

DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2005

PRESENT: CLLRS R G W BAKER (CHAIRMAN), MRS J F THWAITES (VICE-CHAIR),
 J D DAY, J E DESAVE, P A THORPE AND MRS A THROSSELL
 MR NIGEL SAUNDERS (GROUNDS SUPERVISOR)
 MRS NICOLA GREENAWAY (ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT)

565. **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7.55pm.

566. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies previously notified were **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** from Cllrs A R Mulcuck and Mrs M Mulcuck.

567. **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

568. **FINANCE**

(a) Financial Analysis

The Financial Analysis, which had previously been **CIRCULATED**, was **READ** and **NOTED**.

(b) Request to slip forward funds:

- (i) BALANCE OF PLAYGROUND REPAIRS BUDGET FOR REFURBISHMENT OF PLAY AREA

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND that the balance of the funds in the budget for playground repairs be slipped forward towards paying for the refurbishment of the KBRRG play area.

- (ii) OTHER SURPLUS FUNDS TOWARDS DEMOLITION OF TOILET BLOCK AT NRRG

Members agreed that it is necessary to demolish the toilet block before it becomes hazardous but they also felt that this whole area at New Road Recreation Ground had become very unsightly. It was suggested that surplus funds could be slipped forward for the purpose of making improvements to this

area and the demolition of the toilet block be paid for from central funds as originally agreed.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND surplus funds from the Open Spaces and Amenities Committee's budget be slipped forward for the purpose of improvements to New Road Recreation Ground and the cost of the demolition of the toilet block be met from central reserves.

(c) Replacement of "NO PLAYING OF GOLF" signs on KBBRG

It was **NOTED** that there is only one sign remaining advising that the playing of golf on the recreation ground is prohibited, and this is damaged.

RESOLVED to purchase up to three new signs (depending on cost) advising that the playing of golf, riding of motorcycles etc is prohibited on the recreation ground.

569. **ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM LAST MEETING**

(a) Rabbit Problem (Page 174, Item 336(a))

It was **NOTED** that there was nothing to report.

(b) Play Equipment [Page 174, Item 336(b)]

(i) UPDATE ON KBBRG

It was **NOTED** that the contractor has confirmed he hopes to commence work in early April.

(ii) PAINTING PLAY EQUIPMENT AT NRRG

The Grounds Supervisor advised that some the play equipment had been sprayed by vandals. Some damage may be able to be power washed off but the rest would need to be 'painted out'. However, this equipment was in need of painting before this damage occurred.

RESOLVED the Grounds Supervisor will look at his staff's work schedule to see if it is possible to tackle this re-painting and will report back to the next meeting.

(c) Demolition of Toilet Block at NRRG [Page 149, Item 279]

It was **NOTED** that there was nothing further to **REPORT**.

570. **CRICKET PITCH**

(a) Request to use pitch for Junior Squad

An e-mail from the Kent Cricket Board's Development Officer was **READ**. It was **NOTED** that they are interested in using the pitch at Ditton for junior games and squad training and that this would involve marking out different sized boundaries etc.

RESOLVED the Administrative Assistant to work out what the Council would need to charge to cover the cost of the Grounds Staff preparing the pitch and to then reply advising of the costs

of hiring the pitch together with the cost of hiring a room for teas/changing etc. Also to make it clear that although the Parish Council wishes to encourage the development of sport it cannot provide facilities without covering its running costs.

571. **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

- (a) Ditton Minors Football Club - Request to hold Fun Day on Saturday 14th May 2005 (to include hire of Don Carman Hall inter-club competition, BBQ and presentation.

RESOLVED TO AGREE TO THIS REQUEST PROVIDING THAT THE BAR AND BBQ ARE CAREFULLY SUPERVISED TO ENSURE THAT NO UNDER-AGE DRINKING TAKES PLACE

- Request for additional pitch for next season for U9s

RESOLVED TO ADVISE THAT, UNFORTUNATELY THERE IS NO ROOM AVAILABLE TO OFFER AN ADDITIONAL PITCH AT THE MOMENT. IF ROOM BECOMES AVAILABLE IN THE FUTURE, THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL RECONSIDER THIS REQUEST.

- (b) First Class Football - Request to hold Saturday morning football club for 5 – 8 year olds on grass or artificial surface.

RESOLVED TO ADVISE THAT THERE IS NO ROOM AVAILABLE AT THE MOMENT ON THE GRASS AND THAT THE ONLY TIME AVAILABLE IN THE MULTI-SPORTS IS IN THE AFTERNOON ON A SATURDAY.

- (c) Ditton Infant School - Maintenance of School Grounds

RESOLVED THE GROUNDS SUPERVISOR TO MEET WITH THE HEADTEACHER TO DISCUSS THE EXACT REQUIREMENTS BEFORE PROVIDING A QUOTATION FOR THIS WORK.

ALSO TO INVESTIGATE IF THE JUNIOR SCHOOL WOULD LIKE A QUOTATION FOR SIMILAR WORK SO THAT THE TWO SCHOOLS COULD SHARE SOME OF THE COST.

572. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING**

- (a) Ditton Allotment Tenants Society - Notice of AGM - Tuesday 22nd March 2005, 7.30pm Ditton Junior School

READ and **NOTED**.

The Chairman will **READ** the next two items of correspondence and report on any items of interest.

- (b) NSALG - Allotment & Leisure Gardener – Issue 1

2005

(c) Kent Men of Trees

- 'Arbor', Winter-Spring 2005

573. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.38pm.

Chairman
7th March 2005