

HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL

EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF RECREATION GROUNDS AND PROPERTIES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2009 AT 7.30 PM At Heathfield Community Centre

PRESENT: Mr Bassingthwaighte, Mr Davis, Mr Hart, Mrs Muddle, Mr Newnham, Mrs Plant (Chairman), Mr Wood and Mr Woodhouse.

The Clerk was in attendance.

There were 4 Members of Unity Community Association, Sgt Hammerton from Sussex Police and a member of the Press were also present.

UNITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Chairman of the Association, Mr Hedges stated that it was now too late to apply for funding for a multiball court as this was dependent upon the youth shelter being in place. He had been informed that future applications for multiball courts would not be accepted. Of the various options available, UCA wished to transfer the Awards For All funding to the creation of a community garden elsewhere on the estate. It was suggested that a youth shelter be provided at the skatepark together with possibly Tower Recreation Ground.

UCA considered the play area at Leeves Close to be under-equipped and asked that a Working Group be formed with representatives from UCA as well as the Parish Council to work towards improved facilities.

Sgt Hammerton confirmed that where to site youth shelters was always a problem. Existing shelters at Uckfield and Herstmonceux did generate complaints but residents were not directly affected. They were well used because they were sited where young people already gathered.

The meeting commenced at 7.59 p.m.

09/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Chambers, Mrs Clark and Mrs Oakes.

09/02 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Mrs Muddle disclosed an interest in respect of the play area as a resident of the estate but it was deemed to be personal only as she lived some distance away.

09/03 **LEEVES COMMON PLAY AREA**

It was confirmed that the Parish Council were not against youth shelters in principle but had a duty to respond to letters of objection received from nearby residents, hence the calling of a Public Meeting. There was a general feeling that residents would be more supportive if there was more than one shelter in the town. The Committee considered that the skatepark would be a good location but neighbours would need to be consulted should Tower Recreation Ground be considered for a second shelter. The Chairman thanked UCA for all their hard work so far.

Following discussion it was proposed and agreed that a Working Party should be formed to look at facilities at Leeves Common. Mr Woodhouse indicated his interest in being involved in this.

It was also proposed and agreed that the possibility of siting a youth shelter at the Heathfield Skatepark be pursued and that consideration be given to a second site. It was not known whether planning permission would be needed at the Skatepark and the new Lease would need to be resolved to enable it to proceed.

09/04 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

There were considered to be no risk management issues at this time.

09/05 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

It was considered that there were no crime and disorder implications arising at this time.

09/06 **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Committee meeting would take place on Monday 23 February 2009 at 7.30 pm, in the Ian Price Room, Heathfield Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield.

The meeting closed at 8.16 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: