

HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL
LEISURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MONDAY 26 MARCH 2012 AT 7.30 PM
AT PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES

PRESENT: Mr M Baker, Mr Bowdler, Ms Bowdler, Mr Chambers, Mrs Clark, Mr Hart, Mr Newnham, Mrs Plant, Mr Smith, Mr Taylor, Mr Wood and Mr Woodhouse.

The Clerk was in attendance.

The meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

12/01 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Waterhouse.

12/02 **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

The following disclosures had previously been made by Members.

Mr Newnham, Mrs Plant and Mr Baker disclosed prejudicial interests in respect of Darch's Wood arising from their membership of the Cross-in-Hand Amenities Society.

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

Mrs Clark disclosed a personal interest in respect of Punnetts Town Village Hall as organiser of their Coffee Mornings

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

Mr M Baker disclosed a prejudicial interest in respect of Cross-in-Hand Village Hall as a member of the Committee.

12/03 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Leisure, Environment and Recreation meeting held on 19 November 2011, having been previously circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

12/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

12/05 **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT AS AT 29 FEBRUARY 2012**

The Committee noted and approved the report.

12/06 **EMERGENCY/ADDITIONAL WORKS TO 29 FEBRUARY 2012**

There were none.

12/07 **REPORTS ON RECREATION GROUNDS**

12/07a **Lucas Hall and House, Waldron**

Mr Chambers reported that the Hall was running well and making a small profit.

12/07b **Punnetts Town Recreation Ground and Village Hall**

(a) **Signage to Car Park**

The Committee considered a request from the Village Hall Management Committee that “no parking” signs be erected in the car park to keep the gate to the play area free from cars. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the erection of two signs to be placed either side of the gate.

(b) **Recreation Ground on 21 July**

It was agreed that use of the recreation ground should be allowed in conjunction with a wedding reception on 21 July 2012.

12/07c **Tower Recreation Ground**

An update was awaited regarding the serving hatch to the pavilion at the recreation ground.

12/07d **Cade Street Memorial Ground**

Recreation Ground on 3 June 2012

The Committee agreed to a request from the Old Heathfield and Cade Street Society to use the ground for a “Big Lunch” to celebrate the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee.

Tree to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee

It was also agreed to allow the Society to plant a tree to celebrate the Jubilee.

Access way with gate

The Committee considered a request for permission to create an access between the recreation ground and the field behind the Half Moon PH to facilitate access during the Cuckoo Fair. It was noted that there had previously been problems with people making a gap in the hedge as a short cut and Members expressed concern that even if the gate was locked, people would climb over it. It was, therefore, agreed that permission should not be given for an access gate.

12/07e **Broad Oak Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

12/07f **Cross in Hand Village Hall**

Proposed Car Park to rear of Hall

The Committee noted that further details were still awaited.

12/07g **Hardy Roberts Playing Fields**

An email from S Godfrey regarding re-surfacing of the car park serving the tennis and bowls clubs was considered and it was agreed that quotations should be sought for an MoT type 1 surface, which would be cheaper and more practical than tarmac.

12/07h **Leeves Common Play Area**

There were no matters to report.

12/07i **Sheepsetting Lane Recreation Ground**

It had been reported at full Council that there was a problem with dogs' mess on the pitch. The Committee noted that this seemed to be a problem elsewhere and it was agreed that in the first instance, laminated signs should be erected advising people to pick up after their dogs.

12/07j **Heathfield Community Centre**

Report on meeting held on 31 January with NHS/PCT

The Committee noted that despite several requests, no breakdown of the maintenance costs for the Centre had been received.

PAT Testing of Theatre Lights

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify this work at a cost of £124.50.

12/07k **Waldron Recreation Ground**

It was noted that the extension to the car park had been completed.

12/071 **Jubilee Park**

There were no matters to report.

12/07m **Skatepark**

It was reported that the health and safety sign needed updating and replacing.

12/09 **DOG BIN EMPYTING**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the revised cost of emptying of dog bins through Wealden District Council at a cost of £4.80 per bin with effect from 1 April 2012.

12/10 **HIGH STREET/STATION ROAD PLANTING**

A quotation had been received from Europlants Ltd for planting in 2012. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the quotation in the sum of £643.20 plus £145.75 per visit for maintenance.

12/11 **LICENCE TO OCCUPY**

It was noted that this was on-going.

12/12 **DARCH'S WOOD**

Cross in Hand Amenities AGM

A verbal report was given of matters discussed and the Committee noted that the possibility of arranging Working Parties to carry out minor maintenance tasks had been proposed. It was noted that the bridge would need to be removed temporarily to enable it to be repaired and renovated.

Dumping of Garden Waste

The Committee noted a reply from the owner of the neighbouring property which indicated that he had no knowledge of this.

12/13 **HEATHFIELD AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

The Committee considered a request from the Society regarding a suitable location for planting a glade of trees. It was agreed that although trees would need to be planted as part of the woodland burial ground, the area might not be suitable for what the Society had in mind and the Chairman agreed to talk to them about the proposals.

12/14 **YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM**

It was noted that ESCC were seeking suitable projects for the YOT to undertake. It was suggested that Darch's Wood might be a suitable opportunity and if Members had any further suggestions they should let the Clerk know.

12/15 **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

Motorbikes in Marklye Woods

Mrs Plant raised the problem of motorbikes causing a nuisance in Marklye Woods, which had been brought to the attention of the Millennium Green Trust. It was suggested that in the first instance, the Trust should consider the erection of signs to indicate that motorbikes were prohibited, which would enable the Police to take enforcement action.

Provision of additional seat at Hardy Roberts Playing Field

The Chairman of the Council had been approached by a local resident about the possible provision of an additional seat. It was **RESOLVED** to agree the request and a suitable location would be identified by the Chairman in liaison with the Parish Council's contractor.

12/16 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

There were no implications under the above Act in respect of matters discussed at the meeting.

12/17 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

- (i) To consider effects (if any) arising from items on the Agenda

There were none.

- (ii) To review risk list

A draft risk list had been circulated to Members, taking into account changes of responsibility with the recent change in Committee structure. It was **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the list. This action to be ratified at the next full Council meeting.

12/18 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Committee meeting would take place on Tuesday 15 May 2012 at 7.30 pm, in the Meeting Room, 73 High Street, Heathfield

The meeting closed at 8.32 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: