

SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES: RECREATION & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

21 June 2011

PRESENT: Chairman: E C Murray

Clerk: Mrs J F Keeler

Councillors

Dr D R Bard

Miss S E Clarke

Ms B Laxton

M J R Mallows

I G Read

W N Reid

R M Richmond

D J Roberts

Mrs J G A Smith

+	Revd B Waldron	: The Free Church
	Mrs M Simuyandi	: Secretary – The Free Church
	Head Groundsman	: Mr A R Poole

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs S A Hatton and J W D Reynolds and Mr K Pride (Sawston Cricket Club)

2 TREE PLANTING – REVD BRUCE WALDRON

Revd B Waldron explained that next year the Church will be celebrating their 200th Anniversary and the Church wanted to celebrate by planting some trees in the village in memory of it. The Church would like to involve the Parish Council to advise where the trees could be planted.

It was discussed and two areas were recommended to replace trees that have been removed, the Cemetery and on Spicers Sports Ground. Mr A R Poole, Head Groundsman, explained there are four trees that need replacing at the Cemetery and 6 trees at Spicers with a planting season from October through to February.

Revd B Waldron advised this information will be taken back to the next Church meeting in July.

The Chairman thanked Revd B Waldron and Mrs M Simuyandi for their kind offer and for attending the meeting.

Revd B Waldron and Mrs M Simuyandi left the meeting at 7.45pm

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING

Councillor Miss S E Clarke : Item 9 - Allotments

4 MINUTES OF MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2011 were read, confirmed and signed.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor W N Reid and **SECONDED** by Councillor Dr D R Bard to **ACCEPT** these minutes with the following amendment:

There was no Sports Council representatives present at this meeting.

VOTE: 10 FOR : (UNANIMOUS)

5 MATTERS ARISING

None

6 SPORTS CLUB MATTERS

None - as no sports representative was present

7 GROUNDSMAN ISSUES

Mr G Pearl had contacted Mr A R Poole to ask if this year's Sawston United Girls under 13's and 15's could use the small pitch near the Pavilion at Spicers instead of Lynton Way. Mr A R Poole commented he had no problem with this.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor W N Reid and **SECONDED** by Councillor Ms B Laxton to support Mr A R Poole in his decision.

VOTE: 10 FOR : (UNANIMOUS)

8 PAVILIONS & GROUNDS

Spicers

Mr A R Poole explained that he had received a call from Mr D Ellis of Sawston Cricket Club to say the cricket team had played at Spicers against Royston on Monday evening and continued to play in the heavy rain which has damaged the cricket square. Mr D Ellis was not present at the time but did contact Mr A R Poole to apologise for the state of the cricket square and advise that he will be sending a letter to both teams explaining this is unacceptable. Mr A R Poole to ask Mr D Ellis for a copy of the letter.

Mill Lane

Nothing to report

Lynton Way

Nothing to report

9 ALLOTMENT PRICE REVIEW

The current fees, cost of skip and water was discussed at length and it was **PROPOSED** to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council by Councillor Ms B Laxton and **SECONDED** by Councillor W N Reid to increase the fee to £17.00 per standard allotment plot.

VOTE: 8 FOR : 1 AGAINST : 1 declared Interest (SEC)

10 GROUPS USING RECREATION GROUNDS

It was brought to the attention of the Parish Council that there are a couple of fitness groups using the Recreation Grounds during the week for commercial fitness classes. One of the classes had asked for permission which the Parish Council granted but they are unwilling to pay at present.

The Parish Council has been advised by CPALC (Cambridge and Peterborough Association for Local Councils) who agreed that because they are charging it is a commercial activity and therefore the Parish Council should be charging for the use. If the classes were held inside they would have to pay to hire a hall/pavilion. Also, if someone is injured the Parish Council does not want to be held responsible and with this in mind, the Parish Council must have copies of their Public Liability insurance and Risk Assessments.

As the Parish Council owns one of the grounds and leases the other but maintains both, they have the right to charge for commercial activities.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Dr D R Bard and **SECONDED** by Councillor W N Reid that the Clerk writes to the respective groups to make them aware of the situation and that they do need to pay for the use and must provide the Parish Council with copies of their Public Liability and Risk Assessments.

VOTE: 10 FOR : (UNANIMOUS)

It was also brought to the attention of the Parish Council that Sawston United F.C. and Sawston Athletic F.C. have started training at Lynton Way, but as they are not using the Pavilion or goals they have not booked it with the Parish Council and are not paying for the use. These teams are churning up an area that they will not be playing games on as they play elsewhere.

The Parish Council feel the ground is being over used and with the dry weather the ground is not having time to recover. Mr A R Poole is concerned that when the football season starts in September, the teams that use Lynton Way as their home ground will complain about the condition of the pitch.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor I G Read and **SECONDED** by Councillor W N Reid that the Clerk writes to the football clubs asking that they refrain from training on the grounds until further notice due to the condition of them and allow them time to recover. The issue will be taken to the next Sports Council meeting to discuss a solution.

VOTE: 10 FOR : (UNANIMOUS)

11 PLAY EQUIPMENT – MILL LANE/DEAL GROVE

Councillor Miss S E Clarke, the Clerk, and Mr A R Poole had met three companies and obtained three quotations to replace the play equipment at Deal Grove and Mill Lane.

Councillor Miss S E Clarke showed the Committee images of what is proposed along with prices.

The Parish Council has budgeted £40k in the last 2 years to allow the play areas to be replaced along with S106 money of £55k that can be used for recreation.

It was ***PROPOSED*** to ***RECOMMEND*** to Full Council by Councillor W N Reid and ***SECONDED*** by Councillor Mrs J G A Smith that we go ahead with the quotation from Sutcliffe Play for £94,962.00 + VAT. Sutcliffe Play, who in 2008, replaced the play equipment at Lynton Way and Mr A R Poole explained that the Parish Council has had no maintenance or quality issues with the equipment in that time and they were very efficient when installing it.

VOTE: 10 FOR : (UNANIMOUS)

12 CORRESPONDENCE

None

13 COUNCILLORS ISSUES CONCERNING R & O.S. ONLY

None

14 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

None

Meeting closed 8.55pm