

Minutes
Houghton Field Association Committee meeting
The Pavilion
7.30pm Monday Jan 18th 2015

Present

Graham Walker, Steve Goodman, Hazel McSweeney, Euan Johnson, Clive Spencer, Barbara Scase, Simon Thody, Ollie Franks

1. Chairman's welcome and apologies

- a) SG thanked everyone for coming.
- b) Apologies – Mike Welsh, Sue Sutton, Adam Flanagan, Iain Munro, Dave Wood, Linda Pickard, Geoff Thomas, Jim Funnell, Ian Hill

2. Minutes

- a) There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting on 29.06.15 that were not covered in the agenda for this meeting.
- b) The minutes of the meeting on 18.01.16 were approved - proposed by GW and seconded by OF.

3. Action Log

- a) Review of action log of agreed actions from meeting on 18.01.2016 and ongoing progress of actions:
 - i. Hedges and borders – contractor sending quote for cutting hedges and border areas not cut in the Autumn.
 - ii. Section 106 funding from Uppingham Road development. No visible progress on this on the site.
 - iii. PC contacted re bigger waste bin in playground. They may be prepared to pay for this.
 - iv. Repairs to mound – awaiting outcome of application for grant from HDC
 - v. AF & JF working on clearing all scrap metal items from the field
 - vi. Recent inspection of play equipment reports that work still needs doing.
 - vii. Spring has been fitted to one gate and is satisfactory. Same spring and setting to be used on the other small gate.

Actions

- i. SG to investigate if we need to take any further action on Section 106 funding.
- ii. BS will arrange programme of playground repairs once we know outcome of HDC grant application and if PC prepared to pay for new waste bin
- iii. Repairs needed to playground mound. Quote obtained and application made to HDC for grant to cover 50% of cost.
- iv. IH will fit spring to the other gate when he is able to.

4. Finance

- a) £4K in HFA current account. Payments in Jan include £1200 for insurance. Will receive £1,400 from 2nd half of pitch hire fees for £2015/16.
- b) Insurance still with same brokers as they are still the best price.
- c) Talent auction result was boosted by £700 from Santander which has been received.
- d) Pitch hire fees will cover football generated costs this season. However when 2 pitches back in use next season forecast indicates up to £1,100 shortfall of costs vs. present level of hire fees.
- e) SG has mentioned the possibility of running bar as joint venture with Rose & Crown to Steve Bright. He is interested in principle to explore this.

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- f) PC grant drawdown - balance remaining still £1,127.
- g) There is no PC grant for 2016/17 as we had no identifiable project.

Actions

- i. SG to attend junior football committee meeting on Feb 8th to discuss costs and fees for 2016/17 season.
- ii. SG to follow up with Steve Bright re. bar joint venture

5. Revenue generation

- a) There will be no Scarecrow Festival in 2016. The SF committee hopes to stage this or a similar event for 2017.
- b) Further proposals for fund raising activity
 - i. Football festival – EJ and CS progressing this for June and will decide date shortly
 - ii. Farmer's market – GT has obtained list of traders attending Billesdon Autumn event. Quite a simple event to organise, provide the space and car parking and charge traders a fee to attend
 - iii. Bicester shopping trip – LP reported that Bicester no longer worth visiting – high prices and nothing that can't be bought elsewhere. Will investigate organising a trip to another venue.
 - iv. Quiz night suggested, involving football

6. Pitch drainage project

- a) Grass is growing! One area not quite so good so SG to contact the contractor. Fencing has disappeared -SG reported. On far pitch very wet. Only since new work? Will raise with TGMS.

a) New pavilion

- a) Letter received from structural engineer.
 - i. Reports building is timber frame construction with brick and block infill on concrete base. No immediate major problems.
 - ii. However this type of construction has a life of around 60 years, so about 10 years left.
 - iii. As time goes on problems likely to occur. For example roof trusses bowed due to timbers being too far apart. Roof felt needs replacing every 15 years. One of the upright timbers is beginning to rot and others which are not visible may also be beginning to rot.
 - iv. Difficult to refurbish current building to provide type and standard of facilities needed now and in the future.
- b) After some discussion it was agreed in principle that the current building should be replaced with a new building. In the meantime we would still carry out repair, maintenance and small improvements on the current building.
- c) Next step is to carry out village survey to see what people might want in a new pavilion. Also a separate consultation with football clubs and other users – table tennis, bridge club etc.

8. Sub-committees - reports and proposals:

- a) Repair and maintenance on the pavilion
 - i. ST will obtain quotes for decorating ceiling and main area

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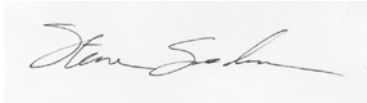
9. Village organisations

- a) Tennis Club – Membership down a bit but initiative of Monday evening sessions to attract new members is working well. Good number of juniors attending on Saturdays

AOB – Date of next committee meeting is 21st March 2016 at 7.30pm in the pavilion

Signed

Date 21.01.16



Steve Goodman (Chairman)