Report of the Recreation Committee to be held on Monday 17th September 2012, 8.00pm School House

‘Civitas Vegeta et Strenua’

Present: Cllr Richard Knight (Chairman); Cllr Mary Evans; Cllr Jackie Howe; Cllr Charmian Marsh. Brenda Hambrook (Parish Clerk & RFO); Brian Thomas (GMS); Mike Richards (OAA).

1. Apologies received for absence: Cllr Doug Cracknell

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting 16.07.12 were approved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 16.07.12 not on the agenda
   6.2 A new back entrance has appeared from a Tudor Drive property into the Chalk pit. There is evidence of dumping. The situation continues to be monitored.

4. Allotments:
   4.1 This year there could be a surplus of about £500 income after expenditure. We recommend there is no increase in rent from October 2013. If there were another surplus at the year-end 30.09.2013, a grant could be considered towards the cost of improving the cark parking area.
      (Next rent review Sept 2013, implemented October 2014)
   4.2 The Car Parking project is on hold, but some remedial work will be carried out.
   4.3 3 plots currently vacant, with another anticipated. 2 enquiries.
   4.4 Pothole in the Mill Meadow driveway to be filled with ‘Type 1’ gavel.
   4.5 The trees beside the Darent footpath adjacent to Mill Meadow are blocking light to the perimeter plots and will need lopping so that the ground can be economically cultivated. Ownership of the trees will need to be established.
   4.6 The fence in Mill Meadow by the Darent footpath will need replacing fairly soon.
   4.7 Large shrubs to the rear of the Methodist Church Hall need severe trimming.
   4.8 AGM; Saturday 20th October at 9.30am

5. High Street Recreation Ground
   5.1 Brian Thomas presented Wickstead’s Inspection Report on the Play Area and Trim Trail. The repairs are fairly minor and straight forward, except for the soft impact surface. The contractor installing the Play equipment at Hale Lane will be consulted about this repair.
      BT
   5.2 A small damaged tree near the Play Area entrance is dying. It will be removed and not replaced.

5.2. OUFC:
   A meeting and further discussions have been held with the three principal Officers, because the football club is in difficulty meeting all its costs and are in arrears with their electricity and water charges. Their problems are exacerbated at the beginning of the season by lack of income from members and payments to their associations and leagues. Further meetings are to be held to try and resolve the problem. OUFC have been asked to provide plans for improving their income and secure a promising future for the Club.
      Continuing
5.3 OUJFC (Junior Football): No report
5.4 Play Area: see 5.1.
5.5 Cricket Club: No report
5.6 Tennis club: Preparation of a new 50-year lease is on going. A District Valuer is visiting to advise on a fair rent
5.7 Petanque Club: No Report
5.8 Dog Fouling: In partnership with Environment and Services, another “Poo Flag Day” is being held on Wednesday 3rd October, starting at 7.30am.
It is a Public Awareness exercise.
David Hobson reported that he encountered an unacceptable amount of fouling whilst strimming the grass near the Petanque Area.
5.9 Other concerns:
   i) Derek Cunning (OUJFC) has requested that another litterbin be place at a convenient position to the Junior football playing area.
   BT
   BT has a spare bin that can be used and has been instructed to install it.
   ii) There is a dog bin very close to the cricket nets. This needs re-siting to a more prominent and accessible position. The cricket club to be asked to contribute to the cost?
6. OSA: Next meeting - Wednesday 31st October
7. Chalk Pit: Chipstead Junior Football Club has made alternative arrangements. OUJFC do not appear to be using it.
8. Hale Lane Recreation Ground and Pavilion: Funding for the Play Area is in place. The “Third Party Contribution” (TPC) £3,850 has been paid to SITA and the funding agreement signed. An Order has been placed with Sutcliffe for the purchase and installation of the play equipment. The first payment for the purchase of the play equipment will be sent to Sutcliffe mid October. Installation anticipated towards the end of October, early November.
   8.2 Some hedging needs replanting. Another Parish planting session?
   Continuing
   8.3 QEII Playing Fields
   Continuing
8. Youth Forum/Council: No interest established, so nothing to report. The Patient is comatose, awaiting revival.
9. A.O.B.
To invite the Primary School to take over and maintain a small allotment.
OAA/OPC

The date of the next scheduled meeting Monday 19th November 2012, 8.00pm at School House / Parish Office.