

RIVER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Held at 2.15pm on Tuesday 20th July 2021 at the Clubhouse, River Recreation Ground

PRESENT: Cllr. Dixon (in the Chair), Cllr. Beresford, Cllr. Eyre-Jackson, Cllr. Gunzi, Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Taylor, Cllr. Atkins joined the meeting at Item 4b

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. A. Denyer, Parish Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Atkins said she would not be able to attend the start of the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING / MATTERS ARISING

All items on agenda

4. BOUNDARY TREES AND HEDGE

a) Report from Invicta Arboriculture on 1 Sycamore and 1 Lime Tree

A report commissioned from Invicta Arboriculture has concluded that the two trees in question are in good condition and do not require attention. However, it did recommend that the cable bracings on the sycamore should be replaced. It was agreed that the report be accepted.

b) Proposal to reduce width of hedge along the Northwest boundary

Further to complaints from two households, Chairman has asked GW Landscaping to advise on how far the width of the hedge along the Northwest boundary could be reduced without compromising the stability of the hedge. This would allow easier access for hedge cutting. Cllr. Gunzi said that a third household had also complained and he will speak to them.

5. CLUB HOUSE (FLINT HOUSE)

a) Lease

Frederick Hall are preparing the lease and a draft should be available shortly.

b) Change of Use (Planning)

The planning application for change of use is in progress. The latest date for a decision is 2nd September 2021.

c) Alternative Meeting Venues

Clerk is investigating alternative venues for both parish council and committee meetings.

6. HEALTH & SAFETY MATTERS

a) Affinity Water Enforcement Notice

Chairman confirmed that required works have nearly been completed with one tap still needing to be replaced. When complete, a further inspection by Affinity Water will take place.

b) Correspondence from River Originals Tennis Club re. footpath

An email has been received from River Originals requesting that the Parish Council maintain the footpath inside the tennis enclosure citing reasons of health and safety. After reference to the agreement with the tennis club, signed in December 2018, it was agreed that the maintenance of the path is the responsibility of the club under Clause 7. The Clerk was asked to inform the Club.

c) Any other Health & Safety items

- i) The step down to the table tennis table is in need of repair.
- ii) It was agreed that the Crabble Lane Play Area was in suitable condition to be open during the school holiday prior to works on the surfacing in September. It was agreed that a notice be placed warning about the uneven surfacing.

7. ANY OPERATIONAL, SPORTS USE OR FACILITIES ITEMS

- a) There is no update on the enquiry about Sunday League football.
- b) Cllr. Gunzi suggested working with schools about cricket. Chairman enquired whether there was an appetite for cricket facilities to be available.
- c) Cllr. Eyre-Jackson is updating the Clubhouse timetable.
- d) The 'kick-about' goals need moving again to protect grass from over-wear.
- e) It was agreed not to replace the horse head rockers as they are so vulnerable to damage. It was agreed to look into the possibility of providing a see-saw or climbing frame instead.
- f) It was suggested that signage on how to report antisocial behaviour be prominently displayed.
- g) 25th September was suggested as a possible date for a 5k fun run based from the Recreation Ground. Cllr. Gunzi said that the Rotary Club would be able to provide sample risk assessments. Whether local running clubs could help was also discussed.

8. ANY OTHER GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence has been received regarding the size of trees along the Lewisham Road boundary.

9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The fixed penalty for dogs in a 'No Dogs' area under the Public Spaces Protection Order is going up to £100 after 10 days non-payment.

River School and the Pre-Schools have recently held events on the Recreation Grounds without any problems.

Meeting closed at 3.40pm