

**REPORT OF THE LEISURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2008 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr W R Ackers (Chairman) Cllr F D Parnell  
Cllr K Jones (Vice Chairman) Cllr C Phillips  
Cllr S K Dexter Cllr J M Stock  
Cllr W Evans Cllr H A Webb  
Cllr M Mellersh Cllr I J Woodbridge

Clerk: Mr G M Mundy

**1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from councillors I M J Caldicott and J E Nunn-Price.

**2 Declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.**

Cllrs Webb and Woodbridge declared an interest in item 7(c). Cllr Dexter declared an interest in item(s) 5(a), 7(b), 7(c).

**3 Sign report of committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

It was **MOVED** the chairman and **RESOLVED** unanimously

**“that the minutes be signed as a true record of the meeting”**

**4 Matters arising from the report**

The Clerk informed the committee that he had still not received the quotations from Zaun fencing and HB Corrie for fencing the Mary Green Play Area. It was suggested and agreed that the Clerk contact Buffalo Fencing of Wallingford.

Clerk

*Clerk's note: On investigation Buffalo Fencing only supply and install wooden fencing.*

**5 Reports from the following outside bodies**

(a) Grove RFC Pavilion Management Committee – the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March were noted. The Clerk was asked to contact the secretary of the Challengers with regard to the Conditions of Use document.

Clerk

(b) Oxfordshire Playing Field Association – No meeting had been held.

(c) Grove Village Hall Management Meeting – The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2008 were noted.

(d) Youth Advisory Committee – No minutes had been received.

**6 Items relating to play areas/allotments/open spaces.**

(a) Play equipment inspection reports:

(i) Summary of councillor reports – The summary was noted. The following actions are to be carried out:

Clerk

- Monitor the carpet lifting around the springer play equipment in the Mary Green play area and await the next VenturPlay report. *Clerk's Note: There are no adverse comments referring to the play area carpets on the latest VenturPlay report.*

Clerk

- Monitor the swing seats at the Westbrook play area

Clerk

(ii) VenturPlay report (29/02/08) – The Clerk was asked to check the flaking paint in the springer play equipment in the Mary Green play area.

(b) Correspondence from the Millbridge Allotments Association –

Because of the Data Protection Act, the Millbridge Allotments Association has requested the parish council to send out letters to those tenants who are not members of the association inviting them to become members, this will enable them to receive public liability insurance cover for their plots. The association felt that it would be courteous and neighbourly to write to them.

Clerk It was generally agreed that the Clerk obtains the details of the tenants who are not members and write to them on behalf of the association.

Clerk It was also generally agreed that the annual allotment competition takes place again this year. Judging would take place as in previous years. The Clerk was asked to place an item on the next L & R committee agenda regarding funding for prizes.

**7 Recreation ground/Wasbrough Field issues**(a) Correspondence from Grove Rangers Football Club – The correspondence from Grove Rangers made three requests as follows:

Clerk  
Ackers

- Removal of thorn trees from behind the rugby clubhouse; the league requirement is that permanent railings or removable ropes are positioned not less than 1.85 m from the touchline. – Because of the ownership boundaries, the clerk was asked to check whose land the trees were on. The chairman said that he would inspect the trees

Clerk

- Use of the Wasbrough Field pitch on Saturday afternoons as a second pitch; Grove Challengers who normally use this pitch have said that they will be dropping one of their two teams who use this pitch – The Clerk was asked to contact Grove Challengers to verify this

Clerk

- Wet area immediately behind the rugby clubhouse – It was generally felt that vertidrainage in this area was sufficient

Clerk The clerk was to respond to Grove Rangers.

(b) Notification of a change of date for the Grove RFC summer camp – The Clerk informed the committee that he had received an email from Dave Jones of Grove Rugby Club informing him of a date change to their already agreed Rugby Summer Camp. The new date for the summer camp is to be 11<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> August.

The Clerk informed the committee that the end of the summer camp would clash with the start of the White Horse Folk festival (14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August 2008).

