIL'S LAND

Cllr Barrett advised members that the paperwork had been forwarded to the Land Registry. However, there had been a delay due to the fact all the documents had been sent to a solicitor in Worthing. Cllr Barrett volunteered to contact the Land Registry office in Portsmouth to ascertain why this had occurred.

92. NEW ALLOTMENTS

After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed some of the trees planted under the "Trees for Shade" scheme should be moved to the site of the old skateboard ramp. The Clerk was instructed to contact Phil Williams, the Tree Warden, regarding this.

The Clerk was also directed to obtain a map of Cousins Way for the Committee to study in order to allow them to decide where the new allotments should be sited. A Councillor stated Pulborough did not have enough open space, without using part of the Recreation Ground. The Chairman advised that an application for allotments would flag up the problem faced by Pulborough at HDC.

93. CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 1.

94. URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

A Councillor asked when more work would be done at Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground. The Clerk was instructed to contact Rob Free to see whether he would be willing to lead a Parish Council volunteer group.

Cllr Denison informed members a working party of four volunteers had cleared up the litter in Pocket Park the previous weekend.

The Chairman stated a streetlight in Church place was hanging off its stand and both the lights were very dirty. The Clerk was then instructed to get these cleaned and repaired and to apply for a grant for lighting in the footpath leading from the station to Church place.

The Chairman advised she had had a meeting with Mark Whitwell, WSCC Highways, which had been productive. With regard to the bridleway near Lane End, the Clerk was instructed to discover from Land Registry who owned the ditch and would therefore be responsible for the pipe under the lane. The Clerk was also to advise Jon Perks, WSCC Public Rights of Way

that the bridlepath sign had been sawn off. The Committee suggested it be replaced with a large sign stating "Beware! Horses" as this might deter motorists from going to fast along the bridleway.

It had also been suggested the Parish Council insert a concrete bollard in the gap leading to the footpath as cars had been seen driving along there. The Clerk was instructed to determine whether this was feasible.

The Chairman finished by advising members the steps opposite 3 – Rectory Close were in need of a handrail. The Clerk was instructed to contact Saxon Weald to request a handrail be supplied as a matter of urgency, for Health and Safety reasons. An elderly resident had reported slipping on the steps and almost falling into the path of a 4x4 motor vehicle using the bridleway.

95. PAYMENTS

RESOLVED: that the following payments be made and cheques drawn:

EDF Energy	£399.99
SALC	£29.38
Candela Consulting	£158.63
HMRC	£585.84
WSCC	£348.27
Staff Wages	£2474.02

The meeting closed at 9.26pm

.....CHAIRMAN

.....DATE

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email from Jacqui Kilford

Members received a copy of the email from Jacqui Kilford requesting the matter of the Right of Way through the allotment site be re-opened. the Clerk was instructed to contact the solicitor's department at HDC for advice and if necessary, obtain a copy of the land deeds to see whether a Right of Way was mentioned therein.

2. Chanctonbury County Local Committee Grants Scheme

The Committee received the letter from WSCC confirming the Community Grant of £728 to purchase a bench has been awarded and to note the cheque had been received. the Chairman advised the bench was now in situ.

3. Communities and Local Government

Members received the Consultation on Orders and Regulations relating to the Conduct of Local Authority members in England and noted any response was needed by 15th February 2008. The Clerk was instructed to read the document and update the Councillors accordingly.