

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE held on Monday, 22 April 2013 in the Parish Room, Village Hall, South Darenth at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr I Blackamore (Chairman)
Cllrs R House, D Mitchell, C Page & M Stead
Mr M Burroughs, Mr D Chambers & Mr T May
IN ATTENDANCE: H Rohard, Parish Clerk, J Osborn, M Burroughs SDFC

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr R House, D Chambers
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

47 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed as a correct record

48 MATTERS ARISING

Trees: Sarah ward to be contacted re T1 on her land
Solicitor acting for Parish Council to be reminded re tree on SD Village Green to be made safe

ACTION: Clerk

Pavilion Windows: No grant had been applied for but provision had been made in the 2013-14 Budget

Insurance re damage to surfaces in fields:
ACTION: Clerk to check position with insurers

Broken fence due to Parish owned tree: had been dealt with and damage paid for

49 WESTMINSTER FIELD

A request to use the Field for an organised event – as per previous e-mail correspondence was considered but the interested party had not attended the meeting or given answers to questions raised by the committee. The Council would await further correspondence.

50 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

No issues noted

51 HEATHSIDE

The Clerk asked for clarification on the Parish Council's view on the Graffiti in the stand; usually this is painted over by Lions Club before their fete but otherwise it is left as an unobtrusive place for Graffiti artists to use.

52 100 YEAR WOOD

A Funding Application is in progress with the North Kent Rural Network. The Clerk is meeting with their representative to complete the necessary forms. This funding seeks to provide money to develop and management strategy and to carry out necessary works.

ACTION: Clerk

53 TOP PADDOCK

Cllr Blackamore reported on the amount of rubbish cleared from Upper Paddock: cost noted and should be published in the next Newsletter.

ACTION: Clerk

54 LOWER PADDOCK

No issues noted

55 SHRUBBERY ROAD

Ongoing problems with football area surface were discussed and quotes for replacing the area with a wet pour surface were received. It was decided that the existing mats be removed as they had become loose. Cllr Blackamore offered to see if they could be sold on as they are expensive to buy new and had most of them in his storage. The situation with regards to the wear and safety of the area be monitored as part of the Play Ground reports

ACTION: Cllr Blackamore

56 PLAY AREAS

Playground reports received. No action required.

57 BURIAL GROUND

Cllr Blackamore reported that Grass Cutting schedule should start soon but had been delayed due to very poor weather conditions.

58 PARISH COUNCIL OWNED OR MANAGED HEDGES AND VERGES

No issues noted.

The Clerk reported that she had reported to Kent Highways the need to replace/repair fencing along the hedge on the main path between the Villages.

Also that Network Rail have been called to deal with the vegetation growing from the retaining walls under the Viaduct and Sevenoaks Council alerted to the Graffiti and asked to remove it.

59 DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE

The date of the next meeting is 24th June 2013

60 ALLOTMENTS

Allotment Holders had expressed their views to the Clerk concerning improvements to the grounds namely; fencing around the site to provide a boundary and security, replace or fix the gate which is very rickety and often falls off, control rabbits.

ACTION: Clerk to review rental agreement with land owner and duties of the Parish Council.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jim Osborne reported that the sub station in East Hill, South Darenth had become littered with items and suggested the owners be contacted to remove. Ideally a wooden fence to hide the substation would be welcomed.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Substation owners

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.

Chairman:

Date: