

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013 in the Parish Room, Village Hall, South Darenth at 7.30 pm.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr I Blackamore (Chairman)  
Cllrs D Mitchell, C Page &  
Mr D Chambers, Mr T May & Mr M Mason

**IN ATTENDANCE:** H Rohard, Parish Clerk

**110 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Cllr R House, M Stead

**111 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Cllr Blackamore declared a pecuniary interest in item 15 of the Agenda 'Budget Setting'

**112 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the last meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October be approved and signed as a correct record.

**113 MATTERS ARISING**

**Willow Tree in Picnic Area:** still outstanding.

**Shrubbery Road/Playground Inspection:** still outstanding

**Planning Enforcement re Verge opposite Village Hall:** Sevenoaks Planning

Enforcement had been contacted but no action to date to remove gate/fencing from the gap in the hedge giving access to Plot 4

**ACTION:** Clerk to proress above items

**114 PLANNING**

Due to time constraints with in which to make comments to Sevenoaks District Council, Councillors gave consideration to the following Planning Applications at this meeting:

SE/13/03055/FUL

Oakview Stud Farm

Lombard Street, Horton Kirby

The erection of a replacement workshop building

**OBJECTION.** Concerns were raised regarding outstanding Enforcement Notices which had not been heeded and the general management of the site which has been well documented in Parish Council meeting minutes.

SE/13/03539/ADV

Co-op Food Store

Salle Building, The Mill

South Darenth  
Consent to display advertising; Installation of signage

SE/13/03541/LBCALT

Co-op Food Store  
Salle Building, The Mill  
South Darenth

Application for consent for alteration of listed building: Installation of signage

NO OBJECTION but note previous comments to be reiterated that signage should only be lit during opening hours to avoid nuisance lighting to neighbouring properties.

## **115 WESTMINSTER FIELD**

**Pavilion Windows** following vandalism to the windows by a catapult or air rifle, means of protection were discussed.

It was agreed to seek quotes for roller shutters and Derek Chambers offered to bring a prototype wooden shutter to the next meeting for further consideration.

CCTV cameras were discussed but the legality of their use in a public place needs to be given further consideration

As the Pavilion is often used by youngsters as a kicking wall (kicking a ball against the wall with a chalk drawn goal) damage to roof tiles and guttering has resulted.

### **ACTION:**

Clerk to obtain quote for roller shutters,

DC to bring prototype to next meeting.

Both to look into CCTV pros/cons.

Look into Goal options for use in Westminster Field to prevent misuse of Pavilion

**Footpath SD93/DR93** cuts across the Westminster Field towards the 100 Year Wood and is a well-used route by commuters from Farningham Road Station. The path is narrowing due to encroachment of grass and KCC Footpath manager has asked that this be monitored.

**ACTION:** Cllr Blackamore to check path and report back to next meeting.

**Care Park Hedge:** Cllr Blackamore queried whether Richard Abel's quote for hedge cutting (postponed due to ongoing wet weather and water logged ground) included the hedge in the car park. After some discussion it was agreed that if not and it could be completed for under £100 this should be included in the work.

**ACTION:** Clerk to liaise with Richard Abel

**116 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

Keith Philips is now on Sick Leave following a replacement knee operation. His duties are being covered by Mr Steve Wilson

**117 HEATHSIDE**

There was nothing to report except that the Brick Store Door is **still** awaiting to be fixed which is in hand with the Insurers and the Clerk

**118 100 YEAR WOOD**

Nothing to report

**119 TOP PADDOCK**

Following previous discussions about fencing the boundary next to the Paddock Close flats it was considered that the situation should be monitored next spring/summer. There is clear evidence of a previous entry point with gate posts in place and a pathway leading from Paddock Close.

**120 LOWER PADDOCK**

Nothing to report

**121 SHRUBBERY ROAD**

Nothing to report until Playground report is completed

**122 PLAY AREAS**

Cllr Blackamnore reported that Saxon Place Play area is looking very tired from being well used. He recommended that this is considered in next year's budget for an overhaul and possible match funding sought.

Cllr Page left the meeting at 8.30pm due to another commitment.

**123 BURIAL GROUND**

The development of a Garden of Remembrance was discussed and how this would be best managed. A wall along the top of the bank with a path in front for displaying memorial plaques and marking the area with either a fence or hedge was the preferred layout.

Setting plaques/stones into the ground to mark interred ashes was considered but the cost of cutting grass around each stone prohibitive and difficult.

ACTION: Cllr Blackamore and Clerk to obtain quotes for the wall and boundary options

**124 PARISH OWNED/MANAGED HEDGES/VERGES**

Nothing to report

**125 ALLOTMENTS**

Martin Mason reported that the tracks leading to the allotments has worn low causing the grass section in the middle to catch vehicles' undercarriage. The tracks get very muddy and cars have had difficulty accessing the site.

It was suggested that Type 1 aggregate be bought for allotment holders to spread along the tracks, and permission for this had been sought from Sarah Ward.

RESOLVED Once permission has been given £100 should be spent to purchase Type 1 aggregate.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Tristan Ward

## **126 BUDGET SETTING**

Cllr Blackamore offered to meet with the Clerk to check through the Budget which would be agreed at the January Parish Council Meeting.

ACTION: Clerk and Cllr Blackamore to meet

## **127 DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE**

February 24<sup>th</sup> 2014

Meeting closed at 8.56pm

Chairman:

Date: