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MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD AT 7.45 PM ON THURSDAY 31st MAY 2012 IN THE JOHN GROBLER ROOM

PRESENT: Cllrs J Plant (Chairman), F Breedlove, E Cooke, D Green,

I Shepherd-Dubey.

In attendance: Clive Hudson (WPC Clerk).

- 1 APOLOGIES
- **1.1** Cllrs L Lainsbury, J Southgate.
- 2 R&A VICE CHAIRMAN 2012-13
- 2.1 Cllr Plant **PROPOSED** and Cllr Breedlove **SECONDED** Cllr Cooke as Vice Chairman of the R&A Committee and this was **RESOLVED**.
- 3 CLERK'S REPORT

CLERK'S REPORT as at 31.5.12 Update on items since the meeting of 1.5.12

Play Area/Recreation Ground

WRFC have resumed training on Tuesday, Thursday & Friday evenings. The field had been unplayable for 2 weeks due to rain.

National Grid have started playing on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Nick Robins suggests grassmat at the gate entrance to the field. An estimate is awaited. There has been one incident of green waste tipping at the Recreation Ground.

A section of the Kompan slide has been broken. The area is closed off and the Clerk is investigating repairs. The Clerk presented a quotation from Kompan to repair the slide and a footplate on the Mizar teenage equipment along with other sundry repairs suggested by ARD. The Committee **RESOLVED** to authorise £810 on these repairs, with the expenditure to be allocated to the R&A Miscellaneous budget.

ACTION: Clerk

The Clerk reported that a fault has been reported and fixed concerning the arch of the swing on the BLF children's area.

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A hole has appeared in the footpath near the lay-by. The Clerk has contacted WBC and permanent repairs have been made.

Nirvana are considering joining the fete rather than organising their own event on the Recreation Ground.

Pavilion

Pavilion House

The caretaker reports problems with some doors in the house and fumes from the pavilion kitchen. Advice is being received from WBC regarding the house, but initial indications are that major internal works may be required.

Main Hall/Offices

Dates for the reconfiguring of the office computer system are awaited. Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey is investigating the latest suitable model for the laptop. ACTION: Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey The Clerk was asked to contact Plusnet regarding problems on the joint phone/internet line.

ACTION: Clerk

The external decoration has been pencilled in for 8-17 August.

The base for the flagpole has been attached to the Community Centre wall. The pole and flag can be attached and removed whenever required. The Union Jack will be flown during the Jubilee celebrations.

Allotments

- 4 MATTERS ARISING
- **4.1** none
- 5 R & A BUDGET
- 5.1 To discuss the current budgetary position
- 5.2 The Committee asked the Clerk to ensure that any hall chairs kept in the garage are covered. ACTION: Clerk & Caretaker
- 5.3 The Clerk explained that there is an element in the budget for External Decoration to allow for any repairs to the woodwork which may be discovered during the preparations for painting.
- 5.4 The Clerk explained that Kompan consider that the undulations in the Edge unit matting are due to wear and tear and have suggested a specialist company to quote for the repairs.
- 5.5 The Clerk explained the background of the necessity for the drain repairs.
- 6 REFERRALS FROM COUNCIL AND OTHER COMMITTEES
- **6.1** none

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7 ALLOTMENTS

- 7.1 Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey presented a summary of her observations regarding the allotments. Questions that need addressing include: the use of the recycling bins as rubbish bins; rats observed near the petrol station; maintenance of the orchard area. She and the Clerk presented their concerns regarding the maintenance of some plots. The Clerk was asked to write to the holder of plot numbers 18, 44b, 60b, 68b. The Clerk will also follow up plots 23b, 24b, 28a.

 ACTION: Clerk
- 7.1.1 Plot 56 is still being neglected and the Committee **RESOLVED** that this plot should now be reclaimed. **ACTION: Clerk**
- 7.2 The Committee considered the draft allotment lease for 2013-2022.

 The document was considered suitable, with minor clarifications in the wording in 6.5 and the payment schedule in 2. The Clerk was asked to respond to WBC.

ACTION: Clerk

- 8 WRFC 2012-13
- **8.1** Review of the WRFC charges was deferred to the July R&A meeting.

