



CAM PARISH COUNCIL,
Cam Council Shop, 22 High Street, Cam, Glos GL11 5LE
www.camparishcouncil.gov.uk

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO A MEETING OF RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY 14TH APRIL 2010 AT 6.30pm IN THE COUNCIL SHOP FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRANSACTING THE BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA BELOW

Signed  Parish Clerk Dated: 8th April 2010

NB Prior to commencement of formal business, members of the public in attendance will be given the opportunity to address Committee on any issue on the agenda (max. total of 20 minutes, 5 minutes per person)

AGENDA

- 1. To receive Apologies for Absence**
- 2. To receive Declarations of Interest**
- 3. To Accept and Sign Minutes of the Meeting of 10th March as a True and Correct Record**
- 4. To receive any questions, statements or submissions from members of the public in attendance or from any Councillor in respect of any agenda item in which he/she has a Prejudicial Interest**
- 5. To note matters arising from the Minutes and not covered by agenda items for Information Only**
- 6. To note correspondence received**
- 7. To receive and comment on budget report and consider any amendments**
New year's budget details being prepared – will be available for meeting.
- 8. Jubilee Field Maintenance and Development**
 - i. To receive update on anti social behaviour, litter, damage etc and agree any actions**
 - ii. To receive update on works to changing rooms and agree any further actions** – One new quote has been received, organised by Everside Football Club. However, securing an alternative quote is proving more difficult than expected. A site meeting has taken place with another plumber, but this threw up more confusion about exactly what is needed. The plumber has now agreed to contact Marcus Cowley at Everside direct to discuss requirements, which should hopefully produce a quote very shortly.

- iii. **To discuss options for provision of new changing room facilities** – The possibility of using a modern, modular building, rather than a brick-built structure is being investigated. Prices for these seem to be quite reasonable, although, in our case, these would be significantly increased by the cost of getting services to the site. Attempts are being made to contact someone at North Nibley about their recent new building which, according to press reports, appears to have been secured at a relatively low cost.
- iv. **To consider provision of play equipment for younger children** – Some quotes have been received – information should be available at the meeting. It has been suggested that greater play value might be achieved by having several small pieces of equipment (e.g. small slide, see-saw, springer) rather than a larger ‘multi-play’ unit. These might also have a lower installation cost as the larger unit could be difficult to install on the sloping site.
- v. **To agree arrangements for resurfacing the skatepark** – A supply of the specialist paint is being sourced.
- vi. **To consider installation of grass matting around fitness equipment** – A quote has been sought from the equipment supplier to install grassmatting around the items, which would stabilise the ground and prevent it from becoming as muddy. The quote should be available at the meeting.
- vii. **To consider provision of enclosures on skatepark ramps** – A quote was previously acquired for this, which was in the region of £5,000. As we are at the start of a new financial year, Committee should consider whether to commit some of the Jubilee Field or Play Area funds to this, or perhaps whether to make a bid to Full Council for additional funding from the increased Contingency budget to meet all or some of the cost.
- viii. **To consider fencing of ball park area** – A request has been received from some users of the field for fencing around the ball park area. This is to prevent balls going out of play during the use of the area, which causes problems, especially as the grass area around the court is quite boggy. The cost of this, if the whole area were to be fenced, would be quite substantial (further detail being sought).
- ix. **To consider grounds maintenance issues and agree any actions, including work programme for Leyhill Work Party scheme and possible community clean up day** – Leyhill have now completed the work already instructed, but are available later in the year, if requested. There is a significant amount of debris left from their work, which needs to be removed from site or, in the case of the timber and brush, possibly burned on site. It has been suggested that another community clean up day is organised to continue with brush and fence removal and so on. It could also possibly be used to resurface the skatepark. Skips could then be arranged for that day, adequate to remove both the existing debris and any more generated. Committee needs to consider what work could be completed in this way and a suitable date for it to take place. Possibly a barbeque or other refreshments could be arranged at the same time to make it more of a social occasion.
- x. **To further consider the ongoing development of the field, including amenity furniture, access path** – As stated above, as we are at the beginning of a new financial year, consideration should be given to prioritising work for the year and allocating budget accordingly. Committee will need to consider the balance between accumulating as much finance as possible for the replacement of the changing rooms and making progress on other aspects of the development of the field.

9. To note progress on project for extended play area at Woodfield under the Playbuilder scheme and agree any further actions

The new equipment has now been installed and all is complete apart from completion of the safety matting on the mound, which is awaiting the new turf to establish itself. The contractor’s storage unit should be removed next week – which will be good as we have reports of children climbing on it (obviously £50,000 worth of new play equipment is not as interesting as an old blue metal box!). The edge of the old play area has been turfed to make it level with the surrounding area. There are some muddy areas within the new area, which might need to be addressed, but might resolve themselves once the grass revives and the weather improves.

