

RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES: of the Meeting held on 11 March 2010

PRESENT: Councillors G Tyler (Chairman), A Akbar, A Cooper, M Jones and D Rogers

1/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Lines (Personal Commitment) and Field (Personal Commitment). These apologies were accepted by the Committee.

2/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Cooper declared a Personal Interest in Minute 6/10. He remained in the Meeting during consideration of this item and took part in the discussion and vote thereon.

3/10 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 November 2009 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4/10 WOODLANDS CENTRE - EXTERNAL FACILITIES (RECREATION GROUND)

(a) South and South East in Bloom

The Clerk reported that whilst the Recreation Ground had not been entered as a separate entity in the 2010 Competition, it would still be included in the judging route as part of the Village's entry.

She said that although four diseased trees around the Ground had been felled by the Council's Tree Contractors, as part of their annual works programme, eight fairly matured trees, of three different species, had been planted to not only replace these, but add to the tree stock. These trees had been donated to the Council by Ferring Nurseries.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

Reference was made to the removal of the recently felled tree stumps, and the Clerk said that this would be being arranged in the near future.

(b) Disabled Play Equipment

The Clerk referred to Minute 84/09 (Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting - 21 December 2009 refers) and reminded the Committee that the Estimates received from Playdale and Foster Playscapes had been accepted by the Council.

She said it was anticipated that the two items of inclusive play equipment would be delivered by the end of week commencing 15 March 2010, with the installation taking place as soon as practicably possible after delivery.

She advised that the Section 106 Funding in the sum of £8,000.00 was currently awaited, and the District Council's Village Enhancement Grant would be payable on receipt of a copy of the final invoice for both the supply and installation.

She then referred to the possibility of replacing the aged slide unit, and said that the recently awarded West Sussex County Council Community Fund Grant of £1,450.00 would be used towards the purchase of a replacement slide, and she would report back to the Full Council in respect of estimated costs as soon as these were to hand.

The Committee NOTED this information.

5/10 WOODLANDS CENTRE - INTERNAL

(a) Current Lettings

The Clerk gave a progress report on the current lettings against budget and said that, unfortunately, the income was now running below the revised 2009/2010 estimated figure of £44,000.00. She advised that the income, as at 28 February 2010 was £39,144.00, which represented only 88.96% of the annual budgeted figure. She said that she anticipated that the shortfall, at the end of the financial year, would be in the region of £1,500.00, but that the 'bottom line' revised figure, in respect of the internal facilities, would not be exceeded.

The Committee was concerned to NOTE this information.

Reference was then made to the possibility of increasing the amount of advertising that was currently undertaken in respect of the Centre, and the Clerk said that she would look into the likelihood of having a new brochure/leaflet produced which could be circulated with the Quarterly Newsletter to all households in the Parish, sent out to various information points outside of the Parish, as well as being available at the Council Offices, Village Information Centre, Museum, Garden Café and Public Library.

(b) Little Explorers Pre-School

The Clerk referred to Minute 227/09 (Monthly Council Meeting - 27 July 2009 refers) and reminded the Committee that the discounted fee period in respect of the Little Explorers Pre-School's hiring of the John de Bohun Room, was due to expire on 31 March 2010.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that, as the Pre-School was now well-established no further discount should be given in respect of its hiring of the John de Bohun Room after 31 March 2010.

(Prior to consideration of the following item Councillor Cooper declared a personal interest, as his son was a member of the Rustington Otters Football Club)

6/10 WOODLAND PARK SPORTSFIELD

(a) Demolition of Pavilion

The Clerk referred to Minute 57/10 (Monthly Council Meeting - 22 February 2010 refers) and said that four quotations had been obtained as follows:-

K & L Demolition Sussex Limited	-	£5,700.00 excluding VAT
Hampshire Environmental Services	-	£5,710.00 excluding VAT
Trice Builders	-	£4,300.00 excluding VAT
P Allison & Sons	-	£4,600.00 excluding VAT

She advised that the quotation received from Trice Builders had been accepted by the Members authorised by the Council to make the decision, subject to receipt of the necessary Licences for the removal and disposal of the asbestos cement roof sheets in accordance with the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006 and Hazardous Waste Regulations and copies of the Company's Public Liability Insurance Certificate

She said that the water supply had now been disconnected, with the final disconnection of the electricity supply due to take place on 26 March 2010, with the demolition taking place shortly afterwards. She also confirmed that both of the Clubs were aware of the timescale in this regard and, apart from the removal of certain items of equipment by the Club's Officers, the Pavilion was no longer in use by the Clubs' members.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information and RECOMMENDED that the Council should approve, retrospectively, the acceptance of the quotation received from Trice Builders, in the sum of £4,300.00 excluding VAT.

The Clerk then confirmed that she had approached the West Sussex County Council Property Department regarding the possibility of extending the current Lease at the Sportsfield, to enable grant applications to be made by the Youth Football Clubs to appropriate funding sources, and was currently awaiting a formal response. She said that until such time as this response had been received, there was nothing further to report in this regard.

(b) Risk Assessment - Rabbits and Moles

The Clerk referred to Minute 23/09(a) and reported that the service provided by Absolute Pest Control was continuing on a quarterly basis in respect of the Sportsfield. She advised that an extra visit had recently been necessary due to evidence of extensive mole activity on the Sportsfield.

She said that the current situation, however, in respect of the pest control management of rabbits and moles at the Sportsfield was satisfactory with very little rabbit or mole activity evident.

The Committee NOTED this information.

7/10 RUSTINGTON YOUTH CENTRE

The Clerk reported that the Centre was continuing to operate well, and it was anticipated that the final net expenditure would be below the recently revised estimated figure of £13,389.00, which was mainly due to an under-spend on certain expenditure items.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

8/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Clerk reminded Members that the date of the next Meeting would be Thursday 15 July 2010.

Chairman: **Date:**