



SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the RECREATION & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 18 April 2017
At Link Road Parish Council Offices - Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Parish Clerk Jo Keeler

Councillors

Kevin Cuffley (Chairman)

Beck Laxton

David Bard

Mike Mallows

Rob Grayston

Neil Reid (Vice-Chairman)

Colin Groves from 7.50 pm

+ Alan Poole – Head Groundsman
Mr Ian Reeves – Sawston & Babraham Cricket
Mr Bill Joy – Sawston Bowls Club
Councillor Rajni Padia
Mrs Jayne Merrick – member of the public

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:
Councillor Colin Groves will be late (arrived 7.50 pm)
Councillor Roger Richmond – Other commitments
Mr Trevor Davies – Sawston United
Mr Kevin Pride – Sawston Youth Cricket Club

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING

None

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on **17 January 2017** were read, confirmed and signed.

Item 5 – Councillor Beck Laxton asked why we have not fined the Bowls Club for the damage at Spicers sports ground. Councillor Kevin Cuffley explained that it would be difficult to fine the Bowls Club as the Fete also caused damage and no fine had been imposed on that occasion.

It was **proposed** by Councillor David Bard and **seconded** by Councillor Neil Reid to **accept** the minutes.

VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

4 MATTERS ARISING – New information only

None

5 FLOODLIGHTS AT MILL LANE & LYNTON WAY

The Clerk explained that the Parish Council had asked Sawston United and Sawston Rovers to provide electrical test certificates for the floodlights at Lynton Way and Mill Lane as the clubs own these lights. No information has been received from Sawston Rovers.

Sawston United had the floodlights tested and they have been disconnected due to issues with the connections and condition of the lights.

The Parish Council has briefly discussed taking ownership of these lights as they are on Parish Council land. The Head Groundsman explained that if we owned them we could maintain and control them.

Councillor Beck Laxton asked if we should be looking into repairing them or replacing them however this is not possible at present as we do not own them.

The Clerk will arrange a meeting with both clubs to discuss this. Councillor Kevin Cuffley asked the committee if they would agree to Councillors Cuffley, Reid and the Clerk meeting with the clubs and reporting back to the Committee. This was agreed.

It was also agreed to ask both clubs to send representatives to the next Recreation meeting.

The Clerk will ask both clubs to get their lights structurally tested and request an up to date copy of their public liability insurance.

ACTION: The Clerk

It was **proposed** by Councillor Beck Laxton and **seconded** by Councillor David Bard that the Clerk takes the actions detailed above.

VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

Councillor Colin Groves arrived 7.50 pm

The Clerk will write to Sawston Rovers asking for the electrical certificate by the next Recreation meeting on 18 July. If we have not received the certificates the lights will have to be disconnected until they have been tested. The Clerk will also explain that the Parish Council would like to take ownership of the lights and then charge Sawston Rovers for the electricity. The Club would still have priority at Mill Lane.

The Clerk to write to Sawston United Youth to ask for confirmation that they are happy for the Parish Council to take ownership of the lights. If so they will need to arrange the repair and provide the required electrical certificate. If they do not repair them the Parish Council will request they dismantle the lights.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Beck Laxton and **seconded** by Councillor David Bard that the Clerk writes to Sawston Rovers and Sawston United as detailed above.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

ACTION: The Clerk

It was agreed that this should be an agenda item at the next meeting.

6 REQUEST FROM SAWSTON UNITED FOR EXTRA CHAIRS AT SPICERS

Sawston United football club has asked if the Parish Council could provide more chairs at Spicers pavilion. They would be willing to make a contribution towards this. There are currently 40 chairs and 10 tables. The Clerk explained that there is no storage space for additional chairs. The storage cupboard is already full with the tables and chairs we have now. There is no room in the garage and the changing rooms cannot be used for storage.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Beck Laxton and **seconded** by Councillor Rob Grayston that the Clerk informs Sawston United that due to lack of storage space the Parish Council cannot purchase additional chairs.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

ACTION: The Clerk

7 DEMONSTRATIONS OF NEW TRACTOR FOR GROUNDSMAN

The Head Groundsman explained that the current tractor is 20 years old and regularly in need of costly repairs so it is time to consider the purchase of a new tractor. He has researched different tractors and will be having demonstrations and trials for three different tractors. Once he has found a vehicle that can carry out all the jobs required he will get prices. He wanted to keep the Committee informed.

8 FIRE RISK ASSESSMENTS – SPORTS CLUBS TO CARRY OUT 2 FIRE DRILLS PER ANNUM

The Clerk explained that the recent fire risk assessment indicated that all our sites should have regular fire drills. The Clerks will be carrying out two fire drills per year at the office. As Spicers is in almost constant use the Clerk will ask the football clubs and the cricket club to carry out a fire drill during each of their seasons. The adults and youths from each club will need to have one.

The Clerk will produce a procedure sheet for them to sign once the fire drill is completed which will be kept at the Parish Council office.

ACTION: The Clerk

9 SPORTS CLUB MATTERS

Mr Bill Joy, Chairman of Sawston Bowls Club, gave the clubs apologies for the damage at Spicers recently and said it will not happen again. He also confirmed that they do not hire out their pavilion to anyone, it is just for club member's family and friends.

10 GROUNDSMAN'S ISSUES

None

11 PAVILIONS AND GROUNDS

Spicers

Mr Ian Reeves, Sawston & Babraham Cricket Club, asked if the Groundsman can cut a practise strip for the cricket club. The Head Groundsman confirmed he will do it this week.

Mr Reeves informed the Committee that the new cricket covers have arrived and will be used. They also have a new cricket net. He also asked if they could put up some shelves in the garage with hooks to hang stuff up. The Head Groundsman suggested that he speaks to the Sawston United Youths manager to ask if they can use their shelves during the cricket season.

Mr Reeves commented on how good the ground looks and thanked the Head Groundsman for his hard work.

Councillor Mike Mallows reported the drain cover by the roller stand at the end of the pavilion is damaged and needs repairing.

It was **proposed** by Councillor David Bard and **seconded** by Councillor Beck Laxton that the Clerk should organise the repair to the damaged drain cover as soon as possible under Chairman's actions.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

ACTION: The Clerk

The Head Groundsman asked if we can write to SVC again about the pupils persistently cycling over Spicers ground. The fencing around the cricket square will be taken down as the cricket season commences and we cannot have children cycling over it. Damage has also been caused to the cemetery hedge where Village College pupils climb over it when the main gate to Spicers is locked.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Beck Laxton and **seconded** by Councillor David Bard that the Clerk should meet the Principal with Councillors Cuffley and Reid to discuss the problem.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

ACTION: The Clerk

Mill Lane

None

Lynton Way

None

12 CORRESPONDENCE

None

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

None

Agenda items for next meeting:

Floodlights Mill Lane and Lynton Way

Fertilizer for Groundsmen

Meeting closed 8.45 pm