

Playing fields and Playgrounds Committee Meeting held on 30th August 2007 at 7.30 pm at the Parish Council Offices.

Present at the meeting: Cllrs, P Lightfoot (chair), M Beresford, P Taylor, and J Peake

1. Apologies noted from Cllrs J Habgood and V Ayres

2. Minutes of meeting on 20th June 2007 proposed as accurate by Cllr Beresford and seconded by Cllr Lightfoot. Agreed

3. Actions raised at previous meeting. The Clerk updated the Committee on actions raised at previous meeting.

4. Review of Current projects.

- Refurbishment of Pecked Lane and Millham Road –
Committee noted that the public notices requesting interested parties to contact the Parish Office had been placed in the local press.
An email had been received from one Contractor with a number of questions and Cllr Beresford will meet with the Clerk to discuss the issues raised.
It was agreed that the Environmental Health Officer at Tewkesbury Borough Council would be asked to assess the potential of any flood contamination on/ under the safety surfaces.
- Finlay Way Play area –
Committee noted that two public consultation events had taken place at local primary schools and feedback forms collated. At the present time Plan B has been the choice of 47% of those forms returned.
Quotations have been received for 3 different designs and it was agreed that a letter would go to these Contractors asking them to submit their final designs and prices and to invite them to attend a public exhibition along with the Crime Reduction Officer. It was then agreed that the preferred plan would go to TBC for their approval before any contract entered into by the Parish Council. It was agreed to involve the Highways Dept at County Council if possible.
Quotations for the hedge trimming required along Finlay Way and Evesham Road have been obtained after public notices were published in the local press.

5. Forward Plan.

The forward plan was discussed and amendments were agreed for the Clerk to implement.

- It was agreed that a contractor would be requested to provide the Council with an inspection report on the ditch at the Sports field at the right hand side of the ground in view of the severe flooding that had taken place during the summer period.
- It was agreed that in view of the shared ownership of the land at the site of the brook at Millham Road a meeting with Severn Vale Housing association would be arranged to discuss the implications of the flooding that took place at this play area.
- It was agreed that a plan for Vandalism was needed and it was recognised that the current damage to the safety surface at Nottingham Road Play area was significant in terms of likely costs for replacement of the area of approx 1.5 meters. It was therefore agreed that further investigation of the best surface area be undertaken before the Council made a commitment to replace the damaged area. Risk assessment to users of the equipment was discussed and it was agreed that it would not be feasible to enforce a closure of the play area at the present time. It was agreed that the matter of budget implications should be discussed by full Council.

7. Income and Expenditure Account

Monthly income and expenditure noted

8.. Budget –Clerk will bring a budget against actual expenditure comparison to next meeting

9. Sports Field

Minutes of 17th July noted

Maintenance works needed:

- It was noted that the front left hand entrance was still to be cleared. Clerk informed Committee that she had recently spoken to the Groundsmen and agreed that when it was cleared that turf would be laid. Clerk will follow up with Groundsmen
- Nettle bank between the Bowls Club and the Cemetery was discussed at Sports field management group meeting and it was agreed that it should be cut and if possible sprayed to prevent regrowth. Clerk to instruct Groundsmen to complete the work in line with the quotation given in the sum of £400.

There was confirmation that there had been no further progress on the Bowls Club Lease however in trying to come to arrangements regarding the “snagging” problems identified by the Bowls Club, the clerk has discovered some confusion of the Building Control Completion Certificate. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach the original quantity surveyors. It was further agreed that Cllr Beresford would meet with the Bowls Club Manager to agree a practical answer to the problems identified.

It was agreed by the Committee that using Golf equipment on the Sports field was posing a danger to the grass cutting equipment and consequently notices would be put up informing people that Golf was not permitted. The Clerk was instructed to obtain quotation for a sign combining “No Golf and No Dogs”.

Income and Expenditure for July/August were noted. The Committee also noted that there had been an increase in “casual users” for the grass pitches. The Clerk was instructed to make investigations on possible ways of allowing for more casual use of the Astro during Saturday and Sunday day times.

11. Play grounds

- It was agreed that Councillor Taylor will attend a playground inspection with Ken White during September.
- The current grass cutting situation was discussed and the Committee noted that a short term solution had been arranged by Clerk .
Quotations for the long term contract had been received after placing public notes in the local press and the Committee noted the figures quoted. It was agreed that TBC should be approached to ascertain if they would be able to submit a quotation before a final decision was taken. The Clerk was instructed to send a copy of the specification to TBC
- The Committee noted the matter of the holes in the hedge behind the goal posts at Nottingham Road but decided to take no further action at this present time.
- The Committee agreed that Cllr Taylor would discuss the need for a strim and trim at Nottingham Road with Ken during his joint inspection and report back to the Committee.

- The Committee noted that the Oldacre Drive entrance at Nottingham Road was not Parish Council land and therefore could not cut back the overgrown hedges etc. It was agreed to raise the matter with Severn Vale Housing Association
- It was noted that the Sluice gate at Pecked Lane has been reported as needing repair and Cllr Beresford will look at it and report back to the committee

12. Correspondence – Kayte Lane Lease. It was agreed that a copy be sent to Chair and Vice Chair of Committee for their agreement.

13. Date of next meeting- Playgrounds 19th September 2007

Meeting closed 9.45 pm

Signed.....dated 19th September 2007