

**Minutes of the Parks & Leisure Committee Meeting
Of Wednesday 11th March 2020 held at 7.00pm
At The Pavilion, Green Lane West, Rackheath**

Present: Brian Gardner (Chair), Tracy Buckley, Paula Lowe, Stephen Oakley

In Attendance: Anne Tandy, Parish Clerk & RFO

1. **Apologies for absence: 0**
2. **Public Participation: 1**
3. **Declarations of interest: None**
4. **Neman Road woods attendance by Annie Sommazzi from Broadland District Council to update on work being undertaken and discuss handover of the site to the Council.**

Lots of help and support from volunteers. Chapel site has been cleared and planted with fruit trees and hedges. Looking for benches to be funded by Community Trust. Paula to contact Tony Howard about this. Post and rail fence has been installed behind the restoration garage. Tree safety work has been completed. Planting going on currently.

NCC ecology team involved in managing the site and they are writing a practical management plan. Ivan Barnard has been involved and may continue clearing and maintaining the site in future. The ongoing work is ideal for volunteer groups. Bure Valley conservation and Tree Wardens would be interested. Woodland is in a good condition for the next 3-4 years. Council would like to take it on but need to see the Management Plan before a decision can be made. Interpretation panels are being installed. The Scout hut has now been fenced off permanently. The Clerk to check with insurance company about the risks of the old building should breaches of access occur. Signage to warn of no admittance to dangerous areas would be needed. Official opening to take place May bank holiday which could be the point of handover.

This item was taken early to allow Annie Sommazzi to comment from the perspective of Broadland DC.

8. **Jubilee Park**
 - a. Fallen tree in Broadland's tree belt around Jubilee Park. Jamie Henry has been to see the elderly residents who own the tree, again today and they are instructing their own tree surgeon to carry out the work. BDC's concern is that if the wood is to be stacked in the tree belt until the ground conditions improve to allow vehicles to enter the park and remove the wood, it needs to be stacked safely, as it will attract the attention of children who wish to climb on it. Their preference would be for one of their own contractors to carry out the work but this would need to be with the permission of the property owners. Jamie Henry is liaising.
5. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parks and Leisure Committee meeting of 12th February 2020 and matters arising (Clerk's report)**
 - a. The minutes of the Parks and Leisure Committee meeting of 12th February 2020 were approved by the Committee as a correct and accurate record. **All agreed.**
6. **The Pavilion and Stracey Sports Park updates and recommendations on:**
 - a. **Snow and Ice Plan** – defer until September 2020
 - b. **Football Pitch condition** – despite the teams being asked to play on the further pitch this is not happening. It was agreed that a meeting needs to take place with representatives from all teams to stress the importance of this and the consequences for the pitch condition next season. Meeting to be held on Friday 20th March at 7.00pm.

- c. **Hedge and grass cutting quote for the rear of the Pavilion** - quote received from Garden Guardian for £340 for the year. **All agreed to recommend to the full Parish Council**
- d. **Blocked ladies toilet** – due to the layout of the drains, this is likely to be a recurring problem. The Committee suggested asking a local plumber to have a look and suggest an easy fix.
- e. **Quote for installation of sound boards.** Received from Edward Cossey in the sum of £370.00. **All agreed to recommended to full Council that this work goes ahead.**
- f. **Pavilion handyman** – enquiries into suitable solutions for this are continuing.
- g. **Football door key box** - This has been broken. It appears it may have been tampered with. **It was recommended that a new key box to be purchased.**
- h. **Ground clearance quotes at the end of Stracey Playing Field.** Two quotes have been submitted. **The Committee agreed to recommend the quote from J Newton Groundworks to the full Council.**
- i. **Update on Pavilion fire doors.** New external doors will be fitted in line with the required fire safety openers. This work should be completed in March.

7. Report from Booking Assistant

- We have 4 new party bookings
- Stay and Play recommences this month on Thursdays.
- Problems with the football teams continues and this is taking up a lot of time to deal with. See 6b above.
- There has been a report of excessive dog fouling on the football pitches. It was suggested that the Community be advised that if this persists, dogs will not be allowed on the playing field unless they are on a lead.

8. Events

- a. VE Day Celebrations are being organised in conjunction with the Primary School. A rock and roll band has been booked called the Flying Sabres. They will attend from 11am until 3pm. **The Committee recommends that the cost of the band is paid by the Council. The Committee also requests a further £300.00 be agreed to cover any additional costs.** Paula has agreed to run the community bar if the school supplies the drinks.
- b. Primary School Summer Fayre is going ahead. The Council have offered to help with running and promoting the event.

9. Items for the next Committee Meeting Agenda on Wednesday 15th April 2020

- Football meeting outcome.
- Newman Road woods
- VE Day event
- Primary School summer fete.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.34.