

**REPORT OF THE LEISURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 29th MAY 2007 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr W R Ackers (Chairman)
Cllr K Jones (vice-chairman from item4)
Cllr M Mellersh
Cllr F D Parnell
Cllr C Phillips
Cllr J M Stock
Cllr H A Webb
Cllr I J Woodbridge

In attendance: 1 member of the public

Clerk: Mr G M Mundy

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from councillors I M J Caldicott, S K Dexter, W Evans 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 W Ackers and M Mellersh declared an interest in item 9 b).
Cllrs H Webb and I Woodbridge declared an interest in item 6 h).

3 Election of a Committee Chairman

It was **MOVED** Cllr Parnell **SECONDED** Cllr Stock that Cllr Ackers be elected as chairman. There being no other nominations Cllr Ackers was re-elected committee chairman.

4 Election of a Committee Vice-Chairman

It was **MOVED** Cllr Ackers **SECONDED** Cllr Mellersh that Cllr Jones be elected as vice-chairman. There being no other nominations Cllr Jones was elected committee vice-chairman.

5 Sign report of committee meeting held on 3rd April 2007

The clerk informed the committee that the confirmed date at the bottom of page 3 had been amended from 5th June to 29th May

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

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

6 Matters arising from the report

- a) Item 6 a) – Quotes for a footpath to the youth shelter – The clerk informed the committee that these had not yet been sought.
- b) Item 6 c) – Allotments competition – The chairman informed members that judging had not yet started.
- c) Item 6 d) – Millbridge Allotment Holders Group – The clerk informed the committee that councillors Ackers, Mellersh and Parnell would be meeting with the Allotment Holders Group on 30th May 2007.
- d) Item 6 e) – Complaint regarding Mary Green Play Area – The clerk had responded to the complainant.
- e) Item 6 f) – Correspondence regarding Mary Green Play Area – The correspondence had been passed to MaGIC.

- f) Item 6 g) – Quotes for fencing – The fencing had been purchased and is awaiting installation.
- g) Item 7 a) – Hebborn’s Fair – The clerk informed the committee that the fair had been and had left the field. Because of complaints received regarding litter it was agreed to add a further condition of use for next year, where Mr Hebborn is to litter sweep Wasbrough Field daily for the duration of his stay in Wasbrough Field. The clerk also reported that the deposit paid by Mr Hebborn had been withheld because of damage to the bench adjacent to the basketball court, probably caused by the fair’s vehicles.
- h) Item 7 b) – Challengers 6’s – The Challengers had been informed of the restrictions placed upon them for the 6’s.
- i) Item 9 – Trees – The clerk confirmed that the tree work would be delayed until the Autumn.
- j) Item 11 – Parish Council Reception Guest List – The list was amended accordingly.

7 Elect members on the following outside bodies

- a) Grove JET - It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Stock be elected onto JET for Grove.
- b) GRFC Pavilion Management Committee – It was unanimously agreed that the chairman continued as the representative of the council.
- c) Oxfordshire Playing Field Association – It was unanimously agreed that the chairman continued as the representative of the council. The vice-chairman was also nominated as sub.
- d) Youth Advisory Committee – It was unanimously agreed that the chairman continued as the representative of the council. Cllr Mellersh was also nominated as sub.

8 Reports from the following outside bodies

- a) Grove RFC Pavilion Management Committee – The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May 2007 were distributed by the clerk. The chairman spoke regarding a request from the meeting regarding having two adult pitches on Wasbrough Field and also a request to extend the compound.
- b) Oxfordshire Playing Field Association – No meeting had taken place. The clerk was asked to find out when playground inspection courses would be held closer to Grove.
- c) Youth Advisory Committee – No meeting had taken place.
- d) Sweatbox Union – The Sweatbox Union minutes of 26th March and 30th April 2007 were noted.

Clerk

9 Items relating to play areas/allotments/open spaces.

- a) Play equipment inspection reports:
 - Summary of councillor reports – The summary was noted.
 - Venturplay report 24/3/07 – The report was noted.
 - Venturplay report 30/4/07 – The report was noted. The chairman explained to the committee the risk assessments made by the Venturplay inspector. The clerk explained that the pedestrian gate on the Wasbrough Field would be secured. The clerk was asked to arrange a site visit with Peter Debbage (Venturplay inspector) to discuss various issues.
- b) MaGIC update –The chairman explained that the previously scheduled car boot sale had been rained off.
- c) Funding the Junior Play Area in Mary Green Play Area – The chairman explained that MaGIC currently has approximately £14,000.00 in funds available for the junior play area. The chairman also explained that he has received a quote for approximately £20,000.00 for a play scheme from Playdale. It was generally agreed that the chairman seek further quotes for

Clerk
Clerk

play schemes to the value of approximately £20,000.00 before proceeding further with this item.

- d) Re-siting the youth shelter – Various suggestions were given as to a possible location to re-site the youth shelter and included; Bosleys Orchard, Wasbrough Field (by the skate park), Wasbrough Field (by the basketball court), outside of Old Mill Hall (by the corner opposite the school) or by the kickabout area. The clerk was asked to write to the local police commander and also to Garry Kingett on their thoughts the impact would have on the suggested locations.
- e) Correspondence from Venturplay regarding Mary Green Play Area and future play inspection charges – The correspondence was noted. The clerk was asked to contact Roger Davis at the OPFA and find other play equipment inspection services and then seek further quotes.
- f) Correspondence from the Vale Housing Association regarding Windrush Close – The chairman explained that ball games are only sometimes played in this area. He also explained that he had been to look at the area and could see no damage to the outside of the house, however the garden wall next to it looked damaged. Although this was probably due to bad pointing of the brickwork and vegetation growing through the wall. The clerk was asked to reply to the letter and re-iterate the council policy of not banning ball games in open spaces, and suggested that in past experiences this problem would disappear. The clerk is also to inform the Housing Association that they must inform the police and ask the local PC/PCSO to visit the area when they have ascertained when these incidents occur most.
- g) Correspondence regarding Mary Green Play Area – The clerk was asked to respond to the resident and inform her that although this matter had been considered before, it was still felt that the ditch offered a natural and additional play value for children using the Mary Green Play Area. The clerk is also to inform her that the council staff do monitor the ditch following wet weather and if necessary will close the play area due to health and safety reasons. The clerk is also to obtain RoSPA advice and ensure a risk assessment is carried out by the council's Health and Safety Officer.
- h) Weekend litter warden – It was generally agreed that this item be passed to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for consideration.
- i) Meeting with the Millbridge Allotments Association – The chairman informed the committee that councillors Parnell and Mellersh would be joining him at the meeting on 30th May at the rugby club.
- j) Correspondence from Mrs Richards and reply from the chairman (for information only) – The correspondence was noted.

10 Recreation ground/Wasbrough Field issues

- a) Correspondence from Rangers FC – The chairman reminded the committee that the Rangers request for an additional pitch next season had been considered before but had been refused. However it was generally agreed, that because of the new removable goal posts that Challengers and Rangers would be purchasing this request will be reconsidered. The clerk was asked to inform the other clubs of the request and to get their agreement to share to pitches.
- b) Sub-committee to discuss the Conditions of Use – It was generally agreed that a sub-committee be formed to discuss the Conditions of Use for the Recreation Ground/Wasbrough Field and also to undertake a pitch review. The following will form the sub-committee:
- The chairman (sub the vice-chairman), councillors Parnell, Phillips and Woodbridge.
- c) Correspondence from Premier Soccer – The proposed dates from Premier Soccer were agreed. The clerk was asked to inform Premier Soccer accordingly and also to inform them of the Grove Airfield Development. The same terms and conditions as in previous requests apply.
- d) Matters regarding a complaint from Mr Ring – The clerk was asked to contact Mr Ring and ask if this matter had been resolved.

11 Mably Way Recreational Area – update on progress

Clerk No further information will be given until a decision is made about the Southern Access Road. The clerk was asked to write to the Grove District councillors and ask them for an update.

12 Trees

There were no tree matters for discussion.

13 Income and Expenditure statement for year ending 31st March 2007

The statement was noted.

14 Renewal premium for motor vehicle insurance

Two Quotes had been obtained and were as follows:

Allianz - £3,875.21

Zurich - £3,990.45

It was **MOVED** Cllr Stock **SECONDED** the chairman and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk **“to accept the quotation from Allianz for motor vehicle insurance for the sum of £3,875.12.”**

15 Leisure and Recreation committee finances

The clerk informed the committee that following an informal meeting with Cllr Dexter it was proposed that the committee’s reserves headings be reduced to:

1 x general reserves

3 x specific reserves

Future projects

New equipment

Maintenance

16 Chairman’s urgent communications

Clerk The clerk read out an e-mail from Mr Tring who explained that recently a near miss occurred by the Mary Green Play Area whereby by a child who was running through the play area pushed open the gate (outwards) to catch up with her mother, and was nearly knocked over by a car. The clerk was asked to seek advice from RoSPA and reply to Mr Tring accordingly

17 General correspondence

The Playing Field magazine

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm

Confirmed: 10th July 2007

Chairman