

HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL
LEISURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 26 JULY 2016 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES

PRESENT: Mrs Fraser, Mr Hart, Mr Hough, Mr Robinson (Chairman), Ms Robinson, Mr Waterhouse and Mr Wood

The Clerk was in attendance.

A representative of the press, Mrs King, and the Chairman of Sheepsetting Lane Residents Association, Mr Butcher, were also present.

16/53 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Hatcher, Ms Kift, Mr Ridley, Mr Stevens and Mr Taylor.

16/54 **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

The following disclosures had previously been made by Members.

All Members of the Parish Council had an interest in respect of the sole trusteeship of Waldron Recreation Ground Charity.

Mr Hough disclosed personal interests in respect of Lucas Hall Management Committee and the Cattam Committee as the Parish Council's representative and as treasurer of the Lucas Hall Management Committee.

Mr Hart disclosed a prejudicial interest in respect of Broad Oak Village Hall as Chairman of the Village Hall Committee.

16/55 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Leisure, Environment and Recreation Committee meeting held on 14 June 2016, having been previously circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16/56 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

16/57 **BUDGETARY MONITORING REPORTS AS AT 31 MAY**

The reports were duly noted and approved.

16/58 **EMERGENCY WORKS ADDITIONAL TO CONTRACT AS AT 31 MAY**

No emergency works had been carried out.

16/59 **REPORTS ON RECREATION GROUNDS**

16/59a **Lucas Hall and House, Waldron**

The Committee noted that the blocked drain gully between house and hall had been cleared and noted that the redecoration of the Hall had been completed.

16/59b **Punnetts Town Recreation Ground and Village Hall**

The Committee considered a request from a nearby resident to erect a “no overnight camping” notice in the car park following recent incidents. It was requested that he be asked to give more evidence including number of occasions and length of stay to enable the matter to be considered further.

16/59c **Tower Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

16/59d **Cade Street Memorial Ground**

There were no matters to report.

16/59e **Broad Oak Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

16/59f **Cross in Hand Village Hall**

A verbal update was given to the Committee regarding the hall.

16/59g **Hardy Roberts Playing Fields**

The Committee noted that there had been no further action in relation to inspection of the access road to the tennis and bowls club and Members were aware of the HRPF Association’s plans to create a new access together with other works, which would replace the existing access.

16/59h **Leeves Common Play Area**

There were no matters to report.

16/59i **Sheepsetting Lane Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

16/59j **Heathfield Community Centre**

(i) Meeting with NHS representatives on 12 July 2016

The Clerk reported on the meeting held with representatives of NHS Property Services, the notes of which had been circulated to all Members. With regard to the invoices received, the invoice in relation to rental had been cancelled as the Lease states a peppercorn rent only. Some other items had also been queried and were being investigated.

The Committee noted that a quarterly management meeting was due to take place on 10 August at which East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (tenants) and NHS Property Services (Landlord) would be present.

(ii) Re-decoration of the Hall

The Clerk explained that NHS PS were willing to make a contribution towards re-decoration and new carpeting and had, therefore, looked at and approved the quotations received. These quotations had previously been circulated to Members of the Committee and it was duly **RESOLVED** and ratified that the quotation from K and D Decorating in the total sum of £1690 (no VAT) should be agreed.

(iii) Re-carpeting the Hall

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the quotation received from Fordham Flooring in the sum of £6,300 (no VAT).

(iv) Review of hiring fees

It was **RESOLVED** that no increases be made to the hiring fees with effect from 1 April 2017.

16/59k **Waldron Recreation Ground**

It was reported that the fence was in a poor condition on the right hand side of the entrance and a quotation would be obtained for the work.

16/59l **Jubilee Park**

There were no matters to report.

16/59m **Skatepark**

Heathfield Tunnel – anti-social and criminal activity

Following previous discussions and the report by Ms Kift at the last meeting, the Clerk reported that she had asked the District Ward Members for support to ask Wealden to close the tunnel – at least for a temporary period, to try and reduce anti-social behaviour in the vicinity which was also leading to vandalism to the equipment in the skatepark. The Committee noted that the Police now also supported the closure of the tunnel.

16/60 **REQUESTS TO USE RECREATION GROUNDS**

The Committee ratified a request to use Punnetts Town recreation ground in July 2017 for an organised dog show.

16/61 **GREEN LANE PUBLIC OPEN SPACES**

The Clerk reported that following a request to inspect a tree at the rear of Magnolia Close, the Council's contractor had stated that whilst it did not appear to be in any imminent danger, all the trees were now getting very tall. It was agreed that quotations should be obtained for an up to date tree survey to be carried out.

The entrance to the path around the Ghyll was in a poor condition and it was agreed that remedial works should be carried out as a matter of urgency.

16/62 **DARCH'S WOOD**

Since the last meeting, the Chairman of the Committee had identified spending on the wood over the last 3 financial years, totalling £28,443 and this information had been sent to the Amenities Society.

The Cross-in-Hand Amenities Society had written to the Parish Council regarding works to be carried out in the current financial year and the Committee **RESOLVED** to approve a contribution towards the purchase of road plantings (sourced from re-surfacing of Cross-in-Hand High Street in October) of up to £1,000 depending upon final quotation for cost of the material. This sum to be taken out of LER reserves.

16/63 **HIGH STREET PLANTING**

There were no matters to report.

16/64 **HIGH STREET FURNITURE**

There were no matters to report.

16/65 **SEATS/LITTER BINS/BUS SHELTERS**

There were no matters to report.

16/66 **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

There were none.

16/67 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

The proposed closure of the tunnel was considered to be a positive measure under the above Act.

16/68 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Tree work in Darch's Wood was approved to reduce any health and safety risk in the woodland.

16/69 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 27 September 2016 in the Parish Council Meeting Rooms starting at 8.00 pm, following the Burial Grounds and Amenities Committee meeting at 7.15 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.42 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: