

CHEPPING WYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting held on Thursday 24 May 2012
in the Council Chamber, Cock Lane, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, Bucks HP10 8DS

Present:

Cllr L Willis - Chairman	Cllr S Herron
Cllr C Jordan - Vice Chairman	Cllr J Herschel
Cllr J Gurney	Cllr B Sadler
Cllr S Digby	Cllr J Bailey
Cllr D Onslow	

Also present: Cllr J White, Cllr D Johncock

Minutes

1. Apologies for absence.

Cllr I Forbes

District Councillor M Appleyard

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

Cllr. J Bailey – a personal interest in item 7

Cllr. D Johncock – a personal but non prejudicial interest in item 3

3. Straight Bit Recreation Ground

3.1 Report

Cllr Willis gave a report on the meeting of 18 May 2012 with a resident and their legal representation.

The report summarised the residents feeling of little or no support from the parish council or police regarding the constant anti-social behaviour and noise generated from the site over the last 10 to 12 years. The complainant had requested an Environmental Impact Assessment which had been undertaken by Wycombe District Council, this had been asked for in relation to the proposed BMX facility. The contents of the report were discussed at length.

The resident's family were no longer able to enjoy their home and felt intimidated. They advised that in their opinion bad management of the facility and its poor location and the lack of consultation were to blame. They now felt that the law was behind them and they could 'go as far as they had to' in order to find a resolution. All present at the meeting were looking toward the best solution.

Cllr Willis advised that at the meeting he had said that in his opinion the BMX facility would probably not go ahead on this site.

Following a vote it was AGREED that the BMX facility proposal on the Straight Bit Recreation Ground be withdrawn.

The committee were then able to comment on the above summary.

The committee was made aware of further complaints regarding the toilet block to the District Council. Further background of the site and its facilities was given and all were advised that the location of the youth shelter and toilet block had been on police advice.

Cllr Willis offered 5 possible options for consideration:

- 1 To remove the whole facility
- 2 To remove parts of the facility
- 3 To re-site the whole facility
- 4 To re-site parts of the facility
- 5 To do nothing

Careful consideration was given to the above options. Option 1 and 5 were ruled out and a discussion followed about the possible relocation of parts of the facility and the need for a robust consultation process with residents and other users of the site. The repositioning of equipment would have to be dealt with in a thoughtful and well researched way. It was decided that the council should take guidance and advice on the relocating of any pieces of equipment and this would be done in conjunction with the Wycombe District Council Environmental Health Department.

Gates were now on the car park area and a 'gatekeeper' was being sought. Signs would be erected to give opening/closing times and other users of the car park would be consulted. It was hoped that this would go some way to ease the noise issues in the evenings.

It was noted that in future all 'like' projects would be parish council managed and led.

The committee agreed to RECOMMEND to the council that elements of the youth facilities are re-sited on the Straight Bit Recreation Ground in consultation with the residents and assisted/advised by the Environmental Health Department of Wycombe District Council. It was also recommended that the fruit trees be cut down and replanted with non-fruiting trees.

Actions: The Clerk was asked to contact the District Solicitor and also to get quotes for the cost of re-siting the equipment.

3.2 Exercise equipment

This item was taken as noted and further consideration would be taken on the positioning of the equipment.

4. Derehams Park Recreation Ground

4.1 Pavilion

This item was taken as noted.

4.2 Bowls Club

This item to be taken forward for further consideration as not discussed.

4.3 Derehams Park Working Party

This item to be taken forward for further consideration as not discussed.

5. Dog Bins

The 10% increase in the contract was taken as noted.

6. Community Orchards

This item to be taken forward for further consideration as not discussed

7. Allotments

7.1 Chapel Lane

This item was taken as noted.

7.2 Ashley Drive

This item was taken as noted.

8. Recreation Grounds and Parks

8.1 Safety Inspections

This item was taken as noted.

8.2 Review of facilities

This item will be taken forward for further consideration as not discussed.

8.3 BMX facilities

This item will be taken forward for further consideration as not discussed.

9. Questions from council members and the public

There were none.

10. Accounts for Payment

The lists of accounts for payment were circulated to members and were approved. The list to be attached to the minutes of the meeting so that they were available for scrutiny by the public.

The chairman thanked members for their attendance at the meeting which ended at 9.45pm

Date of the next meeting of the committee: Thursday 27 September 2012

Signed **Date**