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THE PARISH OFFICE HASKELL CENTRE MIDHURST ROAD LIPHOOK

**HAMPSHIRE GU30 7TN** 

# RECREATION COMMITTEE

# THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT MEETING ON 5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2013

A MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE TOOK PLACE AT 8.00 PM IN THE HASKELL CENTRE, MIDHURST ROAD, LIPHOOK ON MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2013

# **MINUTES**

#### **PRESENT:**

Cllr P Jordan - Chairman

Cllr J Ives

Cllr J Poole

Cllr P Robinson

Cllr E Trotter

Mr Rudgard

Mr P Stanley - Clerk

5 members of the public were also in attendance

# 42/13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chairman advised that he was covering the meeting for the last time as a new chairman will be appointed at the next Parish Meeting.

# 43/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Kirby

# 44/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

# **45/13 MINUTES**

Minutes of the meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013 and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2013 were approved.

#### 46/13 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013

**Item 23/13 Tennis Club Lease** – the Clerk advised that the paperwork was now with the Council's Solicitors. The Recreation Ground needs to be valued for the purpose of Registration and this was currently being arranged. The lease was ready to sign once registration is submitted.

**Item 29/13 Surrey Fitness Club** – Although the committee had agreed the activity, no agreement had yet been signed and the clerk was asked to pursue this agreement as activity was already taking place.

Item 30/13 – The litter picking had taken place and been a successful activity.

# Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April

This had been an extraordinary meeting held in a public and press excluded session and was held to agree quotations for the new Play Park at the WM Recreation Ground. It was hoped that the work will commence later in the month.

#### 47/13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The meeting was adjourned.

# **Public Questions**

There were no questions relating to matters not on the agenda. It was agreed that questions on agenda items could be taken when that item was discussed.

The meeting was reconvened.

#### **48/13 REPORTS**

#### Parish Council Sports Representative – Mr Rudgard

Mr Rudgard's reports were circulated to Councillors. It was felt that a sports association could benefit the area with membership drawn from local sports clubs, and members of the Parish Council and District Council. This would require someone to coordinate the activity. Headley already had such an arrangement and someone from there could possibly be asked to advise the group on how an association could operate. It was agreed that Cllr Jordan would discuss this with the Chairman of the Parish Council. A motion could then be put to the Council to establish a working party. This was unanimously approved.

It was noted that Bohunt had increased its charges for use of the sports facilities. This was likely to be in response to loss of grant funding. It was agreed that Cllr Ives will look at the prices of similar facilities in the area to allow bench marking. A letter could then be sent based on the evidence gathered. It was noted that the school had received payment of £25,000 from Developer Contributions.

#### **Radford Park Working Party**

The working party was looking at developing proposals for the general improvement of the area and identifying the costs of such work. There were a number of short and longer term issues. Recently, two sets of steps had been constructed to improve access to the area. Work was also underway on managing the trees, although this had to be done carefully as they are in a conservation area and approval was needed to undertake any work on them. Seeds had also been planted on the banks by the car park entrance.

# **Grounds Staff Report**

Mr Terry gave his report of activity undertaken by his team. There were a number of issues raised.

The site of the Carnival bonfire had been moved. A complaint had been made about the new site and nails left behind. Cllr Robinson agreed to pursue this with the organisers.

It was felt that the quality of the grass-cutting by contractors was not very good. The head grounds man will provide details to the clerk to pursue with Katie Ennis.

Grass Cuttings in the Recreation Ground would need to be moved and a skip will be provided for this purpose. The bowls club were asked to make alternative arrangements for the disposal of their grass until composting bins are constructed on the site.

Work was on-going on the allotments and it was noted that a second quotation for the tree work was still awaited.

Weed killing and general maintenance was being carried out at the Liphook Millennium Centre.

Mr Terry was thanked for his report.

#### 49/13 ALLOTMENTS

A meeting had been held with plot-holders on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2013. A questionnaire had also been sent out, concerning the use of polytunnels on the allotment site. Cllr Jordan advised that 13 had rejected the idea and 3 were in favour. On this basis it was decided that polytunnels will not be allowed on the allotments. There was some comments from two members of the public that a show of hands at the meeting gave a different outcome. The Chairman confirmed that the decision was based on the written response and that will be the Council policy.

Thanks were express to Mrs Haussauer and Mrs Spencer for their work in reallocating vacant allotment plots.

#### 50/13 SKATE PARK

Cllr Ives advised that the working party had been established last August and had been meeting regularly since January. There was an open meeting in April to ask for views from members of the public. Parts of the existing equipment were felt to be dangerous and the proposal was to replace the park once it has been possible to raise sufficient funding. A lot of useful comments had been left on a facebook page.

The proposal is for the new park to be located closer to the Haslemere Road end of the Little Recreation Ground. There were no plans to replace the shelter that had been moved and no support for doing so. Working was currently underway to consider designs and obtaining costs for the work. It was also proposed that the existing area remains and once the old equipment was removed, to use it as a general sport area with replacement tarmac. Young people were keen to get involved in the project and the fundraising activities.

# The motion

The Skate Park Working Party has consulted with existing and potential skate park users and now considers the existing skate park to be not fit for purpose and in a dangerous state (see photographs). Construction estimates have been sought to assess the cost of this work to include clearance of the existing skate park and re-use of this area as a multipurpose ball games area.

This committee resolves to take the necessary action to replace and improve the skate park and investigate potential sources of funding, and to include fundraising ideas put forward by the Friends of Liphook Skate Park Area.

It was proposed that the motion be amended to read:

The Skate Park Working Party has consulted with existing and potential skate park users and now considers the existing skate park to be not fit for purpose and in a dangerous state (see photographs). Construction estimates have been sought to assess the cost of this work to include clearance of the existing skate park and re-use of this area as a multi-purpose ball games area.

This committee approves taking necessary actions, together with the Friends of Liphook Skate Park Area, to obtain designs and quotations for the skate park and to investigate and identify sources of funding prior to obtaining the Parish Council's approval for its construction.

The amended motion was unanimously approved.

As the replacement is likely to be a longer term project, action was needed on the existing skate park that was damaged. It was unanimously agreed that the skate park be closed until the necessary repairs could be carried-out. Cllr Trotter will arrange for quotations to be provided to the Clerk. It was further agreed that the work should include the removal of the metal frame from the dismantled shelter at the Little Recreation Ground.

Thanks were expressed to the working party for all their hard work.

**The Motion:** "In accordance with the provisions of section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted" Unanimously approved.