Clerk

The Clerk was asked to write to Dave Jones and inform him of the clash. It was suggested and agreed that Dave Jones is asked to contact the White Horse Folk Festival organiser (Dave Guest) to arrange a suitable compromise. Dave Jones is to be informed that in the event of a compromise not being met, the White Horse Folk festival would have priority on the Recreation Ground during the period 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August. Dave Jones is to be requested to inform the Parish Council of the outcome of their discussions

(c) Request from the sports clubs to extend the playing season due to cancelled games – It was generally agreed that the Clerk write to all sports clubs using the recreation ground and Wasbrough Field and inform them that due to previously cancelled fixtures the playing season is extended to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May. All posts and fittings are to be removed from the recreation ground and Wasbrough Field following this date in accordance with the Conditions of Use document.

Clerk

(d) Request from Grove Scouts to use the Recreation Ground on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May for a family afternoon – It was generally agreed to allow Grove Scouts the use of the area in front of the Scout hut for their family day on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2008. The same conditions apply as last year. The Clerk is to inform them accordingly

Clerk

- (e) Correspondence from Cluttons re dog bans/Wasbrough Field – The correspondence had previously been distributed to all councillors. Cllr Parnell said that it was not practical to ban dogs completely from the recreation ground and not Wasbrough Field.

Parnell The chairman suggested and it was agreed that Cllr Parnell speak to Mr Wasbrough regarding a suggestion to obtain a dog control order which could stipulate that all dogs are to be kept on leads and restricted to the perimeter of both the recreation ground and Wasbrough Field.

Clerk It was also suggested and agreed that this item be raised as an agenda item at the next Full Council meeting and for the committee to make an interim report to Council.

- (f) Request from Mr Hebborn to attend Wasbrough Field 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May 08 – It was generally agreed (subject to the usual conditions) to allow Mr Hebborn to attend with his fair on Wasbrough Field 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> May 2008. Mr Hebborn has indicated that he would be arriving on Wasbrough Field on 12<sup>th</sup> May.

Clerk It was also generally agreed that the same fee would apply. The Clerk was asked to check against records held of when the last time the fee was increased.

## 8 Mably Way Recreational Area

The Clerk informed the committee that he had received an email from the District Council in response to several questions:

- There are no plans to install drainage because of the cost and that it would not be long before there will be replacement pitches in the new Grove development. The district council would be mixing sand with the top 50mm so that it will give much better drainage than the natural soil
- The woodland areas are the same as the original plans
- Prices to install the pitches have only been requested to maintain the grass until April 2009 at the latest, so when they are ready to be played on they will be handed over to the parish council. The district council have intimated that the parish council are better placed to maintain the pitches as they always find that contractors are ‘reluctant’ to maintain things properly.
- There are no plans to install a watering tap

Clerk The Clerk was asked to respond by letter to the district council and inform them that unless the pitch areas are properly established the parish council will not assume responsibility for them. The clerk is also to add that the parish council only agreed to maintain the pitches on the understanding that the area would have suitable drainage and that because the outline planning application for the Airfield Development has yet to be submitted it is not guaranteed that this area would be a Community Park.

## 9 Trees

There was nothing to report.

## 10 Updated quotation from Lambourn Surfacing for Grove Recreation Ground car park

Clerk The updated quotation from Lambourn Surfacing had previously been distributed to all councillors. The Clerk was asked to contact Gary Stone to seek a further quotation from WG Clay for the whole of the car park area. The Clerk is also asked to try and seek a third quote from another source.

## 11 Chairman’s urgent communications

- (a) Notification of an OPFA Seminar on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008 – It was **PROPOSED** the chairman **SECONDED** Cllr Parnell and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk “that the Clerk and Health & Safety Officer (subject to availability) attend this seminar at a cost of £25 per person”

- (b) Correspondence re memorial seat – The Clerk informed the committee that he had received a letter a local resident requesting that the bench located on the recreation ground and adjacent to his property be re-located to another area of the ground.

The bench was originally installed as a memorial to a married couple that lived nearby and the nearest relative of the couple, now reside in Scotland. Recently teenagers have used the bench in the evenings and weekends in an anti social manner.

It was **PROPOSED** Cllr Evans and **SECONDED** Cllr Dexter and **RESOLVED** unanimously

**“that the Chairman and Clerk visit the site and decide on an alternative location.”**

Clerk

The clerk is to inform the correspondent.

**12 General correspondence**

There were no items of general correspondence.

The meeting closed at 8.41pm

Confirmed: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2008

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Chairman