

Wickham Parish Council

Recreation Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held at Wickham Centre on Wednesday 6th April 2016 at 7.30pm.

Present: Sue Roger-Jones (Chairman), Angela Clear (Vice-Chairman), Trevor Astbury, Di Frost, Justin Gamblin, Nick Guy, Tim Harper, Jon Taylor.

Barry Causer and Alan Ediss Co-opted to Recreation Committee, Parish Clerk Nicki Oliver.

- 1 **To receive apologies for absence** Adrian Brown, Simon Wernick.
- 2 **To receive declarations of interest on agenda items** None.
- 3 **To adjourn meeting to allow participation by members of the public** Not required.
- 4 **Agenda**

4.1 Wickham

1. To receive update from Wickham Community Tennis Club (Chairman)
 - 1.1 Update on proposals for club house **There was some discussion about the club house and concerns that not enough Wickham and Knowle residents would benefit from a building that was for the exclusive use of the tennis club.**

There was agreement that any new building should be available to the wider community. Ideas for further improvements that could be made to the existing pavilion to be investigated as an alternative to a new building. New toilets are a priority with provision for disabled access.

Alan Ediss noted concerns that the coaching business was impacting negatively on the club. A review of the coaching contract was required. The club needs to be promoted more widely in Wickham and Knowle to encourage more local members.

- 1.2 To receive quotations for the cleaning and repainting of the tennis courts – funded through the sinking fund. **It was agreed to recommend to Full Council that the quote from Chiltern Contracts be accepted for the sum of £2,870 + VAT. Club to advise when acceptable to close the courts from Monday – Friday to allow paint to dry.**

- 1.3 To consider further request from Club for windbreaks. **Request considered and declined as for previous requests.**

2. To receive update on the management of the all weather pitch (Clerk) **Bookings have been good during the winter months, there are fewer formal bookings during the late spring and summer.**

A meeting has been held with Chiltern Contractors to raise concerns about fibre loss from the all weather pitch carpet. The carpet is expected to have an eight year life but the Council's maintenance contractor HB Surfaces feels it will need replacing sooner. The Parish Council is budgeting for its replacement based on an eight to 10 year life span.

3. To progress proposal for new pavilion (Chairman) **See item 1.1 above.**
4. Report on play area and skatepark repairs and maintenance required (Clerk)
 - 4.1 Anti-social behaviour issues in the community centre car park and recreation ground **No recent reports of problems.**

Some concern that there is information suggesting the recreation ground car park could be available for overnight stays for Wickham Fair. It was agreed to check with Rookesbury's agent to see if there is still an ongoing injunction in place. Action Clerk.

5. To receive update on proposed 2016 Projects:
 - 5.1 Inclusive swing for community centre play area (Chairman) **It was agreed to recommend to Full Council that an order be placed with Wicksteed for the installation of the swing, surfacing and fencing for the sum of £6,934 + VAT.**

4.2 Knowle

1. To review maintenance requirements for adopted areas and receive reports of other work required: football pitch, cricket pitch, skatepark, hard court, Greater Horseshoe Way, Victoria Mews, Consort Mews and Barbastelle Walk play areas.

1.1 Update on insurance claim for retractable bollards (Clerk) **No further correspondence received.**

1.2 Update on Infinity grant funded pitch improvements **All work completed.**

1.3 Hard court / MUGA maintenance update **Moss control has been carried out by Complete Weed Control. Active Academy has indicated that they wish to hire the court on Saturday mornings. Agreed hire fee £10/hr.**

1.4 Request for storage cabin for Youth Club equipment (Clerk) **Ongoing.**

1.5 Update on hall issues **In the absence of the surrender of the existing lease and the signing of the new lease it was agreed to write to the current trustees to seek assurance that the hall has been registered as an employer with HMRC and that provision is being made for work place pensions for staff. Councillors also raised concerns about cash management and payments whilst no official committee in place.**

- 5 **To identify any unmanaged risks within this committee's remit** Included above where relevant.
- 6 **Review effectiveness of communication, development of links with other community organisations and support for local democracy through making information more widely available** Continue to monitor.

- 7 **Recent correspondence/ reports from meetings attended of relevance to this committee**

24th March 2016 Cllr Guy reported on a meeting arranged by The Land Trust to discuss how the site transferred from the Homes and Communities Agency should best be used by the community. A number of ambitious suggestions have been made including allotments, play areas and a community farm.

Meeting closed 8.57pm