

## BARCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of a Meeting of the Recreation Ground Committee held at the Sports Pavilion, Barcombe on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 7.40 p.m.**

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**890. Present:** Councillors D J Lloyd, R Hepple, J.C. Cornwell, N Gant, C M Arbenz and A J MacGillivray. Cllr J O Cornwell was also in attendance.

**891. Apologies for absence:** Received from Cllr M J Austen

**892. Confirmation and Signature of the Minutes of the Last Meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2008 were approved at the Parish Council meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

**893. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr R Hepple re minutes 894(i) and 899

**894. Urgent business pursuant to Standing Order No. 16:**

**(i) Sports council** – Cllr Hepple reported that the Sports Council would be prepared to forego the remaining £1,600 of their annual grant for 2008/09 provided the money was used for pavilion refurbishment as required by the stock survey. This was agreed and thanks were given to the Sports Council for their positive collaborative approach.

**(ii) dog fouling** on the Recreation Ground seems to be on the increase. An article has been published in the Sussex Express and this will be placed in Barcombe News as well. Cllr Lloyd has additional notices from the one remaining animal warden in Lewes DC which will be fixed in appropriate locations.

**(iii) playground refurbishment** – it has been difficult to get the team of volunteers together at a time when the weather has been good for painting. It was agreed to ask Mr D Cheal to carry out the work at a relatively modest cost.

**895. Recreation Ground Strategy:** The Clerk reported that representatives from the Cricket, Tennis, Stoolball, Football and Bowls clubs were attending on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November as well as representatives from the Playgroup, School and Bevern View. Groups would be sharing their “visions and wish lists” for the future.

**896. Wild About Barcombe:** Cllr N Gant updated the meeting, but much more will be come clear following next week’s “strategy” session. Progress has been made in some areas - the location of a pond with the Environment Agency; a quote for a path round the site; quotes for the levelling of the bottom field are being obtained; grant funding opportunities are being explored, particularly those that avoid clashing with any new village hall sources.

The Clerk has spoken with the Planning Inspectorate at Defra and Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 will not normally apply to registered village greens, of which the Recreation Ground is one, so approval from them for consent to build paths on the Recreation ground should not be necessary.

**897. Sports pavilion:** The Chairman reported on progress with the refurbishment of the pavilion including the replacement of broken tiles and window stays. A double braced tongue and groove gate for the rear of the pavilion has been ordered. The

Sports Council has cleared the rear of the pavilion and cut the hedge which has made a lot more storage space.

Clarks Glass has quoted £695.00 to replace 2 windows at the Bowls club end of the pavilion and it was agreed this should be agreed subject to approval by Finance & General Purposes Cttee; they also quoted £1095.00 and £2295.00 to repair the roof fascia boards depending on whether upvc is placed on the existing wood, or the whole is striped and replaced. A further quote is being obtained.

**898. Sports Hall – Short Mat bowls club funding request:** This long outstanding request is now likely to be considered positively by the Sports Hall Management Committee and Cllr J C Cornwell was asked to liaise with and reassure the Bowls Club Secretary. Councillors generally were still concerned over the lack of detail coming from Barcombe School on its development plans and the potential impact on the Sports Hall.

**899. Allotments:** Twelve new half size plots have been created and eleven are in use. One is currently reserved for Bevern View, subject to a risk assessment which is in hand. The work will be done by the staff with residents watching the activity. The Clerk was asked to liaise with the Allotment Society to update the Agreement.

**900. Public toilets:** The Clerk reported on a very useful discussion with Mr Alastair Humphreys of Interpublic Urban Systems who specialise in the installation and refurbishment of public toilets. He estimates that to bring our toilets up to modern specification would cost approx £85,000, which excludes £5,000 to provide electricity. He advised that there was virtually no special grant funding available, apart possibly from our District Council (but we know none is currently available from Lewes DC). It was agreed a refurbishment on this scale was not feasible but Cllr J C Cornwell was asked to contact Chandlers to see how much new sanitary ware would cost and whether they knew of a competent installer. The Committee were asked to consider whether there were any other affordable and practical alternatives.

**901. Correspondence:** None received

**902. Outstanding action points:** These were covered in the agenda

**903. Close of Meeting:** There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m.

