



# SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the RECREATION & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2017

At Link Road Parish Council Offices - Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

### PRESENT:

**Parish Clerk** Jo Keeler

### Councillors

Kevin Cuffley (Chairman)

Mike Mallows

David Bard

Neil Reid (Vice Chairman)

Colin Groves

Roger Richmond

+ Alan Poole – Head Groundsman  
Mr Trevor Davies – Sawston United  
Mr Kevin Pride – Sawston Youth Cricket Club  
Mr Bob Rule – Sawston Rovers

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor Rob Grayston	-	At another meeting
Councillor Beck Laxton	-	Work commitments
Mr Ian Reeves – Sawston & Babraham Cricket		
Mr Colin English – Sawston The Rock		

### 2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING

Councillor Kevin Cuffley – Item 6 as on Sawston Fete Committee

### 3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on **20 September 2016** were read, confirmed and signed. It was **proposed** by Councillor Roger Richmond and **seconded** by Councillor David Bard to **accept** the minutes.

**VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

### 4 MATTERS ARISING – New information only

None

### 5 SPORTS CLUB MATTERS

The Head Groundsman explained that over the Christmas period the Bowls Club hired out their pavilion on Spicers ground for a function. Damage was caused to the main pitch and mini soccer pitches by cars driving over them. The Head Groundsman provided pictures to the committee. The Head Groundsman has had apologies from Sawston Bowls Club.

A padlock has been put on the main gate at New Road and it will remain locked until the Bowls Club season. Although the damage has now been repaired, this is unacceptable. The clerk is to write to the Bowls Club asking for an explanation and explaining that the ground is not to be used out of their season.

### ACTION: The Clerk

Councillor Kevin Cuffley agreed to arrange a meeting with the Head Groundsman and a representative from the Bowls Club onsite to discuss the issue.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and **seconded** by Councillor Neil Reid that the Clerk writes to the Bowls Club and a meeting is arranged on site as detailed above.

**VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

## **6 VILLAGE FETE**

Preparation for the village fete is well underway and due to the issues with diesel spillages last year Councillor Kevin Cuffley suggested a meeting on site with Mr M Roughead (Organiser of the fete), a representative from the Cricket Club and the Head Groundsman to discuss how to prevent it happening again and also to decide on the areas to be used.

**ACTION: Councillor Kevin Cuffley to arrange the meeting**

## **7 REPLACEMENT CRICKET MOWER**

The Head Groundsman explained that the cricket mower (used for the cricket square) needs repairing as the main bearing has gone. The mower is about 8 years old and we spend £4-500 per year on maintenance for it. The Head Groundsman has looked into costs for a new mower and has asked if the parish council will purchase a new one.

Quotations as follows:

- £4,300 + vat
- £4,250 + vat
- £4,000 + vat

This was discussed and it was **proposed** by Councillor Neil Reid and **seconded** by Councillor Roger Richmond to **recommend** to Full Parish that we purchase a new cricket mower at a cost of £4,000.00 + VAT

**VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

## **8 DATES FOR CIRCUS TO VISIT**

Circus Tyanna has requested to change the date of their visit to 9-16 July 2017. The Head Groundsman has no objection to these dates. In addition, the Circus has asked the Parish Council to review the charges. We currently charge £57.00 per day.

This was discussed and it was **proposed** by Councillor Neil Reid and **seconded** by Councillor Roger Richmond to **recommend** to Full Parish that although we want to encourage the circus to the village we feel the rates are fair for the size of the village and the charges remain the same.

**VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

## **9 SPORTS CLUB MATTERS**

The Parish Council has recently asked Sawston United and Sawston Rovers for electrical test certificates for their floodlights which are on Parish Council land. Mr Trevor Davies (Sawston United) said that Sawston United Youth would have no issues with the Parish Council taking full ownership of the floodlights on Lynton Way. This will be made a Full Parish agenda item to discuss further.

Mr Bob Rule (Sawston Rovers) does not want to pass ownership of the floodlights at Mill Lane onto the Parish Council and agreed to provide the Clerk with the electrical test certificate.

Mr Rule also explained that he has no problem with anyone using their floodlights as long as they get permission from Sawston Rovers. He informed the meeting that they have been used in the past with no authorisation and they are therefore considering putting a lock on them so they cannot be used. If they are used by other teams and something happens to them the Club would like to be able to ask the Parish Council for a donation for any repairs. Councillor Kevin Cuffley informed Mr Rule that he had no objection in principle it would have to go before the Committee for approval. Mr Rule asked for confirmation of this in writing.

## 10 GROUNDSMAN'S ISSUES

The Head Groundsman explained that the football pitches are in a poor state at the moment because he has been unable to use the drag mat after matches which puts all the divots back in, brushes the grass and removes the worm cast. The drag mat he currently has is 25 years old and keeps breaking. It has been repaired many times and needs replacing urgently.

The costs of a new 8ft drag mat:

- £490 + vat
- £495 + vat
- £495 + vat

It was **proposed** by Councillor Roger Richmond and **seconded** by Councillor Neil Reid that as we are in the middle of the football season we purchase the drag mat for £490 immediately.

**VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

The Head Groundsman explained that the wheel on the litter barrow keeps falling off and has been repaired several times. The Clerk informed the meeting that with the larger bins we have replaced in the village and the additional bins over the last couple of years, there is considerably more waste. This means the litter pickers have to take the rubbish bags back to Mill Lane when the barrow is full which takes up time. This is an opportunity to purchase a larger barrow that would save time.

The Clerk has looked into this and estimates a larger barrow will cost around £500. It was agreed this will be made an agenda item for February's Planning meeting.

## 11 PAVILIONS AND GROUNDS

### Spicers

We are waiting for the garage door to be repaired at Spicers. The company fixing the door are waiting for a spare part to come in from Germany and have said it will be fixed within the next two weeks.

The Head Groundsman asked for a sign for the bin cage at Spicers to say all rubbish put in there must be bagged otherwise SCDC will not remove it. The Clerk will prepare a sign.

### **ACTION: The Clerk**

There is still gap in the hedge at Spicers Cambridge Road side. The Head Groundsman will repair.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Village College asking them to remind students not to enter Spicers ground at any time. Students have been seen riding their bikes across the ground/pitches and also cutting through the hedge by the bus stop.

### Mill Lane

None

### Lynton Way

None

## 12 CORRESPONDENCE

None

## 13 COUNCILLORS ISSUES AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – CONCERNING RECREATION & OPEN SPACES ONLY

None

**Meeting closed 8.25 pm**