



SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the RECREATION & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 17 OCTOBER 2017
At Link Road Parish Council Offices - Meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

PRESENT:

Parish Clerk Jo Keeler

Councillors

Neil Reid (Chairman)

Rajni Padia (arrived 7.38pm)

Janet Martin

Colin Groves

Roger Richmond

Beck Laxton

Kevin Cuffley

+ Alan Poole – Head Groundsman
Mr Ian Reeves– Sawston & Babraham Cricket
Mr Trevor Davies– Sawston United FC
+ 7 members of public

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:
Councillor David Bard – holiday
Councillor Mike Mallows – work commitments
Mr Colin English – The Greyhound FC

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING

None

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2017 were read, confirmed and signed.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Janet Martin and **seconded** by Councillor Roger Richmond to **accept** the minutes.

VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

4 MATTERS ARISING – New information only

None

5 SPORTS CLUB MATTERS

Ian Reeves gave an update on the club.

They have had a really good season and thanked Alan for all his hard work on the cricket square.

Trevor Davies explained their season has only just started and they have only played 3 games at Spicers so far but the ground is looking great and Alan does a great job.

Councillor Kevin Cuffley congratulated the Cricket Club on their season.

6 COUNTY CRICKET GAMES – REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF GAMES

Alan explained that there are so many additional games at Spicers which needs to be reviewed because of the wear and tear on the grounds. Alan fully supports the cup finals but wants to see less County Games at Spicers. Ian Reeves agreed that he will be in contact to discuss once they have the fixture list through.

The Clerk then explained that we have hosted in previous years the Kwik Cricket Tournament which is set up by the Cambridge School Sports Partnership/The Netherhall School at Spicers Sports Ground. This competition is growing and they have asked if they can hire it in May 2018 and have 6 pitches this time. This was discussed and because of the wear and tear on the whole ground it was suggested they use Lynton Way.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Beck Laxton and **seconded** by Councillor Roger Richmond that we offer them Lynton Way for this tournament.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

7 REQUEST FROM SAWSTON UNITED FC TO PUT A MEMORIAL BENCH AT SPICERS SPORTS GROUND

Sawston United FC has asked if they can place a memorial bench at Spicers Sports Ground in memory of the late Dennis Lightening who was their Director of football and has been an inspiration to many footballers over the past 20 years.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Beck Laxton and **seconded** by Councillor Roger Richmond to **recommend to Full Parish** that the club purchase a wooden bench the same as what is there now and have permission to place it outside the pavilion.

VOTE: 7 FOR7 : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

Ian Reeves and Trevor Davies left the meeting.

8 REQUEST FROM A RESIDENT TO HAVE A SKATE PARK IN SAWSTON

Some residents came to the meeting with regards to opening a skate park in Sawston. They explained that they have asked on the Sawston Facebook site who would like a skate park and it was overwhelmingly popular. At the moment children and young adults are having to travel to other villages for this facility. They have got a group together and wanted to approach the Parish Council to see if it was feasible.

The skate group are offering to do a feasibility study, fundraising and would also set up a committee to maintain it etc.

Their plan is a concrete skate park which makes very little noise and is low maintenance. The cost would be around £100k and insurance approximately £3k per year. The area would cover about half a tennis court. They would also consider putting a small fence around the skate park as a barrier to stop small children and dogs running onto it. They would also encourage the use of safety equipment – helmets, elbow pads etc by putting up signs.

This was discussed and Alan said there would be room at Lynton Way recreation ground between the play equipment and the back of the football pitches.

The committee are fully supportive of this and Councillor Kevin Cuffley suggested they look at the area suggested, get costings and then bring it back to the Parish Council for more discussions.

The Clerk and Alan agreed to meet with them at Lynton Way so they can be shown exactly where it could go.

9 REQUEST FROM MOTIVACTION TO HAVE A PERMANENT SIGN ERECTED AT THE ENTRANCE TO SPICERS SPORTS GROUND

The Clerk explained that Motivaction has asked if they could put a sign up on the corner of Cambridge Road and New Road. The Clerk explained they couldn't have a sign on that corner but may be able to have a permanent sign at the Cambridge Road entrance. This was discussed and the committee agreed they couldn't as it was a sports ground and it would be advertising their business which we don't allow.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Roger Richmond and **seconded** by Councillor Beck Laxton that we do not allow them to erect a sign.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

10 REQUEST FROM RESIDENT TO HIRE GROUNDS SUITABLE TO RUN A DOG TRAINING CLASS IN SAWSTON

Heather Bradbury explained that she is looking for suitable grounds to set up a dog training class. She would not only teach people the basics of dog training but also teach them the laws into owning dogs. This was discussed and as you have to keep dogs on leads on all our recreation grounds and no pets allowed in our pavilions (except guide dogs) it was suggested Heather uses Huckeridge Hill which she was happy with. Heather has her own public liability insurance and is looking at a weekly daytime class of an hour. There would have to be a charge as we charge all users of our grounds.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and **seconded** by Councillor Rajni Padia to **recommend to full** that we allow Heather to use Huckeridge Hill for this class at a cost of £10 per hour. A reduced rate as there are no facilities there.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

11 REQUEST FOR WASHROOM SUPPLIES AT SPICERS PAVILLION

The Clerk explained that there has been on occasions nappies flushed down the toilet at Spicers pavilion which is causing it to block. There are baby changing facilities at the pavilion and the Clerk suggested it we should consider having a nappy bin at a cost of £276.00 per year which would be emptied regularly like the sanitary bins. This was discussed and some councillors felt this was a good idea and others felt we should get another bin and put a sign on it saying nappies. It was agreed to defer this to full parish for a decision.

12 REQUEST FROM SAWSTON & BABRAHAM CRICKET CLUB FOR MORE BENCHES AT SPICERS SPORTS GROUND

There are already 3 metal benches and 2 wooden benches on Spicers Sports Ground. There could possibly be another wooden bench if item 7 is agreed and the committee didn't feel there needed to be any more.

13 GROUNDSMAN'S ISSUES

Alan asked the clerk to write to the Bowls Club asking them not to drive down to their entrance gate. There have been many vehicles drive down to their gate and turn around on the pitch. Vehicle access is to the end of the parking area.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Beck Laxton and **seconded** by Councillor Roger Richmond that the Clerk writes to the Bowls Club.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

Councillor Kevin Cuffley left the meeting 8.50pm for other work commitments

14 PAVILIONS AND GROUNDS

Spicers

None

Mill Lane

None

Lynton Way

None

Item 15 was omitted from the agenda – no item

Alan Poole left the meetings 9.00pm

The committee went through the budgets but ran out of time.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Roger Richmond and **seconded** by Councillor Beck Laxton that we have an extension of time for 15 minutes.

VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

16 BUDGET SETTING FOR 2018/2019

The budget for Recreation and Open Spaces was discussed and it was ***proposed*** by Councillor Beck Laxton and ***seconded*** by Councillor Rajni Padia to ***recommend*** to the Finance Committee a budget of £76,172.00 for 2018/2019.

VOTE: 6 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

17 CORRESPONDENCE

A resident is concerned that people are not taking notice of the keep dogs on lead sings at Orchard Park and has requested for the Parish Council to employ a Park Keeper for the village. This was discussed and was considered but we do not have the budget for this. The Clerk will contact SCDC to see if they can help.

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

Meeting closed 9.45 pm