

WELLESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities Committee of the Council meeting held at the Parish Council Office at 2 School Road, Wellesbourne on Tuesday 22nd June 2010 at 7.30 pm.

Cllrs are summoned to deal with the following agenda.



Present: Chairman Cllr Parton, Cllrs Johnston, Grantham, Copeland, Mrs Rose, Close, Wright

Acting Clerk: Mrs Lipman

Members of the public: 1 Members of the press: 0

1. Apologies for Absence – there were none

2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest (personal or prejudicial) under the provisions of the LGA 2000, Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001.

Cllr Grantham prejudicial interest in connection with Wellesbourne Conservative Club Ltd and a personal interest in the Football and Social Club 97 and all matters appertaining to Walton Estate.

Cllr Wright personal interest in connection with the Methodist Hall

Cllr Mrs Rose prejudicial interest in connection with the Conservative Club Ltd and a personal interest in the Football and Social Club 97.

3. Confirmation of Agenda

It was agreed to move item 10.1 to item 7 on the agenda

4. Confirmation of Minutes of meeting of 23rd February 2010

These were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

5. Open session for members of the public to raise any matters of relevance to the Parish and for any Cllr with a prejudicial interest in an item on the agenda to speak on that item

Mr John Turner (Secretary of the Sports Association) read an email from Rob Shearsby, Chairman of the Sports Association (appended). He also said that following a confrontation with a member of the public last April, Mr Witts would no longer work on the Dovehouse sports field and he himself was considering resigning from the Sports Association.

6. Matters Arising

There were none

7. Mountford Sportsfield

Nothing to report

8. Dovehouse Sportsfield/Community Land

8.1 Vandalism issues - surveillance

The gates to the Dovehouse sports field remained unlocked due to the vandalism of the locks earlier in the year. A letter to residents asking for information had not produced any response. WPC was awaiting authority from WCC to confirm that it was exempt from RIPA guidelines before commencing surveillance on the area. The cost would be £300 per day. It was agreed that, as a gesture of goodwill, the sports ground which is not used for matches during the summer months, should remain accessible to the public until the start of the new playing season.

ACTION: to meet with surveillance company prior to proposals being brought to July Council meeting
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Cllr Parton

The Committee agreed to purchase 4 metal dog ban signs to be fitted high on the fence at a cost of £35 each, copy appended. The text “this area is under surveillance” to be added to the sign. The dog ban would also be publicised at the main Council meeting and in the W & WPN.

9. Mountford and Dovehouse Play areas

9.1 Procurement of new signage

The Committee agreed to the purchase of two dog signs on poles to be positioned at either end of the play area at Dovehouse Drive (example appended). The cost to be £85 per sign, post and clip but installation would be £350.

ACTION: Obtain quote for work from Limebridge and WCC	BY: Office
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Cllr Mrs Rose said that there was a problem with nuisance youths on the Dovehouse play area.

ACTION: Sgt Fretwell to be informed	BY: Office
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It was agreed that it was not possible to ban dogs on the Mountford playarea while it was unfenced. It would continue to be a “dogs on leads” area.

10. Sports Association

10.1 Football Club building – provision of changing facilities

This item was discussed as item 7

The Amenities Committee agreed that having acquired the football club building, the first priority would be to open up the changing facilities as soon as possible. This would probably mean isolating them from the rest of the building – completing the renovation in stages. John Turner (Sports Association) and Cllrs who had viewed the interior of the building at the time of receivership confirmed that major work would be needed before the building could be used. They thought that the structure was sound but the windows and boiler would need replacing and the condition of the electrics was unknown.

It was agreed that a full stock/condition survey was needed.

ACTION: Cllrs to gain access together with a heating engineer in order to assess the condition of the interior of the building	BY: Office
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Cllr TC offered the use of a generator to light the building which is presently boarded up. It was agreed to use local tradesmen as much as possible and Cllrs RP, JG and RR volunteered to be involved in the day to day project management. Sponsorship would be sought from local companies and grants for the provision of sport and youth activities investigated.

The Committee agreed that the future use of the building would be for a community/sports hall facility to benefit a much larger section of the community than had been the case in the past. It was therefore necessary to consult residents before drawing up a business plan. It was agreed that once an inspection had been made a meeting should be arranged between the Amenities Committee and representatives of the Sports Association to discuss possible long term plans for the building. This would be followed by a public meeting. Residents views could be surveyed at the Parish Plan consultation open day on 31st July.

ACTION: To convene a meeting of the Council to discuss possible business plans	BY: Clerk
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ACTION: To convene a public meeting of the Council to discuss possible business plans	BY: Clerk
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The Committee received a request from the Cricket Club to allow access to the back of the Football Club building so that the grass could be cut.

ACTION: to contact solicitor to request permission	BY: Office
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Cllrs Close and Wright left the meeting

11. Inspection of playground equipment

Cllr Parton explained that having attended a ROSPA course on play inspections he was now aware that the Council was failing in its duty to inspect play areas on a regular basis. They should be inspected monthly as a minimum requirement although weekly was recommended. New inspection forms had been compiled. (attached). Cllr Mrs Rose volunteered to be responsible for inspections of play equipment, and the Committee thanked her for this commitment.

12. Councillor Exchange of Information - there was none

13. Date of next meeting 19th October 2010 - noted

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Chairman Cllr Parton

Signed

Date