The new park has been very well received by the children, although there have been reports of some concerns amongst adjacent residents. Only one of these has contacted the Council – a mother of 2 young children living near the park, who is extremely upset by the impact of the new equipment. She has reported that children using the park are coming from other areas and are noisy, aggressive and rude, and that her son (aged around 8 years) is being

bullied when he visits the area. She has asked for the park to be patrolled a lot more frequently. The Neighbourhood Warden and PCSO have been informed of the issue and have reported that they have visited on a number of occasions, but have not witnessed anything untoward. PC Mark Wilson is also supportive of the area (in fact play areas generally) being added to the SARA Plan for the next 3 months, which will mean that the police keep a special eye on it. There would seem relatively little more that we can do – it is not possible to supervise the park 24/7. It appears that the ‘bullies’ are children already known to Police and other authorities, although we have not received any complaints other than from this lady, so it could be that her son is being particularly ‘targeted’, which is an issue for them, but not really a general issue concerning the park. (He has apparently previously had similar issues at school, and has been removed from Woodfield to another school largely for this reason).

Further matters which need to be considered at the park are signage, benches and bins. With regard to the latter 2 items, it has been suggested that we wait a while to assess how the area is used in practice before installing any more seats or bins (there are several benches and bin already there). One new sign for the area is being provided under the Playbuilder scheme by the County Council, but this will just provide the name of the area, reference to funders etc., and will not include any further information such as the age range which it is considered that the equipment is suitable for. Opinions differ as to whether such information should be displayed, as the equipment can be used by a wide range of ages, in different ways and there is a move against restrictions in such areas. On the other hand, an upper age limit gives the police, PCSOs and Wardens a little more ‘clout’ to remove older teenagers from the area if they are causing problems. Any sign will also need to be quite robust to withstand the rough and tumble of this area. It has been advised that the Company supplying the County sign can add a further one to the same post giving additional information – it might be considered best to again wait a while, check the quality of the new sign when it is installed and assess what, if any, further information is needed before taking any action.

10. To further consider planting of trees on Parish Council sites as part of the ATC Challenge and in conjunction with Stroud Valleys Project (memorial trees)

The ATC still hopes to acquire more trees later in the year – details of these are awaited. In the meantime, discussions have been reopened with Stroud Valleys Project regarding the possible planting of Memorial trees and a site meeting is being arranged. Before this takes place, it would be useful if Committee could confirm the area where it feels such trees would be appropriate and the total number of trees it feels should be permitted.

11. To review Service Level Agreement with Stroud Valleys project and agree any adjustments and/or additional payments necessary.

The SLA with SVP, agreed last year, is for one year only at present, dated from 1st November. It provides for a total payment for the year to SVP of £4,500, based on £2,500 for essential maintenance at the Wetland, installation of a minimum of 2 kissing gates (£,1000) + additional mutually agreed works (£1,000). A problem has arisen in that, due to the delay in getting this Agreement signed, no payment was made to SVP for grass cutting at the Wetlands last summer, although they met the cost from the initial £3,500 paid in November under the terms of the Agreement. However, this will mean that they have no funding for this year’s maintenance. Rather than bring forward an element of the fee for 2010/11, which is not agreed until it has been confirmed that the terms have been met for 2009/10, Committee may wish to recommend a one-off payment of the actual cost of Wetland maintenance for last year, which will get things back on course for future years. Further monitoring can then take place with a view to agreeing an extended SLA to commence in November.

12. To confirm arrangements for annual professional safety inspection for play areas

Following consultation with Members, the Play Inspection Company has been instructed to again undertake annual inspections, with the cost kept at last year’s level. Committee now needs to formally confirm this arrangement.

13. To receive regular inspection reports for play areas and agree any actions

No major issues reported.

14. To Note any Comments from Users of Jubilee Field and Agree Actions

15. To receive inspection reports for open spaces and consider any action

16. To Note any Issues Relating to Allotments

- i) To consider any applications for structures and note planning implications**
- ii) To consider necessary actions to bring the additional site at Ashmead into use , including provision of water supply**
- iii) To note and comment on any further allotment issues - Plot holders have been advised that Terms and Conditions are being reviewed and that tenancies might be restricted to one per household from next year. There have been a few plots relinquished this year, which are being reallocated to those on the waiting list. A few tenants have also indicated that they are considering relinquishing a plot at the end of the year. However, a complaint has been received from one household with 2 plots on the basis that removal of plots would be unfair. A copy of the email will be forwarded to Members next week and will be available at the meeting.**

17. Any Other Urgent R&L Matters for Information or Referral Only



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