

**Wheathampstead Parish Council
Playing Fields & Youth Committee
9 June 2009, 20.10h**

Present Councillors:	A Brewster	Chairman
	I Begg	
	J Burgess	
	K Stammers	
	A Waterfield	
	Julia Warren	Parish Clerk
	Press	0
	Public	0

335-09 APOLOGIES & SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor T Reason (personal reasons)

336-09 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

337-09 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

338-09 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2009 were approved.

Resolved: To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2009 and for these to be signed by the Chairman

339-09 USE OF PLAYING FIELDS

A quotation had been received as in previous years for football pitch marking at Marford, Butterfield and Folly Playing Fields. This included reinstating/making good the goal mouth areas at the end of the season. Councillors were advised that this was in part duplication. It was agreed that comparative quotations would be sought.

A request had been received from the Harpenden Colts FC to use Folly Fields pitch on a Sunday. Initial investigations suggested that this may be feasible as the Skewbridge team did not use the facilities every week. It was suggested that a meeting between Chairman, Clerk and football team representatives be set up to work to mutual benefit. The pitch, whilst sloping, drained well and was

generally playable all season. Alternation of pitches would assist groundsmanship.

It was further agreed that the Chairman and Clerk meet representatives of other clubs using the facilities to identify needs. Following these meetings and prior to the next season an equitable charging structure would be agreed.

A request for two sets of Samba goals was agreed from the Wheathampstead Wanderers, estimated cost £400.

An unidentified steel pole approximately 8 yards long with eyelets had been abandoned in the Forge for a number of years. If confirmed as obsolete this to be disposed of in the skip during the cleaning/refurbishing of the Marford Pavilion. (Post meeting note – confirmed to be part of a football goal but non standard size and unusable)

Watford Football Club had asked whether storage space were available closer than the Marford Pavilion for the temporary floodlights used in training on the darker evenings. None was available.

The use of the tennis facilities by villagers was questioned. It was noted that signage stated that a key was available weekday morning from the Parish Office, but limited to non match days. This information had been included in the Summer Pump to encourage sport and exercise and expand the use of the provision. Clerk to ask for match timetable

- Resolved**
- 1 Clerk to arrange meetings with chairman and football club representatives**
 - 2 Clerk to obtain quotations for pitch maintenance and marking**
 - 3 That 2 sets of samba goals be purchased**
 - 4 That Watford Football Club be advised that currently the only available storage for their floodlights was Marford Pavilion**
 - 5 Clerk to obtain match fixture list from Tennis Club**

340-09 MARFORD PAVILION

It was reported that adult representatives of the Wheathampstead Wanderers would begin the cleaning and refurbishment of the Marford Pavilion over the weekend of 13/14 June. Fascia and plumbing replacements would follow.

- Resolved**
- 1 To note the report**
 - 2 To thank the Wheathampstead Wanderers**

341-09 SCOUTS REQUEST TO USE MARFORD FIELD FOR ANNUAL FIREWORK DISPLAY

A request had been received from the Scouts to use the playing field adjacent to the Scout Hut on 4 November 2009 for their annual firework display. Scouts and families would be in the scout hut grounds behind the fence

Resolved To approve the request

342-09 FOLLY FIELDS PLAY AREA

It was reported that the refurbished Folly Fields play area, funded by an aggregate grant of £7,500 from COMMA (DEFRA) had been opened on 15 May. The Herts Advertiser had featured this and all residents would be informed through the Pump. Noviello's Ice creams had generously sponsored the opening, enjoyed by many Folly Fields residents and friends both young and old

Resolved To note the report

343-09 STRIMMING AT FOLLY FIELDS

A request had been received from Mrs Loch to strim the area adjacent her garden and between the hedge screen to the Folly Fields Changing Pavilion. It was confirmed that the area was maintained as part of the Dawes's contract and strimmed approximately fortnightly alongside maintenance of the main site

Resolved: To note the report

344-09 YOUTH MATTERS

A report on youth matters was given and update on dates and times for the various summer youth activities, Ignition Project (following its success in Wheathampstead in 2008 to be rolled out through the region) and Youth Connexions pilot project - which is planned to start at the Memorial Hall following the Ignition Project.

Resolved To note the report

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.16h.

Dated this day of 2009

Chairman