

**REPORT OF THE LEISURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 8th JANUARY 2008 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr W R Ackers (Chairman) Cllr K Jones (Vice-Chairman)
 Cllr I Caldicott Cllr W Evans
 Cllr M Mellersh Cllr J M Stock
 Cllr H Webb Cllr I Woodbridge

In attendance: Mr P Connolly and Mr E Ashford (GRFC)

Clerk: Mr G M Mundy

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from councillors F D Parnell, S K Dexter, C Phillips 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 6(b).
Cllrs H Webb, and I Woodbridge declared an interest in items 4(e) and 7(a).
Cllr I Caldicott declared an interest in item 7(a).

3 Sign report of committee meeting held on 13th November 2007

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

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

Cllr K Jones arrived

4 Matters arising from the report

- Clerk
- (a) Item 4(a) – Quotes for concrete footpath to youth shelter – The clerk informed the committee that he had asked Mr Peter Debbage (VenturPlay play equipment inspector) to provide an assessment as to the suitability of using concrete within the Play Area.
 - (b) Item 4 (a) – Quotes for fencing the Mary Green Play Area – The clerk informed the committee that no quotes had yet been received. The Clerk was asked to chase this matter up.
 - (c) Item 5(a) – Hedge line adjacent to the Rangers FC pitch – The clerk informed the committee that the grounds staff will thin the line of the hedge as part of their ongoing maintenance programme.
 - (d) Item 7(e) – Complaints regarding dog mess on the Recreation Ground – The clerk informed the committee that he had written to the users of the recreation ground regarding additional signage concerning dog waste and had received fairly positive replies. The clerk also reported that he had not yet obtained quotes for additional signs but was pursuing this.
 - (e) Item 7(g) – Grove Challengers FC proposed temporary changing facilities – The clerk informed the committee that the Parish Council could submit an application on behalf of Grove Challengers FC at a reduced fee. The amount the fee would be would depend on the amount of floor space of the facility.
 - (f) Item 10 – Purchase of chipper/shredder – The clerk informed the committee that the chipper/shredder had been delivered just before Christmas, but unfortunately the grounds staff was unable to take in Christmas trees following the Christmas break. The clerk added that they would be in a position to shred Christmas trees next year.
 - (g) Item 13(a) – Allotment plot No 37 & 42 – The clerk informed the committee that the tenant renting plots 37 & 42 had now paid his overdue rent and therefore no further action was required.
- Clerk

5 Reports from the following outside bodies

- a) Grove RFC Pavilion Management Committee – The chairman reported that no meeting had been held. The next meeting was scheduled for the 9th January 2008.
- b) Oxfordshire Playing Field Association – No meeting had been held.
- c) Grove Village Hall Management Meeting (21/11/07) – The minutes of the meeting had previously been distributed and were noted.
- d) Youth Advisory Committee (01/11/07) – The minutes were noted.
 - (i) Sweatbox union Minutes (05/11/07) – The minutes were noted.

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

- (a) Play equipment inspection reports:

- (i) Summary of councillor reports – The summary was noted.

Clerk

The clerk was asked to check to see if the council had a stock of seats to repair the seat at the Westbrook play area, if not the clerk was to obtain quotes for repairs or replacement.

- (ii) RoSPA report for post installation of new equipment – The report was noted.

- (ii) VenturPlay report (30/11/07 & 27/12/07) – The reports were noted.

- (b) MaGIC update – The chairman said that not a lot was happening at the moment but an AGM was due soon.

7 Recreation ground/Wasbrough Field issues

- (a) Correspondence from Grove Challengers FC dated 3rd December 2007 and reply from Grove RFC – Cllr Evans said that both Grove Challengers and Grove RFC are aware of the areas that may be used for training and that there were no excuses for training in the wrong areas. He also said that it was the responsibility of the each club committee to ensure that this information is passed down to all club members.

The chairman said that the area in front of the clubhouse is still not recognised officially as a playing area, but was allowed to be used by the Grove RFC minis for training on a Sunday morning only.

Cllr Evans suggested and it was agreed that the Parish Council facilitate a meeting between the Grove Challengers and Grove RFC to try and bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion. The clerk was asked to contact both clubs and arrange a mutually convenient date for a meeting as soon as possible.

Clerk

- (b) Ground maintenance issues arising from the previous meeting – As requested from the previous meeting, the clerk had prepared a comparative table of costs of grass seed, fertilizer and top soil. Although it was agreed that the sports pitches should now be fertilised twice yearly it was also agreed that the costs are prohibitive.

Cllr Webb informed the committee that she had been speaking to a local farmer who informed her that he could arrange for the sports areas to be fertilised at a fraction of the costs tabled. It was generally agreed that Cllr Webb contact the clerk and exchange contact details for the local farmer.

Webb/
Clerk

- (c) Correspondence from Grove RFC regarding floodlight use – The correspondence expressed the concerns of Grove RFC over the shared use of the floodlights and suggested that a token metering system be installed. Grove RFC has suggested that the Parish Council may wish to contribute to the costs. It was generally agreed that Grove RFC obtain cost before a decision would be made regarding a Parish Council contribution.

GRFC

- (d) Correspondence from Grove RFC requesting the use of the Recreation Ground during 2008 – It was generally agreed that, subject to the usual conditions, Grove RFC be allowed to use the Recreation Ground for the following events:

Clerk

Annual mini rugby festival – Sunday 5th October
Annual Bonfire & Fireworks display – Friday 7th November

- (e) Correspondence from Grove RFC regarding the proposed location of the new Community Park in relation to the current plying fields – The chairman suggested and it was agreed that because this was a specific Local Plan issue, this committee had no remit to discuss this issue and deferred the matter to the next Full Council meeting.

Clerk

8 Mably Way Recreational Area

The clerk informed the committee that a meeting had been arranged for Thursday 17th January with the District Councils planning consultant. The meeting will take place in Old Mill Hall and commence at 7.15 pm. The meeting is open to all Parish Councillors and a memo will be distributed on Thursday 10th January. District Councillor Jenny Hannaby and Joyce Hutchinson are also invited in support of the parish Council.

All/
Clerk

9 Trees

- (a) Correspondence from Mr Phillip Gill of Grove Scouts – The chairman suggested and it was agreed that the Scouts should be encouraged. He also suggested that once discussions regarding the item below are held then perhaps this was something for the scouts to assist the Parish Council with. The clerk is inform Mr Gill accordingly.

Clerk

- (b) Correspondence from Mrs Rachel Horne regarding Tree Planting – The chairman suggested and it was agreed that the clerk initiate a meeting with Mrs Horne.

Clerk

10 Quotations for the repair of the Recreation Ground car park

The clerk informed the committee that he had only received one quote; from Mr Clay. It was generally agreed that the clerk obtain at least one other quote. It was suggested that the clerk contact the OPFA regarding grant funding to offset the cost of the repairs. Cllr Caldicott suggested and it was agreed that the clerk investigate the possibility of using metal plates to cover the potholes.

Clerk
Clerk
Clerk

11 Budget estimate for 2008/09

Following discussion...

Cllr Dexter volunteered to assist in policy review.

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

“to recommend to Full Council to set the budget of the Leisure and Recreation Committee at £29,650 for 2008/09.

12 Chairman’s urgent communications

There were no urgent chairman’s communications.

13 General correspondence

There was no general correspondence.

The meeting closed at 8.33 pm

Confirmed: 19th February 2008

Chairman