ACTION: Clerk

9 R&A PROJECTS 2012-13

9.1 Community Centre Signage:

The Clerk was asked to pass on details of the planning requirements to Cllr R Shepherd-Dubey, for her to make further investigations.

ACTION: Clerk, Cllr R Shepherd-Dubey

The Committee **RESOLVED** that £50 be approved for a temporary banner style sign to be put up at the entrance to the car park. **ACTION: Clerk**

9.2 S106 projects for 2012-13

Cllr Plant reported that she and Cllr Cooke had made further investigations into options for teenage shelters and equipment.

She reported that a Hags Rox Funnel Wall would cost £11,425 with standard delivery and a Broxap Ypod Shelter approximately £6000, exact delivery and installation costs to be confirmed.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that these pieces of equipment be purchased, subject to receipt of final quotations.

The Clerk was asked to confirm with WBC the suitability of these pieces of equipment for S106 purposes. **ACTION: Clerk**

The Clerk was asked to consult with Earley TC regarding the maintenance of the Hags Rox equipment.

ACTION: Clerk

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9.3 External Toilet:

Cllr Plant reported that she and Cllr Cooke had spoken with the two builders selected regarding the final details and requirements for the external toilet.

The quotation from Construction Options had increased significantly.

Cllr Plant had received verbal assurances from the other supplier that the proposed changes to the layout of the toilet area would not significantly affect his original quotation. Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey requested an itemised breakdown of the costs as part of his quotation.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that Mr Marley's quotation be accepted subject to the final confirmation of the building details and the price.

Cllr Plant will contact Mr Marley to request the details in writing.

ACTION: Cllr Plant

The Clerk registered his concerns that the revised proposals use significantly more of the garage, which further restricts the Council's storage space.

9.3.1 The Clerk requested clarification of the opening times and cleaning regime envisaged by the Council. He indicated that with only one member of staff available to maintain the toilet that there would be an increase in workload and that the imposition of a timed schedule of checks of the toilet or the requirement for the caretaker to be on site whilst the toilet is open could impose a severe restriction of the Caretaker's ability to leave the site in the short and long term.

Concerns were also expressed regarding the Council's policy towards its response to the setting off of the proposed alarm system in the toilet.

The Committee suggested that the toilet should be open from 11.00am until dusk, with a check of the toilet being made every 3 hours. The Committee confirmed the principle that the toilet would be closed when the Caretaker is not on site.

The Clerk was asked to make further investigations into the practicalities of a cleaning regime for the toilet.

ACTION: Clerk

10 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 Item 1; The Clerk summarised Mrs Burness's comments regarding her plot.

Item 4; The Clerk explained that this is an introductory letter for grounds maintenance.

Item N5; The Clerk distributed copies of the relevant correspondence. The Committee noted its contents and asked the Clerk to request that Mrs Wallace pays her outstanding deposit and continues to improve the maintenance of her plot.

ACTION: Clerk

11 COMMUNITY CENTRE ADVERTISING

11.1 The Committee considered that with recent change of management at AVC and the next edition of Winnersh Matters not due until the autumn, it was better to postpone this discussion until further information is available.

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12 ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

- **12.1** none
- 13 TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING
- 13.1 The next meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee will be held on **Tuesday 3rd July 2012** at 7.45 p.m. in the John Grobler Room.

APPENDIX 1

Correspondence

Correspondence received prior to the issue of the agenda for the meeting of 31 May 2012

- 1 Mrs I Burness details of proposed planting for plot 34
- 2 Mid & West Berks local Access Forum; forum re accessibility, 30 May
- 3 ARD; playground report, April 2012
- 4 ProGroundcare; introductory letter
- 5 Notts Sport; leaflet re synthetic surfacing
- 6 The Clerk magazine, May 2012; article on Allotments
- 7 Miracle Design and Play; introductory letter
- 8 Mr K O'Leary; thanks for response re trackway
- 9 WBC; draft allotment lease 2013

Correspondence received since the issue of the agenda for the meeting of 31 May 2012

- N1 WBC; repairs to Mole Road pavement near lay-by
- N2 The Clerk magazine, May 2012; extract re Allotments
- N3 Construction Options; revised quote for External Toilet
- N4 Deborah Wallace; comments re letter re plot 47a
- N5 Kompan; quote for play area repairs

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