

BARCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Recreation Ground Committee held at the Sports Pavilion, Barcombe on Tuesday 4th March 2008 at 8.10 p.m.

499. Present: Councillors D J Lloyd, J.C. Cornwell, N Gant, R Hepple, C M Arbenz and A J MacGillivray. Also in attendance were Cllr J O Cornwell and Mr J Smith

500. Apologies for absence: Received From Cllr M J Austen

501. Confirmation and signature of the Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of a meeting held on 8th January 2008 had been approved at the Council Meeting on 22nd January 2008.

502. Declarations of interest: None were declared

503. Urgent Business pursuant to Standing Order No. 16: Cllr MacGillivray pointed out that some fences on the Recreation Ground were in disrepair and it was the responsibility of the Sports Council to maintain these. Cllr D Lloyd will follow this up.

504. Wild About Barcombe: A report from Cllr J O Cornwell of the latest project meeting on 18th February 2008 was considered and noted. A copy is held with the minutes. The Clerk reported that the parish council's insurers had asked a number of detailed questions over the pond, safety measures and risk assessments that would need to be answered before they would commit to take this under the parish council's public liability insurance. They had also referred the parish council to www.rosipa.co.uk where pamphlets giving guidance on Water Safety and Pond Safety were available. Copies of these had been passed to Cllrs Gant and J O Cornwell. The project group would consider these issues and decide how best to proceed. Cllrs Gant and Cornwell have agreed to give a presentation on Wild About Barcombe at the Annual Parish Meeting.

505. Allotments: There seems to be a genuine demand for an increase in the number of plots by six. Cllr J O Cornwell has received 2 quotes to remove the surplus pile of sub soil, level the site and cover with topsoil. One was for £710; the other from Mr. G Tapp was for £475. In addition, a quote for extending and increasing the water supply had been received of £840. Alternatives would be explored by Cllr cornwell and Cllr Hepple. The Clerk pointed out that the predicted surplus available for projects etc in the 2008/09 budget was only £3481 and the Committee felt it may not be appropriate to spend such a significant sum for six new allotments.

506. Playground: The chairman reported that phase 1 has been completed. The clerk has now received formal confirmation that a grant of £3,400 has been awarded by Lewes District Council Rural LATS team toward the cost of installing an up to date ball court/safety fence costing £3,757. It was agreed that the quote from Playground Services should be accepted and the Clerk was asked to place the formal order.

507. Sports pavilion: The Chairman reported the refurbishment of the pavilion including the kitchen, hot water boiler and benches in the home dressing room had been completed. It has been ascertained that the window in the referees room needs laminated glass so the cost will increase significantly. In addition Cllr Lloyd reported that the windows in the Bowls Club end needed repainting and repairs were needed to the roof cladding. The clerk reported that there was a sum of £319 available in this year's budget and the budget for 2008/09 had £500 allocated for pavilion repairs. It was agreed Cllr Lloyd will obtain a quote for a new window with laminated glass.

508. Recreation Ground – playing surface improvements: The Clerk has received a letter from the Barcombe Football Club saying that they would be prepared to contribute £1,000 towards the cost of levelling the football/cricket pitch area and better drainage provided the works are carried out by qualified contractors and within the life of the current parish council. Given the parish council has not yet agreed to commit any of its own funds, even if these were available, the clerk was asked to acknowledge the letter. Cllr Lloyd is exploring grant funding with the Football Foundation and Sussex County Playing fields Association. He is also seeking an updated quote for levelling the field (£3,748 in 2005) and the cost of drainage work. The Sports Council is still considering whether it will match the Football Club's contribution.

The Recreation Ground will see more intensive use this summer with 3 junior cricket teams. The potential improvements to the lower field need to be borne in mind for the future given pressure on current space.

508. Correspondence: There was none

509. Outstanding action points: Cllr Lloyd reported that he was meeting with Mr H Cornwell on Friday 7th March when the 3 trees would be planted by the Grange Road entrance.

510. Close of meeting: There being no more business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 p.m.