



BRAMSHOTT & LIPHOOK PARISH COUNCIL

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RECREATION COMMITTEE

**THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE
NEXT MEETING ON 7th APRIL 2014**

**A MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE TOOK PLACE AT 7.30
PM IN THE HASKELL CENTRE, MIDHURST ROAD, LIPHOOK ON
MONDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2014**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Cllr P Robinson - Chairman
Cllr J Ives
Cllr J Kirby
Cllr P Jordan
Cllr J Poole
Cllr E Trotter
Mr Rudgard
Mr P Stanley - Clerk

Three members of the public were also in attendance

01/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The arrangements for fire exits and mobile phones were explained.

02/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Evans

03/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

04/14 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 2nd December 2013 were unanimously approved.

05/14 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Item 80/13 – It was confirmed that the toilet are part of the tennis club demise. It was also established that the ground staff use these facilities when in the area. It was noted that the tennis club intend to improve these facilities that are in a poor state of repair. It was felt that the council should explore the possibility of providing some support to improve the toilet which although are the tennis club responsibility, were handed over in a poor state and ultimately are an asset of the council.

It was unanimously agreed that the Council should make contact with the tennis club to ascertain their plans for the toilet, to check whether they are prepared to allow ground staff to access the facilities and if so, to agree with them some possible financial support.

06/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The meeting was adjourned.

Public Questions not on the Agenda

None

Public Questions on the Agenda

Mr Hall requested an update on the Dog Control Orders. This was covered under an agenda item.

The meeting was reconvened.

07/14 REPORTS

Parish Council Sports Representative – Mr Rudgard

Mr Rudgard's report had been circulated to Councillors.

It was agreed that the Clerk will write to Bohunt School concerning holding an annual meeting between the school, Parish Council and sports club representatives.

Liphook table tennis club would like to use the Millennium Centre but the recent increase in price is more than the club currently pay. The Recreation Committee welcomes the wish to use the LMC. It was felt that storage of up to 3 tables was possible. Cllr Ives as Chairman of the LMC Management Committee will consider this request and feedback generally on the new fee structure at the next meeting of the committee in March.

Thanks were express to Mr Rudgard for his report.

Skate Park Working Party

Cllr Ives reported that there had been no recent activity. A meeting of the working party needs to be arranged and the quotes received considered further.

Radford Park Working Party

Cllr Jordan reported that the volunteer group had a successful day on 11th January and achieved its objectives including the clearing away the material cut down. Those in attendance had enjoyed the day and were prepared to do further work in the future. A recent meeting of the working party has begun to discuss phase 2 which covers the water meadows. Input will be sought from the Hampshire wildlife trust. This phase of the work will be on longer term objectives. Mr Terry expressed his thanks to the volunteers for clearing-up after the event.

Grounds Staff Report

Mr Terry reported that 15 trees had been lost in the recent bad weather and 10 in the last storm. The team were clearing-up but had no one to operate the chainsaw in the absence of one of the ground staff. The sluice gate was regularly monitored to ensure a suitable flow. The football pitches were in reasonable condition and matches continue to be played on them. The skate park had some further problems of glass and litter. Fletchers Field had a birch down and will require some professional attention. The allotment has five trees down. One is leaning over an allotment and may need some further attention. All paths in Radford Park are clear. It was requested that any tree in the water be removed, subject to any environmental issues. Cllr Kirby volunteered to do a risk assessment for working near water.

It was felt that a lot of trees need some attention. A list will be drawn up for consideration at the next meeting.

It was noted that Andy Jones will be attending two courses at Sparsholt to be qualified to use a chainsaw.

08/14 REMOVAL OF TREES IN RADFORD PARK

A request had been made by a householder bordering Radford Park for permission to remove three trees. Permission had been granted by EHDC and the work would be undertaken by a qualified contractor at no cost to the Council. Cllr Jordan and Cllr Robinson had visited the site and felt that although the trees are healthy, they do encroach on the border. It was agreed that approval be given to undertake the tree felling at the boundary of 14 Locke Road at the householders cost and to include clearing away.

09/14 FLOODING IN THE RECREATION GROUND

There was a flooding problem at the far end of the Recreation Ground by the goal post store. Mrs Robertson was in attendance and reported that whenever there is significant rainfall, the water runs from the field and down her garden. A quotation had been received to lay a drainage system to alleviate this problem. However it was suggested that this may not solve the problem and that the soil structure needed to be understood as clay would not allow water to soak away. The chairman advised Mrs Robertson that the Council was aware of the problem and would work to find a suitable, cost effective solution. It was agreed that a site meeting would be held involving Mr Terry and Cllr Trotter to determine the best course of action.

10/14 OWNERSHIP OF LAND IMMEDIATELY OUTSIDE THE LONDON ROAD GATE OF THE RECREATION GROUND

It was confirmed from plans that part of the entrance to the Recreation Ground was the responsibility of the Parish Council. Ownership of the land either side was unclear. The land suffered from pot holes and poor drainage. It was suggested that a solution would be to build a drain across the entrance to the Recreation Ground so that water does not flow out onto the adjoining land. A proposal will be brought to the next meeting of the Recreation Committee and a joint solution with adjoining properties may be possible.

1/14 DOG CONTROL ORDERS

The chairman and Clerk had met with Mr Griffiths the Dog Warden at East Hants District Council to progress the control orders. It has become clear from these discussions that the orders would be difficult and costly to implement and operate. There were no other Parish Councils in the area operating such orders. Having a control order takes away the responsibility of EHDC to patrol the areas. There are costs in training staff to manage the process and issue tickets and fines. There were also insurance and risk assessment issues to consider. In addition, Dog Control Orders were about to be replaced by Public Space

Protection Orders (PSPO). Existing orders would need to be reviewed after three years and replaced by PSPO. However, Parish Councils will have no powers to issue PSPO so the responsibility would revert to EHDC. In view of the cost and the changing legislation there was concern about proceeding with the DCO in the Parish. New signage can still be erected and any dog fouling can be reported to EHDC directly or through the Parish Office.

It was unanimously agreed that the Recreation Committee recommend to the Full Council that the Council does not proceed with the implementation of Dog Control Orders.