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**MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009 AT THE SPORTS PAVILION**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Boulton (Chairman), Cllrs Mrs Barnett, Clarke, Denison, Kipp, Mrs Lawson, Parker and Qusted.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Sarah Norman (Clerk), Mr F Riddle

*The meeting opened at 8 pm*

**73. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Jolliffe.

**74. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Boulton declared a personal interest under item 6 of the Agenda, as he is the Chairman of the Sports & Social Club.

**75. MINUTES**

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2009 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chairman signed them.

**75.1 THE CLERK'S REPORT**

Guttering - this has not yet been passed to the Handyman as he has been helping with extra duties whilst between Groundsman. This should be actioned before the end of November.

Groundsman - All members of the Council should now be aware that the Ben & Alex of Garden & Design have reneged on their contract and an advert has been placed for a new Groundsman.

Multi sports facility - As requested, the Clerk had investigated the cost of new netball posts which will be in the region of £120 to £150 and five a side goals will be in the region of £700.

Replacement posts at Recreation Ground - a further letter was sent to Callum Laidlaw on 2<sup>nd</sup> October to which no reply has been received.

The Snack Wagon visits to the village have now stopped and therefore Claire Ebelewicz will attend the November meeting of the Committee.

**76. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

**77. NUTBOURNE RECREATION GROUND - HIGHER LEVEL STEWARDSHIP**

The Chairman suggested that this item be brought forward so that Mr Riddle need not sit through the rest of the items.

Cllr Barnett commented on the presentation given by Bruce Middleton at the Full Council meeting and how informative and interesting this had been. The idea of an interpretation board was very welcome. A brief discussion followed as to how to facilitate this. It was AGREED that Bruce Middleton be contacted to ask his advice; for example would he simply draft such a board for the Council's consideration or would it be necessary to form a group to work on the project with him. It was also AGREED that Bruce be asked if he can join a working party on a Sunday up at the Recreation Ground as had previously be done with Rob Free. It was felt that the formation of smaller bays to encourage more light, as suggested by Bruce Middleton, was a good idea and this would allow more heather. Finally, it was AGREED that Bruce be asked to give a longer presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting in May of next year.

With regard to the Higher Level Stewardship it was noted that this is a 10 year agreement that provides £220 per annum towards required work. Concerns were raised over the additional red tape entering such an Agreement would cause and how would it affect the Parish Council's stewardship of the ground. It was therefore AGREED that Bruce Middleton be asked to provide further information on the scheme including details of the rules and regulations.

**78. SPORTS CLUBS AND SOCIAL CLUB LICENCE RENEWAL**

**78.1 Social Club**

It was noted that the Social Club Licence is due for Renewal and the Clerk confirmed that she would contact Anderson Longmore & Higham to investigate further. Cllr Barnett raised the issue membership of the Social Club. Under the current terms of the licence there is a maximum number of social club members they can have against sports club members. As a result here are currently having to turn away members. Could this percentage be increased when the Licences are drafted? A discussion followed as to whether there would have to be any recourse to the Licensing Department at Horsham District Council or any other statutory/legal bodies that may need to be consulted. The Clerk advised that she would investigate this further.

**78.2 Sports Clubs**

The Clerk advised that she had already contacted Anderson Longmore & Higham and awaits a response. The Clerk reported that Maurice Woolgar of the Cricket Club had contacted the Parish Office to see if it would be possible to increase the tenure to 25 years for example, as this helps when trying to obtain grants. Cllr Barnett advised that this issue had been discussed at some length in previous years with Nick Cousins and the consensus had been that a 5 year rolling lease is just as effective as a 25 year lease.

**79. CRICKET CLUB EVENT**

As mentioned by Barrie Feest at the Advisory Committee meeting, the Cricket Club is hoping to hold a match with the Lashings World XI on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2010. This is a team made up of past international cricketers currently Phil Defreitas, John Embury, Devon Malcom and Curtly Ambrose to name a few. including Whilst the Committee had no objection to this initiative, the following points were made:-

- a) There could be no car parking on the field or in the surrounding roads. There would need to be a park and ride system in place with a car park outside of the built up area of the village.
- b) All local residents should be informed by the Cricket Club well in advance of the event and all those attending need to respect the fact that they are in the middle of a residential area.
- c) A plan of the ground showing the location of the marquee and port-a-loos will need to be provided to Council well in advance for approval together with confirmation of the necessary insurances in place.
- d) All emergency services will need to be informed of the event.

**80. ALLOTMENTS**

The Committee considered the quotation supplied by J R Davy for the installation of 4 new outside taps at the new allotments, copied to committee, compared to the quotation from P D Plumbing previously circulated. Cllr Barnett proposed that the quotation from J R Davy be accepted and Cllr Parker seconded this.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the quotation from J R Davy for £985.00 and instruct him to carry out the work as soon as possible.

