

## CAM PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2010 AT 6.30pm IN THE COUNCIL SHOP

**PRESENT:** Andrewartha (Chairman), N Ledoux, M Clifton, M Poole, B Powell, J Sherman, J Fowles

**APOLOGIES:** D Pritchard

**IN ATTENDANCE:** S Hanman (Clerk)

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**RL.10.1. To receive Apologies for Absence**

Apologies as listed above were received and accepted

**RL.10.2. To receive Declarations of Interest**

None made

**RL.10.3. To Accept and Sign Minutes of the Meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> March as a True and Correct Record**

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman

**RL.10.4. 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**

None received

**RL.10.5. To note matters arising from the Minutes and not covered by agenda items for Information Only**

None raised

**RL.10.6. To note correspondence received**

None

**RL.10.7. To receive and comment on budget report and consider any amendments**

Details of the new 2010/11 budget were noted. As Full Council Contingency had been increased by the amount of the year-end surplus, it was possible that additional funds could be available, subject to a bid to Full Council.

**RL.10.8. Jubilee Field Maintenance and Development**

**i. To receive update on anti social behaviour, litter, damage etc and agree any actions**

There had been no major incidents of late, although a report had been received of a fire in a litter bin and there was some graffiti on the climbstones.

**ii. To receive update on works to changing rooms and agree any further actions** – One new quote had been received, organised by Everside Football Club. However, securing an alternative quote was proving more difficult than expected. A site meeting had taken place with another plumber, but this threw up more confusion about exactly what is needed. The plumber had now agreed to contact Marcus Cowley at Everside direct to discuss requirements, which should hopefully produce a quote very shortly. There had been a further leak in water pipes, which had been exacerbated by water again being left turned on, although it was not known which of the Clubs was responsible for this.

- 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 was being investigated. Attempts were being made to contact someone at North Nibley about their recent new building which, according to press reports, appeared to have been secured at a relatively low cost. The cost of providing services to the agreed site for a new building would also be investigated and the issue would be discussed again at the next meeting. It would be important also to establish how the administration of a new building would be organised, given current concerns about responsibility being shown by football clubs.
- iv. **To consider provision of play equipment for younger children** – Details and quotes from a variety of suppliers were considered. It was agreed that a selection of smaller items would provide better play value than a small 'multi-play- unit. The scheme provided by Proludic was felt to be suitable, although it was felt that an embankment slide would be better than a free standing one. Proludic would be asked for the cost of providing a mound and installing the slide – if this could be achieved within budget, it was RESOLVED that authority be delegated to the Clerk, on consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman, to place the order. Should the additional cost be outside the budget, other suppliers would be asked to quote on a similar basis.
- v. **To agree arrangements for resurfacing the skatepark** – A supply of the specialist paint was being sourced. It was noted that there were a few volunteers in the community who would be willing to help with the work. It was agreed that arrangements should be made for volunteers to undertake the resurfacing work in early June if possible.
- vi. **To consider installation of grass matting around fitness equipment** – A quote of £2780 had been received from the equipment supplier to install grassmatting around the items, which would stabilise the ground and prevent it from becoming so muddy. It was now RESOLVED that this be accepted and the work ordered. The Handyman would be instructed to fill the hollows in the surface prior to the work (spoil from the installation of the seat and bin already in stock could be used).
- vii. **To consider provision of enclosures on skatepark ramps** – A quote had previously been acquired for this, which was in the region of £5,000. It was felt that this was a high cost to be considered at this stage in the financial year, and there was also some concern as to whether the enclosures were really necessary. It was agreed to monitor the situation and reconsider after the annual safety inspection.
- viii. **To consider fencing of ball park area** – A request had been received from some users of the field for fencing around the ball park area. This was 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). It was agreed to discuss this again when prices are available.
- 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 had now completed the work already instructed, but would be available later in the year, if requested. There was 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 was agreed that the next Committee meeting should meet on site to tour the area and assess what further work needs to be done.
- x. **To further consider the ongoing development of the field, including amenity furniture, access path** – This would also be considered at the site meeting.

