

HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL
LEISURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2016 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES

PRESENT: Mrs Fraser, Mr Hart (Chairman), Mr Hough, Ms Kift, Mr Robinson, Mrs Robinson, Mr South, Mr Stevens, Mr Wood and Mr Woolley.

The Clerk was in attendance.

Mrs Batchelor representing Unity Community Association and Mr Wilson representing Heathfield and Waldron Rugby Club were also present.

MEMORIAL TO MR MATTHEWS

Mrs Batchelor explained that the UCA wished to erect a small brass plaque onto the seat at the top of Thorny Close in memory of Mr Matthews who was well known in the town for picking up litter.

CCTV IN CAR PARK – HARDY ROBERTS

Mr Wilson spoke to the Committee about theft of a motor vehicle and theft of contents from another vehicle and the Rugby Club's wish to erect CCTV to cover the car park and Club pavilion.

Mr South arrived at 7.45 during the above discussion.

The Meeting commenced at 7.47 p.m.

16/01 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Hatcher, Mr Ridley, Mr Rivers, Mr Taylor and Mr Waterhouse.

16/02 **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.

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 South disclosed a prejudicial interest in respect of Darch's Wood as a member of the Cross-in-Hand Amenities Society

16/03 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Leisure, Environment and Recreation Committee meeting held on 9 November 2015, having been previously circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

16/05 **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2015**

The Committee noted and approved the report.

16/06 **EMERGENCY/ADDITIONAL WORKS TO 30 NOVEMBER 2015**

Emergency work in the sum of £120.00 + VAT for spraying Japanese Knotwood was noted and approved.

16/07 **REPORTS ON RECREATION GROUNDS**

16/07a **Lucas Hall and House, Waldron**

Mr Hough reported that the windows to the Lucas House were in a poor state and also the roof at the back of the house.

The Clerk reported that the letting agents for the House were proposing an increase in the rent to £925 (from £875) and this was agreed – to be ratified at the next meeting of the Trustees.

16/07b **Punnetts Town Recreation Ground and Village Hall**

The condition of the car park was discussed and it was agreed that whilst the surface material was satisfactory, the potholes needed to be properly filled. It was agreed that Mr Stevens would meet the Council's contractor on site to discuss. It was also suggested that the roadside hedge be allowed to grow in height to stop dust from the car park affecting nearby residents.

16/07c **Tower Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

16/07d **Cade Street Memorial Ground**

There were no matters to report.

16/07e **Broad Oak Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

16/07f **Cross in Hand Village Hall**

There were no matters to report.

16/07g **Hardy Roberts Playing Fields**

Request from Rugby Club for CCTV camera to cover Clubhouse and car park

The request to erect CCTV cameras was agreed in principle subject to the necessary warning notices and satisfactory terms and conditions of use which should be supplied to the Clerk.

16/07h **Leeves Common Play Area**

There were no matters to report

16/07i **Sheepsetting Lane Recreation Ground**

It was reported that the Summer Activity Day planned for 10 July 2016 had been cancelled.

16/07j **Heathfield Community Centre**

(i) Flooding in toilet at Community Centre on 8 October 2015

The Committee noted that this was due to a member of the Drama Club blocking the sinks and leaving the taps on and the leader of the Club had been informed.

(ii) New carpeting

It was agreed that quotes for a replacement carpet in the Hall should be obtained, likely to be in the region of £7,000 + VAT.

(iii) Re-decoration of walls in Hall

It was **RESOLVED** to approve a quotation from James Wilson for repainting of the walls, window sills and dado rail in the total cost of £3290. The Committee noted that other companies had been invited to quote, but no response had been received.

(iv) Repairs and re-hanging curtains

It was **RESOLVED** to approve a quotation from Carvills in the sum of £1193.33 for this work.

(v) General discussion

There was a general discussion about the Council's lease with the NHS, whether value for money was being achieved and what additional income could be generated. It was noted that if hiring fees were increased significantly, bookings could be lost to other halls in the area. Although the Centre currently ran at a loss, the budgetary figures did not take account of fees the Parish Council would have to pay for its

meetings should the Community Centre no longer be available and there was also the general benefit to the community to be considered. The Clerk confirmed that she had been attempting to get an answer from the NHS about the possibility and implications of relinquishing the lease. The Committee agreed that this would be good background information to have available.

16/07k **Waldron Recreation Ground**

There were no matters to report.

16/07l **Jubilee Park**

There were no matters to report.

16/07m **Skatepark**

There were no matters to report.

16/08 **TREES ON GREEN LANE ESTATE**

There were no matters to report.

16/09 **GREEN LANE PUBLIC OPEN SPACES**

There were no matters to report.

16/10 **DARCH'S WOOD**

The Committee noted that the Amenities Society would be erecting notices around the pond to try and prevent dogs from swimming in the pond and attacking the ducks which had recently been introduced.

16/11 **HIGH STREET PLANTING**

Flower poles

The Committee noted that a flower pole had recently been damaged by a vehicle and that others in the High Street were damaged. It was agreed that quotations for replacement should be discussed at the next meeting.

16/12 **HIGH STREET FURNITURE**

There were no matters to report.

16/13 **SEATS/LITTER BINS/BUS SHELTERS**

- (i) Request (from Councillor Thomas) for litter bin adjacent to bus shelter in Ghyll Road

It was agreed that due to the cost of provision and emptying, a litter bin should not be installed at this location.

(ii) 2 additional seats at the top of Newnham Way

The Committee considered a request from Unity Community Association and decided that the additional seats should not be installed as it was not considered to be a suitable location for young people to congregate.

(iii) Memorial plaque to Bob Matthews

Following a request from Unity Community Association, it was agreed that a memorial plaque in memory of Bob Matthews, who was well known for clearing litter around the town, should be erected on the bench at top of Thorny Close. The plaque would be paid for by a relative of Mr Matthews.

16/14 **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

The Committee considered a request from the Horticultural Society to waive or reduce the cost of using the pull down screen in the Ian Price Room during their regular meetings. It was noted that the Community Centre fees had been reviewed at the end of last year and it was agreed that having one fee to cover additional items of equipment should remain at present, with the matter being reviewed again at the March meeting.

16/15 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

The proposed installation of CCTV cameras at the Rugby Club would have a positive effect in terms of the above Act.

16/16 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The car park at Punnetts Town was considered not to represent a risk to the public but its condition would be monitored.

16/17 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 15 March 2016 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 9.09 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: