

HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL

RECREATION GROUNDS AND PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 7.30 PM

At Heathfield Community Centre

PRESENT: Mr M Baker, Mr Bowdler, Mr Chambers, Mrs Clark, Mrs Muddle, Mr Newnham, Mrs Plant (Chairman), Mr Smith and Mr Waterhouse.

The Clerk was in attendance.

10/81 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Davis, Mr Hart, Mr Wood and Mr Woodhouse.

10/82 **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

The following disclosures had previously been made by Members.

Mr Chambers disclosed a personal interest in respect of Lucas Hall and House and Cattam Pavilion as a Member of the Committee

Mrs Plant disclosed a prejudicial interest in respect of Darch's Wood arising from her husband's Membership of Cross-In-Hand Amenities Society.

Mr Newnham disclosed a personal interest as the Parish Council representative (paragraph 9(c) of the Code of Conduct) on Cross-In-Hand Village Hall. He also disclosed a prejudicial interest in matters relating to Darch's Wood as Chairman of the Cross-In-Hand Amenities Society (owners of the wood).

Mrs Plant disclosed a personal interest as the Parish Council's representative on the Hardy Roberts Playing Fields Association.

In addition to the above, all Members of the Parish Council had an interest in respect of the sole trusteeship of Waldron Recreation Ground Charity.

Mr Wood disclosed a prejudicial interest in respect of Heathfield and Waldron Rugby Club, as a Member of the Club.

Mr Smith disclosed a prejudicial interest in respect of Punnetts Town Village Hall as a member of the Village Hall Management Committee.

10/83 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2010, having been previously circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10/84 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

10/85 **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2010**

The Committee noted that the overspend at Broad Oak related to new play equipment and would be met from reserves.

10/86 **EMERGENCY WORKS OR WORKS ADDITIONAL TO CONTRACT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2010**

The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve emergency works to the value of £2,018 plus VAT.

10/87 **REPORTS ON RECREATION GROUNDS**

10/87a **Lucas Hall and House, Waldron**

The Committee noted that the cooker had been installed.

10/87b **Punnetts Town Recreation Ground and Village Hall**

Progress on New Hall

It was reported that functions were now taking place and the official opening was scheduled for 29 October. The Lease for the surgery was being finalised and would be completed before work on the building commenced.

10/87c **Tower Recreation Ground**

The Police had asked whether an additional seat could be installed in the recreation ground and it was **RESOLVED** to authorise the installation of a recycled plastic seat in a location to be agreed.

10/87d **Cade Street Memorial Ground**

Notice Board

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the replacement of the polycarbonate sheeting at a cost of £119 plus VAT.

10/87e **Broad Oak Recreation Ground**

New play equipment at Broad Oak

The Committee noted that the climbing frame tractor had been retained but in order

to accommodate all the new equipment with the required safety areas, the play chip safety surfacing had to be enlarged at an additional cost of £3108 plus VAT. The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve the additional work.

It was agreed that an official opening ceremony should take place early in October.

10/87f **Hardy Roberts Playing Fields**

The new play equipment was not yet installed. It was noted that there was litter around the playing fields and this would be raised at the next meeting of the Association.

10/87g **Leeves Common Play Area**

It was noted that the next meeting of Unity Community Association would take place on 30 September 2010.

10/87h **Sheepsetting Lane Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

10/87i **Heathfield Community Centre**

The Committee noted that a meeting with the PCT had taken place to discuss issues arising from the fire alarm test. Some minor amendments would be made to the Terms and Conditions for hirers of the centre in line with the recommendations of the Fire Officer.

10/87j **Waldron Recreation Ground**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the replacement of the gate into the recreation ground at a cost of £495 plus VAT.

There was then considerable discussion about a possible extension to the car park. Following a visit to Clayton Woods burial ground, it was suggested that rubber netting could be used to extend the area without impacting upon the appearance of the recreation ground.

It was **RESOLVED** to make a Proposal at the next meeting of the Waldron Recreation Ground charity that the cost of providing a double row of parking by means of rubber matting surfacing should be investigated.

10/87k **Jubilee Park**

It was **RESOLVED** that a tree planting ceremony should take place on 25 November to commemorate White Ribbon Day and suggested that it should be a Wild Service tree.

10/871 **Skatepark**

There was nothing to report.

10/88 **LICENCE TO OCCUPY**

The Chairman and Assistant Clerk had agreed some amendments to the draft which would be submitted to the Solicitor for comments.

10/89 **DARCH'S WOOD**

Fisheries Visit

The Chairman reported that the Environment Agency had been contacted regarding concerns over the health of the fish in the pond following a period of very hot weather. It was discovered that the oxygen levels were very low and urgent action had to be taken to aerate the water. The Council's contractor installed a generator and aeration device which was operated continuously for a period of time until the water quality had improved.

It was not yet known what the cost of this would be, but the Committee **RESOLVED** to approve this urgent action.

Tree Survey

The tree survey had not yet taken place.

10/90 **LAND AT PUNNETTS TOWN**

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the proposed legal fees at an estimated cost of £1,200 plus VAT.

10/91 **LAND AT THEOBALDS GREEN**

The Committee noted that visits had taken place to Clayton Woods burial ground and allotments at Herstmonceux and that a meeting of the Working Group was now planned for 30 September.

10/92 **GREEN LANE PUBLIC OPEN SPACES**

It was noted that the tree work had been carried out.

10/93 **ALLOTMENTS**

No report was made.

10/94 **SEATS, LITTER BINS AND BUS SHELTERS**

WDC – new litter bin planning application

The Parish Council had been consulted on proposals to replace some litter bins in the parish with ones which carried advertisements. The HPS Committee had commented that some of the proposed locations were in Conservation areas and some of the existing bins were owned by the Parish Council. Notification had since been received from WDC that the application had been withdrawn for further investigation.

Repainting High Street furniture

A quote for repainting the street furniture at the western end of the High Street had been obtained from the Council's contractor and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the work in the sum of £1,325 plus VAT.

10/95 **MILL ROAD PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

A verbal report was made regarding refuse left in the public conveniences.

10/96 **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

There were none.

10/97 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

There were considered to be no crime and disorder implications in respect of matters discussed at the meeting.

10/98 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The need for a tree survey in respect of Darch's Wood, together with urgent work to improve water quality in the pond were acknowledged by the Committee.

10/99 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Committee meeting would take place on Tuesday 2 November 2010 at 7.30 pm, in the Ian Price Room, Heathfield Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: