

CAM PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD WEDNESDAY 11TH MAY 2011
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING FULL COUNCIL IN THE COUNCIL SHOP**

PRESENT: N Ledoux, D Andrewartha, J Fowles, D Jones, J Sherman, D Pritchard, B Powell, M Clifton, M Stevens

IN ATTENDANCE: D Cornell, S Hanman (Clerk)

RL.11.20. To elect a Chair

Cllr Ledoux was unanimously elected Chairman for 2011/12

Cllr Ledoux took the Chair and recorded a vote of thanks to Cllr Andrewartha for all his work in that position.

RL.11.21. To elect a Vice –Chair

Cllr Stevens was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman for 2011/12

RL.11.22. To receive Apologies for Absence

None received

RL.11.23. To receive Declarations of Interest

None received

RL.11.24. To Accept and Sign Minutes of the Meeting of 13th April as a True and Correct Record

It was RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

RL.11.25. To receive any questions, statements or submissions from members of the public in attendance or from any Councillor in respect of any agenda item in which he/she has a Prejudicial Interest

None received

RL.11.26. To note matters arising from the Minutes and not covered by agenda items for Information Only

None raised

RL.11.27. To note correspondence received

The following were noted:

- **Playinnovations** – information on ‘Street Snooker’ (brochure attached) – could be an interesting and innovative addition to the Multi Use area at the Jubilee Field?
- **Nottsport** – Information on synthetic surfacing
- **Fast Play (RSS)** – Information on new limited period express delivery service for new play equipment
- **Neptune** – Information on outdoor furniture
- **SMP Playgrounds** – Newsletter
- **Glos Playing Fields Association** – Newsletter
- **Woodberry** – Information on outdoor furniture
- **Wicksteed** – information on play equipment
- **Plantscape** – information CD including solar powered Christmas tree

RL.11.28. To receive and comment on budget report and consider any amendments

The current budget position was noted. It was considered that the budget heading for verge cutting should be transferred to Planning & Highways Committee. No further amendments were considered necessary at this stage.

RL.11.29. To consider provision of additional seating at Woodfield Park

Details of seating were provided. It was RESOLVED to order 2 x 1500mm Oakworth benches without backs in recycled plastic material from British Recycled Products at a cost of £153.72 each + VAT (Power: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19). Cllr Pritchard would liaise with the Handyman to confirm the positions for the seats.

RL.11.30. To consider quote for repair to all weather surface at Woodfield Park

It was noted that there were several fairly small areas in the carpet surface on the football pitch that require repairs where the current condition represented a trip hazard so needed to be addressed. The quote to cut out rectangular patches back to sound material, level and compact infill below and install patches and sweep in new infill was £490 + VAT.

The Company had also provided costs for other options to improve the site:

- a) Take up whole carpet, level the ground underneath and re-lay including cleaning and new infill - £7,800
- b) Installation of temporary game lines for 5-a-side (need re-application between 6 – 12 months) - £200

It was RESOLVED that the quote for repair be accepted (Power: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19) and that consideration should be given to a full re-lay when setting the budget for 2012/12.

RL.11.31. To consider report for regular inspection of trees for which the Parish Council is responsible (if available)

Report not yet received.

RL.11.32. To confirm arrangements for payment of Service Level Agreement fee for 2011 to Stroud Valleys Project

The SLA, as agreed at the last meeting had been forwarded to SVP for agreement. A message had been received that they had one or two queries, but it had not yet been possible to contact them to confirm what these are. This would be referred to the next meeting if the queries cannot be resolved by the Clerk.

RL.11.33. To consider Jubilee Field Maintenance and Development issues

- i. **To receive update on anti social behaviour, litter, damage etc and agree any actions** – There continued to be a certain amount of anti-social behaviour at the field, mainly on Friday evenings, also some Saturdays. Although this was mainly fairly low-level, it was causing disturbance to adjacent residents, especially when combined with other ASB in the area around the field. It was agreed to try to arrange another patrol with the Specials one evening to assess the situation and hopefully engage with some of the young people to try to stop this situation from escalating over the summer period.
- ii. **To consider grounds maintenance issues and agree any actions** – It had been brought to the attention of the Grounds Maintenance contractors that hedge cutting (both on this site and at Cam Pitch), which is included in the contract, was not carried out last year. They had agreed to do 2 cuts this year (one at the end of the nesting season and another in the autumn/winter) to get the hedges back into order, following which they should be cut on an annual basis. The first of the rough cuts on the lesser used parts of the field had now been carried out – these should now be done on a monthly basis through the growing season. It was noted that complaints had been received regarding weeds and thistles etc around the new toddler equipment – it was agreed to ask the Grounds Maintenance Contractor to add regular strimming of this area to the contract.

RL.11.34. To Note any Comments from Users of Jubilee Field and Agree Actions

It was noted that Everside YFC had tendered their apologies for this meeting – they had no new issues to raise. They hoped to be able to present something on their Development Plan progress at the next meeting. There remained serious concerns regarding the condition of the changing rooms, where there appeared to be evidence of continued use despite the fact that clubs had been instructed not to use the units due to their dangerous condition since the water leaks etc. It was felt that the clubs should be contacted and reminded that the units should under no circumstances be used, on health and safety grounds. It would stressed that there is a possibility that the units might have to be condemned, and the clubs would be asked for details of their intentions, given that the understanding was that they should be responsible for maintenance, in return for using the Jubilee Field facilities without charge. It was further agreed that a Working Party of this Committee should meet on site before the next meeting to inspect the units, assess their condition and discuss options.

It was noted that there was considerable wear in goal mouths, but that repair of these was normally the responsibility of the clubs.

RL.11.35. To receive regular inspection reports for play areas and open spaces and agree any actions

Reports had indicated the following issues:

Woodfield – broken step on toddler slide – repaired by handyman
- loose rail on climbing frame – being referred to installers

Cam Green – Worn grassed area in goal mouth – it was agreed that the goal should be removed for the summer and the area filled and re-seeded.

RL.11.36. To Note any Issues Relating to Allotments

- i) **To consider any applications for structures and note planning implications** – applications had been received for sheds at Plot 19 Ashmead 2 and 8 Upthorpe. Both were approved with usual conditions and provided that they are sited to allow room for hedge maintenance.
- ii) **To consider inspection reports and agree any actions** – No new inspection reports this month. The tenant at Hocker Hill had been instructed to remove leylandii plants and had advised that he has done so. It was now agreed that the boundary of this plot with the adjacent private garden should be marked with a post and wire fence, to prevent future disputes and/or misunderstandings, given that the removal of the previous boundary hedge by the adjacent householder gives the impression that the allotment plot is part of the private garden. The Handyman had been instructed to strim and tidy the unused area at the end of the Westend site. A complaint had been received that the hedge at Westend is now so high that it is blocking light from the plots – ownership of this hedge has never been confirmed – this would be inspected by Cllr Andrewartha, who would report to the next meeting.
- iii) **To consider action to be taken with regard to trees at Ashmead 2 allotment site** – Following the records search at County Archives, which indicated that the Council is not responsible for the rear boundary of the site, the landowner of the adjacent field had been contacted. He had advised that, in his view, the boundary should be in the centre of the ditch and that therefore trees were the responsibility of the Parish Council. It was noted that the archive information merely stated that the Council is not responsible for the rear boundary – if it is accepted that the actual boundary is in the centre of the ditch as stated, then the trees are actually within the Council's land, and thus are presumably a Council responsibility. Council would then have authority to carry out whatever works it feels necessary, including removal of the trees. Quotes had been sought for necessary works to the remaining trees, and for the removal of the trees and it was agreed to await these before reaching a decision.

iv) **To note current position with regard to payment of rents and vacancies/waiting list** – The current situation was as follows:

2011 budget for allotment income	£2100
Rents received to date	£1905
Rents outstanding	£74 (reminders have been issued)
Vacancies (5 full plots, 1 half plot) value	£133 (waiting list are being contacted)

v) **To note and comment on any further allotment issues**

None raised

RL.11.37. Any Other Urgent R&L Matters for Information or Referral Only

Proposed Memorial Trees – Nothing further had been heard from Stroud Valleys Project.

Proposed wild grass/flower area – Cllr Ledoux would discuss this with the resident who had suggested it.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.05pm.