

Wheathampstead Parish Council Playing Fields & Youth Committee 7 June 2010, 19.30h

Present	Councillors	A Brewster I Begg T Reason	Chairman
		D Boynton K Buckler A Ellis G Graeham	Wheathampstead Wanderers Football Club
		Julia Warren	Clerk to the Council
		Press	0
		Public	0

1146-10 APOLOGIES & SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Reason for her late arrival, who arrived in time to approve the minutes. The chairman welcomed members of the Wheathampstead Wanderers Football Club to the meeting

1147-10 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

1148-10 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

1149-10 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 22 February 2010 were approved.

Resolved: **To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2010 to be a true and fair account and for these to be signed by the Chairman.**

1150-10 Update on Football Pavilions

Wheathampstead Wanderers Football Club discussed an outline proposal to build a Pavilion/Clubhouse on the Butterfield Rd Playing Fields, which was leased from the Parish Council. The current pavilion had temporary planning permission, sought and obtained

by the Parish Council, until 2014 whereafter the Planning Authority may look for permanent permission rather than another temporary renewal. The aim was to explore ways in which the footballers could move forward with their aim to build a home for their club, and for other community groups.

They presented the committee present with details of suggested site plans and provisions including examples of potentially similar pavilions elsewhere and prospective funding sources.

Councillors recommended that WPC works with the Wheathampstead Wanderers, meets with the Football Foundation to consider funding and design, and produces a planning application for a permanent pavilion at Butterfield Road. The chairman would meet the Football Foundation representative with the Wanderers' to determine a possible solution.

The Committee thanked the Wheathampstead Wanderers for the work they had done during 'phase 1' of the Marford Pavilion refurbishment. It was noted that provision for renewal of roof and flooring had been made in 'phase 2'. Quotations for the work would be obtained, including utilising man power from tradesmen who were also football club members, and brought to Council.

- Recommended**
- 1 To note the report & thank the football club**
 - 2 To work with Wheathampstead Wanderers in seeking funding and pavilion design**
 - 3 To consider submitting a planning application to SADC for a more permanent pavilion at Butterfield Road**
 - 4 To submit quotations to Council for phase 2 of the Marford Pavilion refurbishment programme with the aim of working during the summer non-football season.**

1151-10 OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO FOOTBALL, TENNIS & CRICKET

Consideration was given to the quotation for specialist pitch repairs at Marford and Butterfield Road Football Fields (£774) and pitch marking (£1118). It was reported that careful maintenance had previously proved most effective and recommended that the work be undertaken as maintenance. Pitch marking had been specifically budgeted for.

It was reported that the Watford FC U16 football team had won the district tournament. The Club had recently begun softball coaching as part of the youth provision.

The use of the 'Parish Council' tennis court was discussed and particularly the use of the court during the summer Ignition week

(2-6 August). It was hoped that, with prior notice, the Tennis Club would work with the youth team and provide a small amount of tennis coaching for the young participants of Ignition week.

It was reported the Council's approval (Minute 1118-10) of the £1,500 grant for the cricket square would greatly assist the Cricket Club in its grant application to Sport England.

Councillor Begg left the meeting during this item

- Recommendation**
- 1 To note the report**
 - 2 To recommend acceptance of the quotations for pitch repairs and maintenance**

1152-10 MELISSA FIELD

It was noted that planning permission would be required to 'drop' the kerbs but Highways did not foresee obvious barriers to improving sight lines by hedge pruning. Consideration of the extended use of this resource was deferred until more councillors were present and could report back.

- Recommended**
- 1 To note the report**
 - 2 To consider extended use of the resource when more councillors could give input**

1153-10 PLAY AREAS

It was reported that the Rectory Meadows Play area refurbishment was complete and many positive responses received. Playdale would return to right a few initial snags including the bark chippings and the seal. The old slide, bin and fence were imminently due for repainting.

Access to the Marford Field had been 'improved' (Min 863-10) by paving which in some instances produced a slight step replacing the muddy area, but flat access could be achieved through the car park access adjacent to the Drama Hut. The Brocket View gate closure had been fixed. The play equipment improvement was being planned in conjunction with Youth Services and accessing a Big Spend Grant. This was currently on hold. However it was hoped that some initial consultation could be achieved on the back of the Playbuilder scheme for Caesars Road and by Youth Connexions at Village Day on 11 July.

It was reported that £53,000 had been received as grant to SADC from the National Playbuilder Scheme for Caesars Road. Groundwork had been contracted to oversee and manage the project. Consultation dates, on site, were scheduled for 12 June and 17 July.

- Recommended** **To note the report**

1154-10 YOUTH PROVISION

It was reported that the Top Hat stage school sessions for 9-17 year olds were very successful and it was recommended that the pilot scheme be made permanent. The production of the Dorothy and the Wicked Wiz was scheduled for 14 July

Recommended **1 To note the report**
2 That the performing arts /stage school facility pilot project be made permanent

1155-10 BUDGET REVIEW 2010 - 11

The expenditure report had been circulated and was noted

Recommended **To note the report**

1156-10 SMALL PROJECTS

Minute 866-10 with the exception of the painting at Rectory Meadows which was in hand and would be in conjunction with WDPS

Resolved **To note the report**

1157-10 PROGRESS AGAINST VILLAGE PLAN TARGETS

Progress was discussed

C1	Provide sports and other activities for young people eg Artskool	Artskool increased from once to twice monthly effective from March 2010. Subsidy increased from £3.50 to £4 per child wef April 2010 (Minute 864-10) Top Hat Stage School now also available subsidised to £2 for 9-17 year olds
L1	Provide MUGA	In consultation with SADC & police following installation of MUGA at Batford
L2	Youth Connexions	Agreement to use Memorial Hall
L4	Folly Fields play area	Refurbishment complete
L5	Rectory Meadows play area	Refurbishment complete except for repainting of old slide etc (Minute 1153-10)
L6	Caesars Rd play area	Working with SADC and Playbuilder grant fund
L9	Improve sign posting	New village entry signs and fingerposts in High Street installed

