

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

RECREATION & AMENITIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 21 Sept 2010

Present: Cllr I Barratt , Cllr A Gunnett & Cllr S Pointer

In Attendance: Jane Macken (Parish Clerk), John Howarth (Brixworth Juniors FC) & Ian Bandey (BASFC)

It was noted that Cllr Whiffen had recently resigned from the Parish Council therefore Cllr I Barratt chaired the meeting.

10/059r Election of Chairman

On proposal by Cllr Barratt and seconded by Cllr Gunnett, Cllr Pointer was duly elected as Chairman of the committee. It was noted that a member of the committee would be needed to assist with the minute taking.

10/060r Apologies: Cllr E Nunn and Ben Foster (AFC Crown)

10/061r Declarations of interest: None

10/062r Approval and signing of the minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2010 were agreed as an accurate record of that meeting and were signed accordingly.

10/063r Matters arising from the minutes:

1. Long Term Development Plan – The Clerk and Groundsman had carried out an appraisal of each of the Recreation Grounds/Playing Field. Copy to be sent to Cllr Pointer.
2. Spratton Road Rec. hedge has been trimmed.
3. Wheels for the Junior Goals have been fitted and pitches marked out on the Ashway Playing Field.
4. St David's Rec barrier is now secured with a padlock.

Spratton Road Recreation Ground:

10/064r Pytchley Way Entrance

The Clerk reported that the palisade gate, which was installed several years ago and is no longer used, has a finger entrapment and therefore recommends that the gate be removed. This was agreed.

Ashway Playing Field / Changing Rooms

10/065r Annual Weed Control

It was resolved to approve the annual weed control, by Total Weed Control, at a cost of £216.00.

10/066r Damage to Chain Link Fencing

Cllr Barratt reported that a resident, in Eastfield Road, had contacted him concerned that youths were entering his garden through the damaged fencing on the field. The Police had been advised. The Clerk had met with a fencing contractor and was advised that the repair to this section and another damaged section would be in the region of £3-400. It was resolved for the Clerk to arrange for this work to be carried out as soon as possible.

10/067r Trimming of Hedging

It was resolved to approve the annual trimming of the hedges/trees by Roger Heygate at a cost of £100.00.

St. David's Recreation Ground

10/068r Central Sports Lease and Car Park

Unfortunately Cllr Whiffen had not been able to meet with Central Sports. This matter had been discussed at the Full Council meeting. The lock combination, to the gate, is to be changed every month for a trial period of six months. There had been an improvement with the gate being locked. Concerns were raised again with regards to the potholes in the car park entrance and the overgrown bushes. (One residents bush has been cut back) The Clerk was asked to write to the resident again.

It was resolved for the Clerk to contact Ray Bell and to arrange for work to be done on the potholes (up to £500).

10/069r Annual Weed Control

It was resolved to approve the annual weed control, by Total Weed Control, at a cost of £309.00.

10/070r Mobile Football Game

Mr Bandey confirmed that this mobile football game unit, which had been left following the party in the park, would be removed as soon as possible.

10/071r Picnic Benches on Recreation Ground

It was reported that these picnic benches had been recently removed from the grounds. The benches were encouraging young people to gather and loiter late at night, in addition there had been an increase in litter around the benches.

10/072r Report on Annual ROSPA Play Ground Inspection & Quarterly Maintenance Inspection

The annual Rospa inspection had been carried out in June and the Quarterly Maintenance Inspection had been carried out in September.

The main points raised are as follows: -

St David's Recreation Ground

1. Remove fire damaged drum litterbin. It was resolved for the Clerk to replace this bin.
2. Cabin slide – Toggle entrapment, raised nailheads. Youngsters gather underneath, sleep and light fires. The Clerk recommends that this is removed/replaced in the near future. This was agreed.

3. Wooden fencing along Froxhill Crescent needs repairing. It was resolved for the Clerk to arrange for this repair to be done.
4. Shed door – Hinges need resetting. Part time groundsman to undertake during the winter.
5. Wooden benches – Two need replacing. Part time groundsman to undertake during the winter.
6. Mound slide – Repairs carried out. Problem with earth at the top being ‘moved’ to the bottom of the slide. Possibly look at alternative coverings.
7. Chain link fencing – Several holes need repairing. To look at replacing with stronger fencing.
8. Signs – New signs needed.

Spratton Road Recreation Ground

1. Junior swing – Damage to swing seat. To be replaced.

General comments include trip points, where the Grounds man will reinstate the ground and some existing signs need replacing, due to damage.

10/73r Budget for 2011/12

It was resolved that the committee would like to regenerate the play area and tennis courts at St David’s, which may cost in the region of £50,000.

Any other business

10/74r Letter from resident

Concerns have been raised that members of the public are playing golf (with a solid golf ball on St David’s). The Byelaw prohibits this. It would not be possible to display the Byelaws on the playing fields, as the new ones are several pages long. However it was agreed for them to be on the Council website and in the library for members of the public to look at. In addition it was suggested for a list of the Byelaws to be mentioned in the next Newsletter.

10/075r Ashway Playing Field

It was suggested that the committee could look at planting trees/bushes along the perimeter, opposite the entrance.

10/076r Ash Tree – St David’s Recreation Ground

The newly planted Ash tree has sadly died. Committee to look at planting a larger more established tree in the future.

10/077r Parish Constable

It was discussed whether the Parish could get a volunteer who could patrol the playing fields. Cllr Barratt agreed to look into.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Next Meeting to be held on Tuesday 16 November 2010