Minutes of the Recreation Committee held on Monday 3rd June 2013, 8.00pm School House

‘Civitas Vegeata et Strenua’

Committee: Cllrs. Richard Knight (Chairman); Doug Cracknell; Mary Evans; Jackie Howe; Charmian Marsh.

Attendees: Brenda Hambrook (Parish Clerk & RFO); Brian Thomas (GMS); Mike Richards (OAA); Roger Beasley (Allotment Agent).

1. Apologies received for absence: Cllr. Knight, Cllr. Mrs Evans and Brian Thomas

2. To approve the Minutes of the previous meeting 25.03.13 The minutes were approved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting not on the agenda.
   3.1 In order to complete the risk assessment of the Eric Dilley Pavilion access is required to changing room 3. Continuing

4. Allotments:
   4.1 Cllr. Cracknell had reviewed the proposed tenancy agreement and will meet with the representative of the OAA and the allotment agent on 5th June to agree a draft document.
   4.2 All plots are currently let, two are being given up and there are two residents on the waiting list.
   4.3 The ownership of the trees on land alongside the river Darent has been established. Some trees have had branches trimmed and the ivy cut. It was agreed that the Clerk ask Mr Thomas how the height of the trees and overhanging branches could be reduced and roughly how much this would cost. BH
   4.4 The boundary fence and gate to Mill Meadow have now been secured. It was reported that the wooden posts in the fence next to the Methodist Church were rotten. The Clerk will ask Mr Thomas to look at this. BH
   4.5 A skip was requested for allotment clearance on 5th-8th July and the Clerk will organise this. The OAA asked for a contribution to the cost. The Committee will consult the minutes of the previous year at which was agreed that no contribution would be made to ascertain the position. It was suggested that new allotment holders could be charged a deposit which could be used if their plots were left messy. The Clerk will contact KALC BH
   4.6 The allotments agent and the OAA are working to keep spare tyres on the allotments in a central place.

5. High Street Recreation Ground
   5.1 The report of the Grounds Maintenance Supervisor was received. The recreation ground was not cleaned to its normally high standard after the fete. A broken hay bale had been left in the hedge. The fete committee will be informed. BH
   It appears that OUFC have taken over the Colts pitch although confirmation is awaited from
the OUFC. It was noted that the pitch will require more regular mowing than last year. A piece of play equipment had been vandalised during the fete and the soft surface had also been damaged. Repairs are in hand.

5.2 The new mowing contractors were carrying out a good job.

5.3 The Committee drafted a response to the OUFC requests for fencing around the floodlit pitch and the displaying of advertising & sponsors banners. This was recommended to the Council subject to clarification concerning the requirements of the Kent County Football League and which parts of the perimeter would be fenced.

5.4 A Ladies’ football team has being created and are now members of the OSA. The Clerk will ascertain when the 5-a-side metal goal posts, near the Solar System will be removed. BH

5.5 There was nothing else to report re the play area.

5.6 There was nothing to report re the cricket club.

5.7 As agreed at the last meeting Cllr. Cracknell had spoken to the Lawn Tennis Association to ascertain if grants could be obtained without a 50 year lease being in place. The LTA had referred Cllr. Cracknell to the Kent Branch. The contact there had been slow to return calls but is assumed to be liaising with the tennis club.

5.8 There was nothing to report re the Pentaque club.

5.9 Increased instances of dog fouling had been reported.

5.10 The Clerk had contacted Thames Water and asked them to write to the residents of Park Lane requesting that inappropriate items were not thrown down the sewer as these cause blockages.

6. OSA: The clerk will forward the report of the AGM held Wednesday 24th April 2013. BH

7. Chalk Pit:
The Services committee were meeting at the chalkpit on Tuesday 4th June at 9.00am to consider flytipping and Cllr. Edwards-Winser was checking with SDC to ascertain if they could take action.

8. Hale Lane Recreation Ground and Pavilion:

8.1 The Pavilion Risk Assessment had been drafted and Cllr. Mrs Marsh will finalise in preparation for the next meeting. CM

8.2 OUJFC’s had requested a formal lease for the Pavilion, which would then allow them the opportunity to apply for grants. Cllr. Cracknell advised that no formal lease was necessary for grant applications and the committee agreed that no formal lease should therefore be given.

8.3 The Ground maintenance supervisors report regarding litter, dog fouling, and vehicle misuse on the recreation ground was discussed. Services Committee had organized a “Dog-Poo-Day” at Hale Lane Recreation Ground on Wednesday 5th June, commencing 8.30am. The Community Warden had dealt with the issue of vehicle misuse.

8.4 The lowest quote had been accepted for new doors for the pavilion. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr. Verrall re progress. BH

8.5 OUFC have made their own arrangements for grass cutting. The new contractor is doing a good job of the Council area.

8.6 The Clerk had received a revised copy of the 99 year lease from SDC which took into account the comments of Cllr. Cracknell. Once the amendments have been checked the lease can be signed. The QEII Playing Field status could now be progressed.

9. Youth Activities

9.1 SDC is providing a fully funded “Family Fun Day” on Thursday 15th August morning, at Hale Lane Recreation Ground.
9.2 The youth service provided by CXK – CAT’s was queried as they were still using the same times even though the Clerk had pointed out that local children would not be back from school at that time and that the car park would be too busy. The Community Warden was not aware that any youth activities had taken place. Cllr. Mrs Marsh will monitor the position. The risk assessment will be reviewed once the position has been ascertained.

10. Other Matters.

Next scheduled meeting, Monday 22\textsuperscript{nd} July 2013, 8.00pm at School House/Parish Office.

Dates of remaining Committee Meetings this year: Mondays, 23\textsuperscript{rd} Sept., & 25\textsuperscript{th} November