

RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Held at 2pm on Thursday 20th May 2021 at The Clubhouse, River Recreation Ground

PRESENT: Cllr. Dixon (in the Chair), Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson, Cllr. Gunzi, Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. A. Denyer (Parish Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: There were none

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none

3. CLUBROOM BOOKING

Chairman reported that an offer has been received from a company asking if the first floor of the Clubroom would be available for a long-term lease as office space. This has the potential to substantially cut the cost of maintaining the Recreation Ground and make funds available for more projects in the wider parish.

Cllr. Jones queried the availability for sports use/changing rooms etc. Cllr. Gunzi said that any rent should reflect current market value.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council are, in principle, in favour of pursuing this or other such offers subject to the agreement of a sufficient level of rental income.

Clerk is to contact Dover District Council regarding covenants in the Transfer Document which may restrict use of the Clubroom. It was agreed that a further meeting will be convened when the outcome of these enquiries is known.

4. CLEANING AND LOCKING

It was reported that Jane Dixon and Carol King have handed in their notice. Future options for the management of both cleaning and locking were discussed. Jane and Carol have stated that the ground locking times were causing aggravation with users. It was agreed that the Recreation Ground would be left unlocked for a trial period of one month to see if problems occurred.

Chairman will speak to Jane and Carol to see if they wished to continue with just cleaning tasks.

5. INSURANCE

As it has not been possible to gain further quotations, it was agreed that the insurance be renewed for one year with PEN insurance. Next year, it will be possible to obtain further quotations once the cottage conversion to coffee shop has been completed. Cllr. Gunzi suggested that local brokers also be consulted. This will be investigated.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

a) ASB Incident

An email has been received from a member of the public who was subjected to verbal abuse from a group of young people whilst she was playing with her son in the Recreation Ground. She has reported the matter to the police.

It was agreed to investigate purchase of a secondhand iPad so that an additional person could review CCTV to relief the pressure on Cllr. Buhlman and the Clerk.

7. HEALTH AND SAFETY

a) Annual Play Area Safety Inspection Reports

The annual inspections have taken place with no high-risk issues reported. The surfacing in both areas was reported as in need of attention. The wet pour surface in the Crabble Lane Play Area needs to be repaired as well as the compacted grass areas in the Lower Road Play Area.

Clerk was asked to order a new supply of wet pour. Cllr. Eyre-Jackson will also get a quotation from a company who have previously carried out repairs in the Play Areas.

b) Water Safety Report

Following an inspection visit by Affinity Water, the Parish Council has received notice of works requiring to be carried out in the Clubroom ground floor former changing rooms.

c) Any Other Health and Safety Issues

No further issues.

8. OUTSTANDING TASKS AND PROJECTS

Clerk reported that updated signage was still outstanding.

It was queried whether there were any outstanding works on trees. Chairman reported that all outstanding work was up to date.

9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Nothing further.

Meeting closed at 3.25pm