

WOLLASTON PARISH COUNCIL
PLAYING FIELD & PARKS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13 JULY 2021, 7.00pm
At The Clubhouse, Playing Field, London Road, Wollaston

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Messrs Boddington, Green, Mitchell, Perry, Savage (Chair), Silsby, and Tew, Mrs Milroy (Vice Chair) - Miss D. Styles, Clerk.

MEMBERS/PUBLIC PRESENT

Mr Schmitz.

APOLOGIES

Mr Jones.

SECURITY

Mr Schmitz kindly attended the meeting to update the committee regarding security and presented his report as to cameras, storage, viewing and timescales. It was agreed the camera security system would be installed at a cost of £1,400 to include supply and fit and Mr Schmitz would confirm a date for installation. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Milroy, Seconded by Cllrs Messrs Tew and Mitchell, unanimously agreed.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 08 June 2021 were agreed unanimously and signed as a correct record.

FINANCES

Finances were circulated. Spends for June were EON floodlight energy £15.48, Strim and weed control £350, Wheelie bin empty and 6 month bin empty and litter pick, Norse £388.10, play equipment inspections £360, Tractor diesel £457.16 and sand bags £11.43. Monthly finances and the quarterly budget to end of June 2021 were agreed. Norse had charged for the collection of the recycling bin, but this had not yet been delivered. It was agreed the bin that Norse had later delivered was too small and it was agreed the clerk will ask Norse to replace it with a 240L lockable recycling wheelie bin. The bin provided could not be locked, was black with a green lid and had been used by the public to hold general waste as opposed to recycling believed to be because of the colour of the bin.

PLAY EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

The reports from the external play equipment, adult gym equipment and courts inspector had been received. There is shrinkage on play surfaces which will need to be addressed and monies put aside in the budget. There was an issue with the swings at the Playing Field but Mr Savage has liaised with the inspector and it has been agreed there are no issues with the swings' crossbar. But several other minor issues were mentioned which may need attention. Mr Savage had carried out the monthly inspections of the play equipment at St. Mary's, The Pyghtles and Playing Field areas and the adult gym and passed the check sheets to the Clerk. There is an issue with the safety surface under the basket swing and handle missing on the flower rocker at St. Marys play area as well as the clamp to the bottom of the elephant rocker at the Playing Fields play area. Clerk has contacted Playground Supplies to resolve issues.

POCKET PARK

There has been no update for volunteers from Scott Bader to tidy the Pocket Park. One of the gates has now been painted. Pocket Park is unlocked and locked through the committee.

SPORTS ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mr Perry reported that cricket is going well with the 1st Team challenging in Division 1, 2nd Team doing well and 3rd Team has 50:50 older and younger members. The T20 Cricket finals day is this Sunday at the field and Wollaston has won 3 games, beating local sides, to reach it. The first ever all girls team has been entered into a tournament at

Kettering and finished runners up. On Fridays, there are some 50+ players all under 11 attending on the field for coaching. Mr Green reported Vets start training next Thursday. Unfortunately, the sad news of a death of a player was reported after an accident at home. The committee passed on their condolences to the family and it was agreed after a request from a family member, that a memorial tree can be planted on the far side of the field in memory of the player.

PURCHASES REQUIRED

Mr Savage presented a report regarding security at the main gate to London Road/car park. A rising bollard has been proposed to supplement the large gate to the entrance of the car park. This would ideally be on a timer to be raised at certain times for Winter/Summer seasons and lowered at the same time every morning. This prevents the need for padlocks, keys and relying on members to open/close gates. A quote had been received costing £6,482 + VAT. It was agreed Mr Savage will speak with Mr. Shelton to propose a 50:50 split with the PF committee using the monies from the tree budget to cover 50% cost. It was felt the committee and cricket club need to be proactive in trying to prevent anti-social behaviour, vandalism and break ins with the installation of the new cctv system, the bollard to the entrance of the site and alarms to be installed on the containers to add to the existing ones on the clubhouse building.

The damage to the internal gates to the field had been reported to the Police under Crime no 21000333934. Clerk had obtained 2 quotes for the manufacture and replacement of the gates at near identical figures of £1,600 plus VAT. It was agreed the clerk would check with the insurance company the cost would be covered and if so, the works would go ahead with the company having the shortest lead time.

FIELD MAINTENANCE/MATTERS RELATING TO THE FIELD

Mr Perry had been investigating aeration/verti draining of the football pitches. It was agreed Mr Perry would ask Maximow to complete aeration of the pitches. Clerk had provided 2 quotes for weed and feed of the site. It was agreed GJ Wilcox (Agricultural) Ltd would provide the service for this. Clerk to advise companies accordingly and book the service for a Wednesday or Thursday. Tennis user has asked for a new tennis net. It was agreed the storage box would be opened to see whether a viable net was available from there. Mr Boddington raised the issue of the surface of the tennis courts as weeds were growing again. It was reported the surface is cleaned every 2 years and that once the S106 monies are received work can begin on overhauling the site to 3G and 5G to encourage wider sport use. Unfortunately, the WABIK Summer Holiday Club activities to take place on the playing field over July and August have had to be cancelled. There have been queries regarding access for disabled users and those with buggies. Clerk to look into. The Parish Council will be advised through the clerk who will be using the site other than the usual cricket/football matches and practices. Mr Savage will contact Mr Frost regarding refurbishment of the field benches. Thanks to Hayeswood for weed spraying by the clubhouse. Clerk to ask them to increase their cut back of the hedge and grass to the side of the net storage area. As part of the flood prevention measures, Clerk had asked Cllr Dr Goldsmith whether his gardener could assist with cutting back branches to the brook and cutting up existing branches in the brook. If he agrees and he provides some available dates, it was agreed a request for assistance to the wider community would be circulated to help clear the brook. A small skip would be required.

There had been 2 requests to use/hire the field for sports activities. It was agreed that in line with the current policy of no commercial users the requests would be denied at the present time but that the committee would look into the commercial hiring of the field in the future. This would require a booking system, hire agreement, policy and checking with the insurance company. Clerk to investigate any historic paperwork and future hire of site.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 14 September 2021 7pm at the Clubhouse.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Signed by Chair:

Date: