

District of South Cambridgeshire

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

A meeting of this Committee was held at The Hub Community Centre, Cambourne on Tuesday 15th November 2016

Present:

Cllr Mrs R Poulton (Chairman)
Cllr Dr S Bhattacharya
Cllr T Hudson

Cllr Dr G Mehboob Cllr G Thompson

In attendance:

John Vickery Parish Clerk

Liz Pinchen Deputy Parish Clerk

2 members of the Public were in attendance for the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr S Crocker and Cllr J Patel. Acceptable reasons for absence had been given by both.

It was:

RESOLVED that the apologies for absence from CIIr S Crocker and CIIr J Patel be received and approved.

2. MINUTES

It was:

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 20th September 2016 (M68) were a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

3. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST OR REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION for items on the agenda.

Cllr G Thompson declared a personal non-disclosable interest in item 7.5 as a member of Everyone Active.

Cllr S Bhattacharya a personal non-disclosable interest in in item 7.2 as an allotment holder.

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A number of events have recently been held:

 The opening of the new tennis courts was a wonderful event attended by two professional tennis players, Marcus Willis and David Rice. Show matches were played by county juniors and members of the Tennis club against Marcus and David.

Date 21st February 2016

- The Remembrance Day parade was a lovely event and it was great to see the new Police Cadet unit parading in their smart uniforms.
- Congratulations are extended to the Fireworks committee and to the Grounds team for this year's fireworks display.
- All the excellent new facilities are being well used.

5. BLUE SCHOOL

The Parish Clerk reported that the officers of the County Council are endeavouring to get the agreements finalised. The LGSS solicitors have not been supportive and are taking far too long and making contradictory statements. Too much time has been wasted in chasing them up and it has been very frustrating.

The building is currently being let to a variety of hirers as well as hosting the Pre-school, the Children's Centre and the Church offices.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

6. CYP

Nigel Taylor had sent his apologies and no report had been received.

7. REPORT ON FACILITIES

7.1 BURIAL GROUND

When the Blue School transfer has been completed, a proposal will be submitted for the reordering of the Burial Ground including the extent of footpaths. In the spring, additional tree planting to the hedge line will be carried out to complete the works approved under the planning consent.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

7.2 ALLOTMENTS

Plots have been offered out to the first 10 on the waiting list for both Crow Hill and Brace Dein. Some plots require clearing by the ground staff in the New Year before they can be re-let. The waiting list should be cleared with the number of plots currently vacant.

It was:

RESOLVED that that the report be received.

7.3 PLAYGROUNDS, OPEN SPACES AND FOOTPATHS Eco Park

Following the residents' correspondence regarding benches in the Eco Park, the benches were removed two days after the last meeting, as was agreed. No further complaints have been received from the residents.

The dual litter and recycling bins have been received and the remainder will be installed as soon as the grounds staff can schedule it in.

It was:

RESOLVED that the reports be received.

7.4 THE HUB

There have been a number of projects identified to be carried out in the current

and next financial year. These will be covered under the budget for 2017/2018. The Hub continues to be well used and we are due to arrange in the New Year a user meeting to see if they have any issues with the use of the building and we will clarify some issues, some that have been raised over the year.

The Gentle Keep Fit class, although a benefit for the community, continues to struggle to maintain or grow and Cllr T Hudson reported that the class will close at Christmas.

Concern was raised that some hirers are not being given all they information that they require. All instruction signage in The Hub will be checked and staff training reviewed.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received and that a letter of thanks will be written to Joan Friday for her work with the Gentle Keep Fit Class and that some flowers will be purchased for Joan.

7.5 CAMBOURNE SPORTS FACILITIES

No report had been received from Shane Railley.

Concern was raised that children and parents are taking a short cut over the mud to reach the new 3G pitch and that this is causing issues with mud being taken on to the pitch and the surrounding area. The area has been cleaned up by the grounds staff and barrier mesh and signage has been installed to try and resolve the issue. The situation will be monitored and the users of the 3G pitch contacted if necessary.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

7.6 BOWLS CLUB

Following the last open evening on the 15th September 2016, the Ground staff carried out the maintenance work on the green to prepare for the winter and the next season.

It was:

RESOLVED that report be received.

7.7 SPORT IN CAMBOURNE

The Chairman reported that children have been specially selected as talented footballers from the schools are being coached by the FA. The old Muga has been made available for the youth to practise on prior their coaching sessions on the 3G to try to alleviate the issue of unauthorised use of the 3G. Cllr S Crocker was contacting the clubs to reiterate the rules for using the 3G. The FA are holding training courses in Cambourne.

It was:

RESOLVED that report be received.

7.8 TRAILER PARK

There has been some Trailer Park tenants' leave the site but they have quickly

been replaced by new tenants over the last few weeks. There is currently one space available at the site.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

8. BROAD STREET BUS SHELTER

The Parish Clerk reported he had completed a walk round Cambourne with the Parish Chairman and representatives from TPA, who are the transport consultants working on behalf of the developers for West Cambourne. They are proposing to install a bus shelter on Broad Street but the location may have to be changed from its existing location. This will be requested to be a precommencement condition or at least triggered by the first occupation.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

9. LAND AT THE ARK

Warren Bourne, Head Groundsman was in attendance for this item
The Parish Clerk reported that he had met with Ben Hendry of Randall Thorpe
and asked him to look at the site. Ben Hendry has produced a site drawing
which shows a footpath running along the back of the site and skirting the
woodland. The mound of earth needs to be reduced and be more subtle.
Agreement needs to be reached, as to how much of the work is the
responsibility of the church and how much is the responsibility of MCA. The
Parish Clerk, Head Groundsman are to meet with Ben Hendry and Ian Jarvis of
Cambourne Church to discuss this.

It was suggested that the area become a flower garden. Warren Bourne reported that the site is not very suitable for this due to its proximity to the woodland. The possibility of flower containers to be placed in various locations in Cambourne is being looked at.

A report on the trees in the wood is being obtained as some work needs to be done to open up the woodland area.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received and that flower containers would be added to the next Leisure and Amenities Committee Agenda.

10. SMOKING ON PARISH COUNCIL SITES

The Parish Clerk reported that at the Full Council meeting on the 1st November, the issue of smoking at the Parish Council's sites was deferred to the Leisure & Amenities Committee to consider. Smoking in the Parish Council buildings was made illegal by the Health Act in 2006, therefore we have included in the hiring agreements that there is no smoking within the buildings. Issues have arisen in regard to areas adjoining our buildings. The Hub, the Lower Cambourne Cricket Pavilion and the Sports Pavilion have designated smoking areas. The New Cricket Pavilion, Bowls Pavilion and Blue School do not have designated smoking areas or restrictions. The new 3G has notices saying there is no smoking within the fenced area, but no designated smoking area. A shelter does not need to be provided, just a designated area.

At present the no smoking law within public buildings only extends to tobacco and not e-cigarettes and vape kits; the use of these is at the discretion of the premise owner to allow.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received that the ban on smoking within the buildings be extended to include e-cigarettes and vape kits and that the Committee Chairman, Parish Chairman and the Parish Clerk be delegated to identify suitable designated smoking areas at the Blue School, the new Cricket Pavilion and the Bowls Pavilion and to produce a drawing to be added to the lettings packages.

11. GRIT BOXES

The Parish Clerk reported that the grounds staff will be checking and noting the locations of the grit boxes whilst on the bin emptying rounds and a map will be produced by Warren Bourne.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Pinder's Circus - Request to hold a circus in Cambourne

It was felt that as we have John Lawson's Circus in the autumn each year that this was sufficient. Concern was also raised that the dates requested were early in the year and that the ground at Great Cambourne Green could be very wet and muddy still and that this would risk damage to the Green.

It was:

RESOLVED to decline the request but to keep the details of the circus on file.

Darren Bull - Proposed fundraising event in Cambourne.

It was felt that his was a very worthy cause however concern was raised regarding the scale of the event as it is proposed that in the region of 1,000 vehicles and 5,500 people will be attending. There is no public open space in Cambourne that is suitable to host that many vehicles. Using the sports pitches would result in considerable damage.

It was suggested that Bourn Airfield would be a far more suitable venue.

It was:

RESOLVED that the correspondence be received, that the Parish Chairman would be requested to approach the owners of Bourn Airfield and that the Parish Clerk would respond to Mr Bull.

13. BUDGET 2017/2018

We are currently carrying out preparation for the Budget 2017/2018 and we are building into the Budget the following items, some of which are for completion in 2016/2017 for which quotations are being obtained.

- Informal MUGA/Basketball court
- Outdoor table tennis table
- Outdoor gym
- Youth pod
- Refurbishment of the Hub toilets
- Redecoration of the Hub internally and externally
- Redecoration of the Lower Cambourne Cricket Pavilion externally

- Installation of the access control to the Meeting Room door and doors to the Main Hall
- Feasibility study for the provision of a clubroom adjacent to the new tennis courts and 3G
- The maintenance equipment renewal schedule as presented to the Council is also being incorporated into the Budgets for the next 3 years.

We have not currently made any allowance within the figures for any works that may come forward as part of the development of Cambourne West as this has not been approved and we are not certain of the timescales for implementation of the works.

Some of the S106 funds from the SB02 site on Back Lane are designated for off-site play which could be used towards funding the outdoor table tennis tables and outdoor gym. This in turn would liberate money that could then be used elsewhere.

The inclusion of the access control to the Main Hall doors in The Hub in the quotation for that of the Meeting Room will make the overall quotation a more viable prospect and would benefit many additional users to The Hub.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received and the items be included in the Budget.

14. ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

No further suggestions were made.

15. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Exclusion of the press and the public.

MOVE: that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the Meeting.

16. HUB FLOORING

The Parish Clerk presented a report to the Committee

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received and that the quotation from Granwood Flooring be accepted with the works to be carried out in February 2017 Half Term to minimize disruption to the regular users of the building as it will need to be closed for 7 days.

17. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Re-admittance of the press and the public.

MOVE: that the confidential business having been concluded, the Press and Public be re-admitted to the meeting.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 21st February 2017