

HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL
RECREATION GROUNDS AND PROPERTIES COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2010 AT 7.30 PM
At Heathfield Community Centre

PRESENT: Mr Bowdler, Mr Chambers, Mrs Clark, Mr Davis, Mr Hart, Mr Newnham, Mrs Plant (Chairman), Mr Smith, Mr Wood and Mr Woodhouse.

The Clerk was in attendance.

10/100 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs Muddle and Mr Waterhouse.

10/101 **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.

Mr Davis disclosed a prejudicial interest in respect of all matters relating to C and E Davis Limited as a result of his son's appointment as the Parish Council's contractor.

10/102 **MINUTES**

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

10/103 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

10/104 **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2010**

The Committee noted the report.

10/105 **EMERGENCY WORKS OR WORKS ADDITIONAL TO CONTRACT FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2010**

The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve emergency works to the value of £1,616.80 plus VAT.

10/106 **REPORTS ON RECREATION GROUNDS**

10/106a **Lucas Hall and House, Waldron**

It was noted that the hedge had been cut and was an improvement.

10/106b **Punnetts Town Recreation Ground and Village Hall**

Official opening of new Hall on Friday 29 October 2010

The Committee noted that this had been a successful occasion and Members were impressed with the new hall. Congratulations were expressed to everyone who had helped raise funds for the project.

Lease on Doctors' surgery

The Clerk reported that the Village Hall Committee were unwilling to amend the underlease to pass on the cost of insuring the building to the Health Authority. However, it had been confirmed that the VHC would reimburse the cost to the Parish Council and this would be formalised by exchange of letters.

It was noted that the document had now been signed and work had commenced.

10/106c **Tower Recreation Ground**

The Committee were disappointed to note that the fencing around the play area had been vandalised.

The location of the new seat had yet to be confirmed with the Police.

10/106d **Cade Street Memorial Ground**

There were no matters to report.

10/106e **Broad Oak Recreation Ground**

The Committee noted that the new play area had been officially opened on 15 October 2010 and the Pre-school group had expressed their appreciation of the new equipment.

It was noted that the fencing adjoining the Burwash Road was damaged, which was the responsibility of the Village Hall Committee and Mr Hart would speak to the Committee in this regard.

10/106f **Hardy Roberts Playing Fields**

New play equipment

It was noted that the new play equipment had not yet been installed.

Hardy Roberts Playing Fields Association

A meeting of the Association had taken place and the Rugby Club had outlined plans for fencing off the pitch and installing permanent floodlights. Members of the Committee expressed concern about the effect on public use of the playing fields should the pitch be fenced off and were also concerned about possible light spillage onto the A265 from the floodlights. It was noted that planning permission would be required for these works.

There was general concern that no prior notice was given of events taking place on the playing fields, which could impact upon other clubs. It was agreed that all Clubs should notify the Parish Council prior to events taking place.

10/106g **Leeves Common Play Area**

The Committee noted that the community spaces application was in the process of being submitted.

10/106h **Sheepsetting Lane Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

10/106i **Heathfield Community Centre**

Meeting with the PCT on 15 September 2010

The Committee noted that a meeting with the PCT had taken place which focused

mainly on the implications of the recent fire drill exercise. The PCT had undertaken to improve signage and appoint an Evacuation Officer and the Parish Council were to carry out quarterly Health and Safety inspections of their part of the building.

10/106j **Waldron Recreation Ground**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee had been re-scheduled for 24 November 2010. The Village Hall Committee thanked the Parish Council and its contractor for maintaining the ground so well.

The Clubs wished to erect a noticeboard inside the gate to the ground and it was agreed that permission should be given, to be formally ratified at the next meeting.

10/106k **Jubilee Park**

It was noted that arrangements had been made for a Wild Service tree to be planting on 25 November 2010 at 11.00 a.m. to mark White Ribbon Day and all Members of the Council were invited to attend.

10/106l **Skatepark**

There was nothing to report.

10/107 **BUDGET REQUIREMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2011/2012**

As the necessary papers had not been circulated to Members, it was agreed to hold an Extra-ordinary meeting of the Committee on Monday 22 November at 7 p.m. prior to the HPS Committee meeting to discuss the budget requirements.

10/108 **LICENCE TO OCCUPY**

It was noted that the Assistant Clerk was proceeding with this matter.

10/109 **DARCH'S WOOD**

Tree Survey

The Chairman reported that she was meeting the arboriculturist tomorrow.

10/110 **LAND AT PUNNETTS TOWN**

No further progress at this time.

10/111 **LAND AT THEOBALDS GREEN**

Working Group

The notes of the meeting held on 16 September 2010 had been circulated to Members.

Cost of topographical survey

The Planning Consultants had indicated that a topographical survey of the site was required to enable quotes to be obtained for a tree survey. K LW had approached three companies for quotations and the lowest price had been received from Omega Geomatics. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Omega Geomatics in the sum of £1,650 + VAT.

10/112 **GREEN LANE PUBLIC OPEN SPACES**

There were no matters to report.

10/113 **ALLOTMENTS**

The Committee noted that a tenant had indicated a wish to relinquish his plot from January 2011 and another tenant had asked whether her plot could be divided in half as the present area was too large for her.

10/114 **SEATS, LITTER BINS AND BUS SHELTERS**

Fire Station bus shelter

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the replacement of the polycarbonate in the bus shelter at a cost of approximately £320 plus VAT, depending on other work in the area being undertaken by Bus Shelters Limited.

Mill Road Noticeboard

The polycarbonate panels in this noticeboard had been damaged and it was **RESOLVED** to approve a quotation in the sum of £119 plus VAT from the Council's contractor.

The Committee were disappointed at the level of vandalism generally and Mrs Clark offered to speak about the cost implications to the Assembly at Heathfield Community College, which was gratefully accepted by Members.

10/115 **MILL ROAD PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

It was noted that the skylights to both conveniences were badly in need of replacement. The Council's Contractor had investigated local suppliers and the estimated cost of the work was £3,000 plus VAT. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the quotation.

10/116 **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

There were none.

10/117 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

The Committee noted vandalism at Tower Recreation Ground and to noticeboards and bus shelters.

10/118 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The broken fencing at Tower Recreation Ground had safety implications and would be repaired as a matter of urgency.

10/119 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Committee meeting would take place on Monday 22 November 2010 at 7.00 pm, in the Ian Price Room, Heathfield Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield.

The meeting closed at 9.52 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: