

HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL
LEISURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 27 MAY 2015 AT 8.00 P.M.
AT PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES

PRESENT: Mr Hart (Chairman), Mr Hough, Ms Kift, Mr Ridley, Mr Robinson,
Mr Waterhouse, Mr Wood and Mr Woolley.

The Clerk was in attendance.

5 members of the Sheepsetting Lane Residents' Association (Mr Butcher,
Ms King, Mrs Chatfield, Mr Farmiloe and Mr Ironside) were also present.

HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE – ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Mr Butcher stated that anti-social behaviour had been going on at the Centre for many years and local residents were badly affected by noisy cars going up and down the road and using the car park late at night and in the early hours of the morning. Some years ago, the NHS had agreed to provide a gate but this had not happened. Ms King stated she had found used needles at the Centre and had called the Police. Mr Butcher stated that the Association would welcome the Parish Council's support in helping to address the problems.

The meeting commenced at 8.37 p.m.

15/18 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Mr Woolley took the Chair for the election of Chairman. Mr Hart was nominated by Mr Hough, seconded by Mr Ridley. A vote was taken and Mr Hart was duly re-elected as Chairman.

Mr Hart took the Chair and invited nominations for Vice-Chairman. Mr Wood proposed Mr Woolley, seconded by Mr Ridley. A vote was taken and Mr Woolley was duly re-elected as Vice-Chairman.

15/19 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Coffey, Mrs Fraser and Mr Stevens.

15/20 **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

The following disclosures had previously been made by Members.

Ms Kift disclosed a prejudicial interest in respect of the Rugby Club as a Social Member of the Club

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.

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

Mr Woolley disclosed a prejudicial interest in respect of Broad Oak and Horam Junior Football Club as his daughter plays for them.

15/21 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Leisure, Environment and Recreation Committee meeting held on 25 March 2015, having been previously circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

15/22 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

15/23 **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2015**

The Committee noted and approved the report.

15/24 **EMERGENCY/ADDITIONAL WORKS TO 31 MARCH 2015**

There were none to report.

15/25 **REPORTS ON RECREATION GROUNDS**

15/25a **Lucas Hall and House, Waldron**

It was noted that the fencing to the storm drain had not yet been carried out.

15/25b **Punnetts Town Recreation Ground and Village Hall**

(i) **Request for use of recreation ground for Vintage Motor Event**

The Committee approved the request but made the following comments:

There should be earlier notification of such events to enable the Committee to consider them adequately,

Evidence of effective arrangements for marshalling this event should be provided together with risk assessments

A copy of the appropriate event insurance cover should also be provided

(ii) **Request for use of outside area for wedding reception on 11 July 2015**

The Committee approved the request providing adequate insurance cover was put in place, no damage was caused to the ground and all litter was collected and disposed of properly.

(iii) Condition of car park

The Committee discussed complaints regarding the condition of the car park. It was agreed that the existing loose surface should remain as tarmac would be inappropriate in this rural area and would be expensive to provide and maintain. The Council's contractor would be asked to top the car park surface up as necessary.

15/25c **Tower Recreation Ground**

The Broad Oak and Horam Junior Football Club had commented on drainage issues with the pitches. It was agreed that quotes should be obtained for the work.

It was noted that a camper van was parking overnight in the car park and the Police had suggested that a notice be erected indicating overnight parking is not allowed.

The Committee discussed responsibilities for Legionnaire's disease testing in the Pavilion and this would be pursued further.

15/25d **Cade Street Memorial Ground**

There were no matters to report.

15/25e **Broad Oak Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

15/25f **Cross in Hand Village Hall**

There were no matters to report.

15/25g **Hardy Roberts Playing Fields**

The Committee noted that a meeting of the Association would take place on 11 June 2015.

15/25h **Leeves Common Play Area**

There were no matters to report

15/25i **Sheepsetting Lane Recreation Ground**

The comments of the football club regarding the goal mouths at the ground were noted and the Council's contractor would be asked for his advice.

15/25j **Heathfield Community Centre**

(i) Meeting with NHS on 20 May 2015

The Committee noted that the Chairman, the Clerk and Admin Officer had attended this meeting.

(ii) Request for barrier/gate to car park

There was lengthy discussion about the request from the SLRA for the Parish Council's support in addressing anti-social behaviour at the Centre. It was noted that despite previous requests, there was a lack of written evidence of incidents, including alleged drug taking.

As reported at the last Committee meeting, the request for a barrier had been put to NHS Property Services Trust and had been refused. The Trust regarded it to be an enforcement matter for the Police and there was no indication that they would support the provision of a barrier even if paid for by others. There were also practical difficulties relating to a barrier which would need to be overcome.

The Committee acknowledged that Police resources were stretched and they were not always able to respond to incidents in time. It was reported that a quotation was being obtained for upgrading the CCTV at the front of the Centre but the cost of this could be significant. The need to provide written evidence of incidents was required.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should support the SLRA in finding other ways to address the problems and engage with the Police and other authorities in this objective. The matter should be raised at the next Local Action Team meeting so that next steps could be agreed.

15/25k Waldron Recreation Ground

It was reported that the condition of the pitches was good. The Cricket Club had raised half the cost of the Netting and had asked if the Waldron Recreation Ground charity would consider giving a grant towards the cost. The Club had asked if VAT could be reclaimed through the Parish Council and this would be checked.

15/25l Jubilee Park

The provision of an additional dog bin was being pursued.

15/25m Skatepark

It was noted that anti-social behaviour was taking place at the Skatepark which was causing nuisance to nearby residents and preventing younger skaters from using the Park. Mr Woolley had visited the Park in the evening and spoken to the young people concerned but the activities were ongoing. It was agreed that the opening of the tunnel during the summer months was an attraction and made the situation worse. The Clerk reported that she had contacted the relevant Officer by phone and email and had not received a response.

It was agreed that a site visit should take place with the PCSO on a Friday evening to ascertain the extent of the problem.

15/026 TREES ON THE GREEN LANE ESTATE

There were no matters to report.

15/27 **DARCH'S WOOD**

There were no matters to report.

15/28 **HIGH STREET PLANTING**

There were no matters to report.

15/29 **HIGH STREET FURNITURE**

The Clerk had contacted the builders working on the flats above Trading 4 U regarding re-painting the damaged railings. They had recently returned to site and had promised to carry out the work once the main building works were complete.

15/30 **SEATS/LITTER BINS/BUS SHELTERS**

There were no matters to report.

15/31 **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEE**

New terms of reference for the Committee had been circulated for consideration. It was **RESOLVED** that they be approved and adopted.

15/32 **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

There were none.

15/33 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

The reports of anti-social behaviour at the Skatepark and Community Centre were being investigated and pursued.

15/34 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The actions agreed in relating to the Skatepark, Community Centre and Punnetts Town Car Park would help address risk management issues.

15/35 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 21 July 2015 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 9.45 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: