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# MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD AT 7.45 PM ON TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2013 IN THE JOHN GROBLER ROOM

**PRESENT:** Cllrs F Breedlove (Chairman), D Green, R Holdstock, I Shepherd-Dubey.

In attendance: Clive Hudson (WPC Clerk), 1 member of the public.

- 1 APOLOGIES
- **1.1** Cllrs E Cooke, J Southgate.
- 2 CLERK'S REPORT

**CLERK'S REPORT as at 2.7.13** 

Update on items since the meeting of 4.6.13

## Play Area/Recreation Ground

Repairs to the play area equipment were completed before the Fete took place. ARD have been called back to look at the closing mechanism for the play area gate (see Correspondence N7). The table tennis table has been installed. There has been one instance of graffiti to the table, and this has been reported to the police. The Clerk has put some bats & balls out for users.

Nick Robins has cleared moss from the hard standing near the table tennis table.

Nick Robins marked out the Recreation Ground for the Fete. Now the Fete is completed he has been doing additional works to seed and fertilise the field. Discussions took place as to whether it was practical to wait until after the fete for the summer grounds maintenance to take place. The Clerk was asked to write to Nick Robins asking for assurance that the pitches would be ready for the football season.

ACTION: Clerk

The Council has received outline details of WRFC's pitch requirements for the 2013-14 season.

## **Pavilion**

Bookings are now being taken for the pavilion.

## 3 MATTERS ARISING

3.1 The repair of the Community Centre lighting is ongoing. ACTION: Clerk

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## 4 PUBLIC SESSION

**4.1** A member of the public raised a question over the principles by which the Council decides to reclaim unworked plots at the allotments.

## 5 R & A BUDGET

- 5.1 To discuss the current budgetary position
- **5.1.1** The Clerk clarified the necessity of having professional play area inspections.
- **5.1.2** The Clerk confirmed that the increase in Nick Robins charges for June was due to the scheduled summer maintenance having taken place.

## 6 REFERRALS FROM COUNCIL AND OTHER COMMITTEES

**6.1** none

#### 7 ALLOTMENTS

- 7.1 The Clerk reported on the current status of the waiting list.
- **7.2** A discussion took place regarding the unsatisfactory level of cultivation of certain plots:

The Clerk reported that he had written to the holder of 11a but had not yet received a reply. The Committee noted that the plot was still uncultivated and instructed the Clerk to reclaim the plot with immediate effect.

ACTION: Clerk

The Committee asked the Clerk to write to the plotholder of 36/37 suggesting that he gives up one plot.

ACTION: Clerk

The Committee asked the Clerk to reclaim plot 51a with immediate effect.

**ACTION: Clerk** 

The Committee asked the Clerk to write to the holders of plots 2a, 22a, 73b expressing concern over the upkeep of their plots.

ACTION: Clerk

- 7.3 The Clerk reported that a WBC specialist had visited the allotments and had indicated that there was no Japanese Knot Weed at the entrance to the site.
- 7.4 Cllr Green will oversee the strimming of the area adjacent to the fence.

**ACTION: Cllr Green** 

7.5 The Committee noted that there had been no reports of rats on site this summer.

## 7.6 Consideration of allotment fees for 2013-14.

Cllrs Green and I Shepherd-Dubey declared an interest. The meeting therefore became inquorate for this item, which was not considered further.

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The Clerk will make the setting of allotment fees an agenda item for the next Full Council meeting.

ACTION: Clerk

## 8 R&A PROJECTS 2012-13

- **8.1** The Committee discussed the completion of the plumbing and heating works in the Pavilion. The Committee **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that these works be completed over the summer.
- 8.2 The Clerk reported that 3 companies had visited the Community Centre to advise and quote on the boiler replacement options. Full details are still awaited from them. The Clerk reported on some of the options and prices for replacement water heaters.
- **8.3** The Committee discussed the options for replacement fencing between the car park and caretaker's garden. The Committee decided to consider quotations for the long-lasting option of concrete frames with vertical closeboard panels.

The Clerk presented the quotations for this type of fencing and the Committee **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Fencing Products Ltd. The Clerk was asked to arrange for installation of the new fencing and the removal of the old fence panels.

ACTION: Clerk

The Committee considered the suggestion for using the posts of the old fence to erect a small fence inside the car park to act as a buffer between cars and the new fence, and this was agreed.

ACTION: Clerk & Caretaker

8.4 The Committee discussed the options for the re-marking of the lines in the car park. The Clerk reported that dry weather was required and the area of the lines would need to be cleaned and cleared by the Council before re-marking could take place.

The Clerk presented the quotations for the re-marking of the lines and the Committee **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Bellstan Ltd. **ACTION: Clerk** 

## 9 CORRESPONDENCE

- 9.1 Items 3 & N7: The Committee discussed the options for the repair of the gate to the BLF play area. The Committee **RESOLVED** to accept the 'Dictator' style closing mechanism, as per ARD's quotation.

  ACTION: Clerk
  The Clerk will query with ARD the charges for the original repair. ACTION: Clerk
- 9.2 Item 5; The Committee considered Nick Robins report on the treatment of worm casts. The Clerk was asked to request the start of the trial period of liquid treatment for worms in the autumn when conditions are suitable.

  ACTION: Clerk
- **9.3** Item 6: The Committee noted the correspondence regarding the request to site a fast-food outlet at the entrance to the allotments.
- **9.4** The Clerk summarised items of correspondence regarding the practicalities of placing bee-hives on the allotments.

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## **9.5** Item 8 & N10;

The Committee considered WBC's request to put up 2 banners over the summer holidays. The Committee suggested that one banner amalgamating information for both events could be displayed for 2 weeks at the beginning of the school holidays.

**ACTION: Clerk** 

## **9.6** Item 9:

The Committee considered the comments of a member of the public regarding access from the field to Bearwood Primary School. The Committee asked the Clerk to contact the WBC Stride to School representative to request guidance on their requirements and risk assessments for the project.

ACTION: Clerk

- 9.7 The Clerk reported on Bearwood Primary School's acceptance of the invitation to attend the Christmas Lights event. No reply has been received from Winnersh Primary School. Another letter will be sent to them in the new term. ACTION: Clerk Cllr Green will supply contact details of the new primary school at Winnersh Farm in order for them to be invited as well.

  ACTION: Cllr Green / Clerk
- 9.8 Item N9; The Committee discussed WRFC's request for a commercial junior soccer school to be run during the school holidays. The Committee noted the potential wear and tear on the pitches, but had no objection in principle. The Clerk was asked to get further information.

  ACTION: Clerk

## 10 ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

**10.1** none

## 11 TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11.1 The next meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee will be held on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013** at 7.45 p.m. in the John Grobler Room.

PART 2

## 12 CONTRACT OPTIONS FOR THE 2013-14 FOOTBALL SEASON

12.1 The Clerk reported that that he had sent the guideline information regarding the 2013-14 season to WRFC. No detailed reply has been received on which to base a revised calculation of the charges for next season. The change in WRFC's management was noted.

The Clerk was asked to invite the new Chairman for an informal discussion regarding WRFC's requirements for next season.

ACTION: Clerk

The Committee discussed WRFC's request for a set of full-sized portable goal posts to be bought to replace the permanent goal posts. The Committee noted that the goal posts recommended could not be folded for storage. The Committee decided that this type of portable goal post is not suitable for storage at the Community Centre/Recreation Ground facility. The Committee asked the Clerk to inform WRFC

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that unless suitable, easily-stored, folding portable posts could be obtained then permanent posts would have to be used next season. **ACTION: Clerk** 

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.31pm.

## **APPENDIX 1**

## Correspondence

## Correspondence received prior to the issue of the agenda for the meeting of 2 July 2013

- 1 Hags/SMP; Parish & Community newsletter
- 2 PestUK; allotment report, June 2013
- 3 ARD; bi-monthly playground inspection, June 2013
- 4 WRFC; preliminary of goal post requirements
- 5 Nick Robins; update on worm casts
- 6 WBC; response to for fast food outlet at allotment entrance
- 7 NSALG; guidance on bees on allotments
- 8 WBC; Soccer at 6, dates, request to put up banner
- 9 Kate Towse; access to Bearwood Primary School via Rec.

## Correspondence received since the issue of the agenda for the meeting of 2 July 2013

- N1 Dutch Bulbs; catalogue
- N2 Bearwood Primary School; confirmation of attendance at Christmas Lights event
- N3 Festive Lighting; catalogue
- N4 Landscape & Amenity magazine, June 2013
- N5 WBC; update on Japanese Knot Weed at allotments
- N6 WRFC; pitch requirements for 2013-14 season
- N7 ARD; replacement mechanism for play area gate
- N8 Environmental Health & Licensing; Safer Food, Better Business Pack Update
- N9 WRFC; request for information re costs for a soccer school over summer
- N10 WBC; request to put up a banner at the Recreation Ground

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