

WHEATHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Playing Fields Committee

17th June 2008

Present: Cllrs. J. Turner (Chairman), I. Begg, A. Brewster, N. Page, K. Stammers & S. Walford

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs. Hobden & Waterfield

In Attendance: The Clerk, Mrs. B. Green

- 1) The Chairman announced that since joining this committee at the Annual Parish Council meeting, Cllrs. Hills and Burgess had both withdrawn their membership.
- 2) Adoption of minutes of 4th March and 27th May. The Chairman proposed that these minutes be adopted. Agreed. SO RESOLVED.
The Chairman wished it minuted that the committee sends appreciation to Cllr. Hills, who was Chairman for many years, for all his achievements.
- 3) Co-opted Members – Barry Grey (Skewbridge Football Team) and Jim Lynch (Wheathampstead '89) were co-opted on to this committee. (Proposed the Chairman). Agreed. SO RESOLVED. The Wanderers had been unable to send a representative this time.

Cllr. Brewster arrived during this item.

- 4) Election of Vic Chairman – Cllr. Turner proposed Cllr. Brewster as Vice Chairman of the committee seconded Cllr. Begg. Agreed unanimously.
- 5) Marford Road Changing Room – The Chairman, Cllr. Brewster and the Clerk had visited the changing room recently and were not happy with the state of the showers which contained thick mud. It was suggested that sieves be put over the drainage holes to prevent mud blocking the pipes. Jim reported the club could do this. The club would like to re-decorate the changing rooms. However the floor tiles need to come up and rubber paint put over the floors to seal them. Clerk to obtain a quotation to remove and take away the floor tiles. Wall tiles in the showers to be checked for damp. The outside door needs replacing. The roof covering and weather boards need replacing. The plastic boarding is being broken and looks a mess.
- 6) Folly Football
 - a) Pavilion – Barry Gray reported that the paint on the ceiling is flaking. A quotation to repaint this to be obtained.
 - b) Goal Posts – The hooks on the back of the bars that hold the nets have broken off. Clerk to order from County Supplies. Also hooks which go at the back of the goal post that supports the nets.
- 7) Playing Fields Budget – It was noted that the budget had been cut at the Finance Meeting and was reduced to £7750.
- 8) Cricket Club Rent Review – The rent review for the next 5 years had to be considered. The club is currently paying £100 a year. The club asked for help in paying for the outfield to be cut last year and the Playing Fields Committee now pays for this work to be done (£600 a year for 08/09).

8) continued.....

Cllr. Page proposed that the increase should be in line with the RPI seconded Cllr. Begg. This would mean a rent of £110 for the next 5 years. Vote in favour 4. Carried.

Cllr. Walford proposed that this year's rent be waived, seconded Cllr. Brewster. Vote in favour 2. against 4.

It was agreed to invite members of the Cricket Club to attend Playing Fields committee meetings, and also to look at ways the club could be helped. Clerk to enquire as to how much the club used to pay to have the out field cut.

- 9) Hedge adjacent to 60 Folly Fields – Cllr. Page will arrange to have the stumps removed which are between the hedge and the fence. Quotations to be obtained for this work and for putting down weed killer. Cllr. Page to be contacted regarding an access from the west end of the hedge to undertake the cutting back of the grass. A letter of explanation to be written to the owner of no. 60.
- 10) Marford Field – Hedge behind the East Lane Flats – Someone has cut this hedge and left all the branches in the Marford Field. (It is the Parish Council's hedge so leaving the branches on our side was quite legal). Cllr. Page will deal with this.
- 11) Brocket View Gate – It was agreed to ask Mr. Dawes for a quote to maintain/ treat the gates and adjust the lower hinges.
- 12) Posts at Folly Fields – These are rotten and need replacing.
- 13) Play Equipment Sites – The Chairman proposed that we prepare a strategy for leisure, seconded Cllr. Brewster. Vote in favour 4. Carried. SO RESOLVED. It was agreed that Cllrs. Page, Brewster and Walford, led by Cllr. Begg would pursue this idea.
- The Chairman asked what the Playing Fields Committee felt about the Youth Committee being combined with it. The Committee should ask the Youth Committee if they would like to consider this as an appropriate forward.
Cllr. Brewster (Chairman of the Youth Committee) thought the Youth Committee should consider this option for themselves.
- 14) Butterfield Road Site – Arrange for a site visit with Jim Lynch regarding a MUGA.
- 15) Fair – The fair has asked to come on the Marford Field at the end of July. Agreed. The rent for the week will be £350.
- 16) Date of Next Meeting – 16th September.