**RL.10.9. To note progress on project for extended play area at Woodfield under the Playbuilder scheme and agree any further actions**

The new equipment had now been installed and all was complete apart from completion of the safety matting on the mound, which was awaiting the new turf to establish itself. The contractor's storage unit and other surplus materials should be removed very shortly. The edge of the old play area had been turfed to make it level with the surrounding area.

The new park had been very well received by the children, although there had been reports of some concerns amongst adjacent residents. These had included some bullying and aggressive behaviour, with one family in particular being implicated. Police, PCSOs and Neighbourhood Wardens were already aware of the issues and were monitoring the area. It was agreed that the Police should again be approached formally about the problems, naming any known culprits, with copies to be sent to the Head of Housing and the Safer Estates Officer at the District Council.

It was also agreed to monitor use of the area for a period before deciding on any new seats, bins or signage that might be needed. The Police had mentioned that signage limiting the age range of users might be useful, but there was some reticence to impose limits on the use of equipment that is intended for a wide range of ages.

**RL.10.10. 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 was still hoping to acquire more trees later in the year – details of these were awaited. In the meantime, discussions had been reopened with Stroud Valleys Project regarding the possible planting of Memorial trees and a site meeting was being arranged. This aspect, and the possibility of more trees on the field boundary, would be considered at the forthcoming site meeting at the Jubilee Field.

**RL.10.11. To review Service Level Agreement with Stroud Valleys project and agree any adjustments and/or additional payments necessary.**

Due to some confusion and cashflow problems that had arisen with regard to the dating of the Service Level Agreement from November, it was agreed to adjust this to bring it into line with the financial year. Thus, the payment made in November 2009 would be deemed to relate to the 2009/10 financial year (and thus cover grass cutting costs at the wetland for 2009), and the initial payment due in November 2010 would be brought forward to April, which would then cover costs for Summer 2010. The Agreement would then be reviewed in October/November, with a view to extending it for a further period of years from April 2011. Payment of the balance for 2010/11 could then be made at this time, subject to confirmation from SVP that the agreed additional works have been carried out.

**RL.10.12. To confirm arrangements for annual professional safety inspection for play areas**

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

**RL.10.13. To receive regular inspection reports for play areas and agree any actions**

No major issues reported.

**RL.10.14. To Note any Comments from Users of Jubilee Field and Agree Actions**

No users present

**RL.10.15. To receive inspection reports for open spaces and consider any action**

None yet received

**RL.10.16. To Note any Issues Relating to Allotments**

**i) To consider any applications for structures and note planning implications**

An enquiry had been received about a shed at Upthorpe, but full details had not yet been received.

- ii) **To consider necessary actions to bring the additional site at Ashmead into use , including provision of water supply**

The 'sweep' to try to substantiate the reports on an ammunition dump was still awaited.

- iii) **To note and comment on any further allotment issues** - Plot holders had been advised that Terms and Conditions are being reviewed and that tenancies might be restricted to one per household from next year. There had been a few plots relinquished this year, which were being reallocated to those on the waiting list. A few tenants had also indicated that they are considering relinquishing a plot at the end of the year. However, a complaint had been received from one household with 2 plots on the basis that removal of plots would be unfair. This also referred to the inequality of the position at Upthorpe, where tenants have a greater area of hedgerow to maintain. It was agreed that a response be sent explaining that no decision on the limitation of plots has yet been made, with the notification having been made largely to encourage tenants to consider their positions – this had been successful in that a few plots had been released. The tenant would also be reassured that, should a decision to limit plots be made, all affected tenants would be given at least 12 months notice. Costs would also be acquired for the Council to cut the inside of the hedges at the roadside and top boundary at Upthorpe to assess whether this could be implemented to reduce the burden on tenants.

**RL.10.17. Any Other Urgent R&L Matters for Information or Referral Only**

None raised. There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 8.05pm.