**81. CAR PARKING AT COUSINS WAY**

The Clerk advised that she had obtained some preliminary figures from the Internet for the cost of the mesh for the grass and fencing and it was felt that a budget of about £10,000 would be required for this project. The Clerk had circulated a copy of an email from Gary Peck regarding permission from Horsham District Council and from this it was clear that consultation with the wider community was essential to provide evidence of the requirement for additional parking. Cllr Barnett commented that this was a long term project and that the consultation should be carried out during 2010/11 and then if feasible funding should be considered when doing the budget and precept for 2011/12. It was therefore **AGREED** that comments of St Mary's School, the sports clubs and local resident be sought.

**82. BUDGET**

The Committee received a summary of the half year income and expenditure to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009. It was noted that overall expenditure was slightly high at 73.7% of budget but some of this could be accounted for by up front payments for things such as Insurances and one off payments such as the work at the new allotments which will obviously not be repeated. A lengthy discussion followed as to the requirements in the 2010/11 budget and these may be summarised as follows :-

£10,000	For new playground equipment (equal to 09/10)
£ 6,000	New Basket Ball practice area and net
£ 700	New Five a side goals for MSF
£ 250	New netball goal post for MSF
£ 950	Scarifying at Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground and Interpretation Board

Within a 5 year plan the following initiatives need to be considered :-

Bowling Green Maintenance

Light for Rectory Close Playground  
Cousins Way Car Park

It was noted that there will be substantial costs to be incurred with regard to the Drains at the Recreation Ground but that this should come out of the earmarked funds for the Pavilion Refurbishment.

**83. PARKING WITHIN RECREATION GROUND**

The Committee received a draft letter to Mr Ellis regarding parking within the environs of the Pavilion.

**RESOLVED: That the drafted letter be sent to Mr Ellis.**

**84. PLANTING OF GLEBELANDS OPEN SPACES**

The Committee had previously received a plan for the planting at Glebelands. Cllr Parker advised that one of the reason for this was that the new lawnmowers being used by HDC were having trouble with the steep incline. It was noted that whilst HDC will continue to maintain the area, much of the shrubbery will be self keeping. It was AGREED that the Committee have no objection to the plans.

**85. OLD BUS SHLETER**

The Committee received an email from a resident concerning the state of the Old Bus Shelter on the corner of Rivermead. The Clerk advised that the Handyman has cut back much of the ivy but had no way of disposing of the cuttings. The Chairman thought he may now of someone who could do this for the Council and will investigate.

**86. COUSINS WAY RECREATION FIELD**

The Committee received an email from the Tree Warden regarding stolen trees. It was AGREED that the Police should be informed. Whilst all were saddened by this the Committee agreed with the Tree Wardens feelings that there was little point in doing anything further in this area at the present time.

**87. POCKET PARK BENCH**

A discussion followed about the necessity of another bench and it was AGREED that further seating is not required at the present time.

**88. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Correspondence is attached to these minutes as Appendix 1.

**89. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA**

Key for Outside door into Committee Room - Cllr Barnett

The Clerk was also asked to note the following and action accordingly:-

The pavement from the far side of the railway bridge to the hairdressers is overgrown.

Another Adder sign is required for Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground.

The cigarette bin outside Tidal Angling has been vandalised and HDC Street Scene Wardens need to be made aware.

**90. PAYMENTS**

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

	£
UK Asbestos Services	1092.50
	£
J R Davy	385.00
WSCC	294.77
J R Randall	432.31
WSCC	1220.55
WSCC	6730.18
Burgess & Randall	83.77
Banham	389.85
SLCC	56.35
CPRE	29.00

*The meeting closed at 9.55pm*

.....CHAIRMAN

.....DATE

## Correspondence

### **FWAG**

The Committee received a request for subs of £41.10 inc VAT for the Farming, Wildlife and Agricultural Group and it was felt that this should be referred to Full Council. The Committee were advised of seminars promoting the Campaign against Accidental & Illegal Poisoning (CAIP), further details of which are in the Parish Office.

### **South Downs National Park**

The Committee was notified of the response by HDC to the Consultation on the membership of the future South Downs National Park Authority. The Clerk is to circulate this to all members for information only.

### **Hightower Climbing Frame**

As a result of the recent fire damage to the perspex bubble on the climbing frame, Monster will replace next week at a cost of £525 exc VAT. A claim form has been received and subject to the excess of £250 a claim will be made for the balance.

### **Allotments**

One allotment holder has been in touch with the office to request the he split the payment for his plots into to halves. The second payment would be due before the year end of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.