

HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL
LEISURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 4 JUNE 2014 AT 8.15 P.M.
AT PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES

PRESENT: Mr Baker, Mr Bowdler, Mr Chambers, Ms Kift, Mr Landreth, Mrs Mackie, Mr Ridley, Mr Taylor, Mr Waterhouse, Mr Wood and Mr Woolley.

3 members of the public were also present.

The Clerk was in attendance.

14/32 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Mr Baker took the Chair and invited nominations for Chairman. Mr Chambers proposed Mr Hart, seconded by Mr Taylor. The Clerk advised that Mr Hart had indicated his willingness to stand as Chairman for a short period of time. A vote was taken and Mr Hart was duly elected Chairman. Mr Baker then invited nominations for Vice-Chairman. Mr Baker nominated Mr Woolley, seconded by Mr Wood. A vote was taken and Mr Woolley was duly elected as Vice-Chairman.

Mr Woolley took the Chair and the meeting closed to enable members of the public to speak to the Committee.

14/33 **TOWER RECREATION GROUND**

Mr Howard and Mr Law representing Heathfield Soccer School Dragons spoke to the Committee regarding their request to use the upper pitch at Tower Rec and Mr Smith representing Broad Oak and Horam Junior Football Club set out the Club's concerns over shared use.

The Meeting re-commenced at 7.52 p.m.

14/34 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs Clark, Mr Hart, Mrs Holmwood and Mr Woodhouse.

14/35 **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.

In addition:

Mr Chambers disclosed a pecuniary interest in respect of Waldron Cricket Club as a Member of the Club

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

Mr Baker disclosed a pecuniary interest in respect of Darch's Wood as a Member of the Cross-in-Hand Amenities Society

Mr Waterhouse disclosed a pecuniary interest in respect of Broad Oak Junior Football Club as his son plays for the Club and Mr Woolley also disclosed a pecuniary interest as his daughter plays for the Club.

Mr Taylor disclosed a pecuniary interest in respect of Broad Oak Junior Football Club as a friend of Mr Smith (representing the Club at the meeting)

14/36 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Leisure, Environment and Recreation Committee meeting held on 24 March 2014, having been previously circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

14/37 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

14/38 **TOWER RECREATION GROUND**

Mr Baker in the Chair.

It was noted that the upper pitch was not drained and was, therefore, unusable during periods of wet weather. It was not full-sized but acceptable for a junior team. The Committee considered other possibilities, including the unused area to the rear of the Community Centre and Punnetts Town, where current usage was unknown.

It was **RESOLVED** that the new Heathfield Soccer School Dragons team should be allowed shared use of Tower Recreation Ground upper pitch and the Pavilion until September 2014 and that alternatives would be investigated to provide a longer term solution.

Mr Waterhouse, Mr Woolley and Mr Taylor left the room during consideration of the above matter.

14/39 **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2014**

The Committee noted and approved the report.

14/40 **EMERGENCY/ADDITIONAL WORKS TO 31 MARCH 2014**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve emergency works totalling £2,565 + VAT.

14/41 **REPORTS ON RECREATION GROUNDS**

14/41a **Lucas Hall and House, Waldron**

Mr Chambers reported that all was running smoothly.

14/41b **Punnetts Town Recreation Ground and Village Hall**

The Committee noted that the Village Hall Committee were working hard on their fund-raising efforts.

14/41c **Tower Recreation Ground**

Use of ground by fitness trainers

A report that the ground was being used by fitness trainers had been emailed from a local resident. The possibility of charging for such uses was considered but it was noted by the Committee that some of the recreational areas had covenants attached which would not allow this.

The Committee considered that the recreation grounds were available for use by the general public but that organisers of known clubs using the grounds should be asked to show consideration for other users.

Overnight Camping

A motor caravan had been parked in the car park for several days and the Police had been unable to take any action because there were no notices prohibiting such use. It was proposed that the cost of erecting suitable signs in all Parish Council car parks would be investigated.

Roadside Hedges

The Clerk reported that the roadside hedges had been cut as a matter of urgency following a complaint from ESCC.

14/41d **Cade Street Memorial Ground**

There were no matters to report.

14/41e **Broad Oak Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

14/41f **Cross in Hand Village Hall**

The Committee noted that an AGM of the Hall was planned to take place soon and that funding had been obtained for re-wiring.

14/41g **Hardy Roberts Playing Fields**

There were no matters to report.

14/41h **Leeves Common Play Area**

There were no matters to report.

14/41i **Sheepsetting Lane Recreation Ground**

It had been reported by local residents that needles were being deposited in the grounds but no evidence of this had been seen during an inspection by the Caretaker and Mr Landreth was a regular dog walker and had not seen anything. The Clerk had checked with the Council's contractor and he had found no evidence during maintenance visits to the site. The situation would be monitored.

14/41j **Heathfield Community Centre**

The Chairman of the Committee would be asked if he wished to be a representative at meetings with the NHS Trust.

14/41k **Waldron Recreation Ground**

14/41l **Jubilee Park**

There were no matters to report.

14/41m **Skatepark**

A letter had been received from the Heathfield Youth Council regarding the Skatepark. It was agreed that members of the Committee should meet with the Youth Council to discuss the issues and suitable dates would be circulated to Members.

It was noted that trees at the skatepark were inspected on a regular basis.

14/42 **INCREASE IN DOG BIN EMPYING SERVICE**

The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve the proposed increase to £5.05 per bin per emptying.

14/43 **TREES ON THE GREEN LANE ESTATE**

There were no matters to report.

14/44 **DARCH'S WOOD**

Mr Baker reported that Summer Working Parties were being planned.

14/45 **HIGH STREET PLANTING**

There were no matters to report.

14/46 **HIGH STREET FURNITURE**

The Committee noted that the situation regarding removal of the scaffolding in the High Street would need to be monitored to ensure that the repainting took place as promised.

14/47 **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

There were none.

14/48 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

There were none.

14/49 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

There were considered to be no risk management implications in respect of matters discussed at the meeting.

14/50 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 29 July 2014 in the Parish Council Meeting Rooms starting at 8.00 pm or upon the rising of the Burial Grounds and Amenities Committee.

The meeting closed at 8.57 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: