

CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Report of meeting held on Thursday 19 February 2015 commencing at 7.30pm
in the Council Chamber, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, Bucks HP10 8DS

The meeting is open to members of the public and press

Present: Cllr L Willis - Chairman Cllr K Wood
 Cllr C Jordan - Vice Chairman Cllr J Johnson
 Cllr M Wilkes Cllr B Sadler
 Cllr J Gurney

Also present: Cllr J White, Cllr J Herschel, Mr R Green (Vice Chairman Loudwater Orchard Group) and Mr G Christie

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Bailey (funeral), Cllr Digby and Cllr Johncock (WDC meeting)

2. Declarations of members' interests in Items on the agenda

There were none.

The Chairman of the Committee suspended Standing Orders with the agreement of members present and moved agenda item 6 forward.

6. Community Orchard Update

Mr Green had attended the meeting to provide an update on the success of the Loudwater Orchard.

Members were advised that membership was at a steady 10 – 12 people, however the group were going to post out a flier to Loudwater residents, in the first instance, to encourage others to join. Residents from Flackwell Heath and Tylers Green would be welcomed if there were no immediate plans to start orchards in the two wards.

Two beds had been dug in the first year – one planted with dwarf root stock fruit trees and the other planted with potatoes by the pupils of Loudwater School. The ongoing plan was to dig one bed a year.

Members were advised that an Open Day was planned for 14 March starting at 2pm.

Cllr White added that the £2k from the parish council had definitely got the group on its' feet, it had paid for the trees, perimeter fencing and shed.

Members were asked to consider the request from the Orchard Group to plant spare fruit trees outside the boundary of the orchard site at Derehams Sports Ground. Discussion followed about future ownership of the trees if outside the boundary of the orchard and also that perhaps if the orchard continued to be a success an enlargement of the boundary could be a possibility.

***It was RESOLVED that;
the spare fruit trees be planted within the boundary of the orchard.***

It was noted that the expansion of the Orchard project to Flackwell Heath and Tylers Green be deferred to the next committee meeting on 28 May 2015.

Mr Green thanked the committee and left the meeting at 7.55pm

3. Track to Scout Hut, Ashley Drive

Members were asked to note that a further quote with provision of a soakaway had been requested to act as a comparison quote as previously discussed.

4. Straight Bit Recreation Ground

4.1 Flackwell Heath Bowls Club – Track

Members were asked to note that the Warden was continuing to investigate solutions for the track leading to the Club, at the request of Mr Hill, this item is ongoing.

Flackwell Heath Bowls Club – Height Barrier

Members were asked to note that an order will be placed for the installation of the height barrier in the new financial year.

4.2 Anti-social Behaviour – Car Park Gate

Members were asked to note that, at the request of the committee, the Clerk had sent letters with accompanying ASB log sheets to all the neighbours of the recreation ground. So far there had been nothing reported.

Members were asked to note that there had been considerable anti-social behaviour reported to the police on the Budgens car park in Flackwell Heath. The owners of the car park were intending to install rising bollards and the taxi drivers had offered assistance in locking the car park in the evening.

Members were asked to consider a short term delegated action for the Clerk in the event that the anti-social behaviour moves back to the Straight Bit car park.

It was RESOLVED that;

the Clerk be able to instigate a contractor to lock the gate for a period of two weeks in the event of any anti-social behaviour in the car park.

4.3 Fitness trainer

Members were asked to note that a request had been received from a fitness trainer to use the site for an hour on Saturday mornings.

5. Derehams Park Sports Ground

Members were asked to note that there were some remedial works required to the pavilion. Works required as listed below;

- replacing the ceiling board in the lobby entrance to the away changing room;
- replacement flooring for the main room – contribution from tenant to be requested;
- remedial works to the damp wall of the shower in the home changing room.

It was noted that there had always been a damp issue in the pavilion.

The Clerk would obtain quotes for further consideration at the next committee meeting in May so works would be undertaken over the Summer period.

7. Allotments

Members were asked to note that the database for the allotment sites was now completed, making communication with all the allotment holders much easier.

7.1 Chapel Road update

Members were asked to note that the new fencing had been damaged in the bad weather at the beginning of the year and was awaiting repair, it should be complete within the following two weeks.

Following requests from allotment holders, members were asked to approve the track repair at the allotment site using Oxford shingle not to exceed £500.00 which was within the remaining budget.

***It was RESOLVED that;
the Clerk instigate the repair work to the track within the agreed budget of £500.00.***

7.2 Ashley Drive update

Members were asked to note that the compost area was being well used and the compost accelerator had been ordered. A second section was planned to be installed later in the year so that rotation of compost could take place.

Members were also asked to note that the Community Payback teams had been digging over the empty plots to keep them in good order for prospective tenants. On the strength of Cllr Wood's article in the Village Voice a family had taken one of the newly dug allotments.

8. Playground Feedback

Members were asked to receive feedback and an update from the playground working groups.

Cllr Wood advised that a Tylers Green working party meeting would be called for further consideration of fitness equipment on the site. Cllr Sadler asked about the zip wire and was advised that it was unsafe.

Cllr Herschel reported that the next phase of the Flackwell Heath playground would be discussed at the next working party meeting and proposals would be brought back to committee for consideration.

Cllr Willis advised that Boundary Road Recreation Ground was always well used. The shelter was noted as requiring a new coat of brightly coloured paint to match the new equipment.

8.1 Ashley Drive Recreation Ground – perimeter fencing

Members were asked to note that following some work to an overgrown laurel hedge by a neighbouring resident to the recreation ground issue had arisen with dogs gaining entry to their back garden. On close inspection some accidental cuts had been made to the fence also the laurel hedge had pushed parts of the fence over.

The resident concerned had sent through an email advising that the fence had cuts, some of which were extremely old. The issue that they had reported were the holes in the fence allowing ingress to their garden.

Quotes were currently being obtained for the replacement of the fence however members were asked to note that a contribution from the resident would be requested.

The perimeter fence of the recreation ground was the parish council's responsibility however in this case it was felt fair that a contribution be requested due to the overgrown hedge contributing to the disrepair of the fence.

***It was RESOLVED that;
the Clerk contact the resident concerned and advise that a contribution would be required towards the cost of the replacement fencing.***

8.2 Straight Bit Recreation Ground – tarmac pad

The tarmac pad to the rear of the Old Police House had been under discussion for some time and had been deferred in light of the planning application for the development of the site. The removal and landscaping option had been under debate, however members were now asked to

task the Flackwell Heath Playground Working Group to bring a proposal for the tarmac pad area back to committee.

It was RESOLVED that;

the Flackwell Heath Playground Working Group be tasked to bring a proposal for the tarmac pad area to the next committee meeting in May.

9. Committee Finances

Members were asked to note the current committee expenditure and income. The accounts were showing a slight increase in income.

10. Questions from council members and the public

Cllr Gurney advised that his Railway presentations had been a great success with the dates sold out. He was willing, if members were interested, to give a presentation for council members. There was a lot of interested and Cllr Gurney advised that he would circulate some dates.

Cllr Herschel wanted to report that the Flackwell Heath Bowls club had advised that they were unhappy with the length of time the track issue had taken.

Cllr White made a request to use the Community Payback teams over a two week period to assist in the clearance of a wooded area to the rear of the caravan park (Rayners Avenue). PABA had reported difficulty traversing the bridleway which took them close to a tee on the golf course. If this wooded area could be cleared this would re-route the bridleway making access to the bridleway at Derehams Park Sports Ground easier.

The Clerk advised that she would contact the co-ordinator for the Payback teams to see if this would be possible.

11. Accounts for payment

The accounts for payment were circulated for consideration by councillors.

It was RESOLVED that;

The accounts for payment be approved and cheques numbered 8481 to 8492 be signed and that direct debits to Southern Electric, Shell and Unicom be approved for payment.

The chairman thanked member for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.47pm

Signed: Katrina SA Wood Dated 16 April 2015

Date of the next meeting: Thursday, 28 May 2015 at 7.30pm