



# SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the RECREATION & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON 17 JULY 2018  
At Link Road Parish Council Offices - Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

## PRESENT:

**Parish Clerk** Jo Keeler

### **Councillors**

Neil Reid (Chairman)

Rajni Padia

Janet Martin

Colin Groves

Mike Mallows

Brian Milnes

Kevin Cuffley

Anand Pillai

David Bard

+ Alan Poole – Head Groundsman  
Mr Kevin Pride – Sawston & Babraham Cricket  
Mr Trevor Davies– Sawston United FC  
Sally O’Leary – Icknield School Governor  
Susan Hunter – Icknield School Governor

## 1 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN OF THE RECREATION & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

It was **proposed** by Councillor Mike Mallows and **seconded** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley to nominate Councillor Neil Reid as Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing year.

It was **proposed** by Councillor David Bard and **seconded** by Councillor Anand Pillai to nominate Councillor Rajni Padia as Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing year.

Vote for Councillor Neil Reid

**VOTE: 5 FOR : 0 AGAINST**

Vote for Councillor Rajni Padia

**VOTE: 4 FOR : 0 AGAINST**

Councillor Neil Reid is now Chairman for the Recreation & Open Spaces Committee for the ensuing year

## 2 TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE RECREATION & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

It was **proposed** by Councillor David Bard and **seconded** by Councillor Anand Pillai to nominate Councillor Rajni Padia as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing year.

**VOTE: 9 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

Councillor Rajni Padia is now the Vice Chairman for the Recreation & Open Spaces Committee for the ensuing year.

**3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from:  
Councillor Beck Laxton  
Mr Ian Reeves– Sawston & Babraham Cricket  
Mr Colin English – The Greyhound FC

**4 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING**

Councillor Colin Groves for item 9 – He is on the Skate park committee.

**5 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 APRIL 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2018 were read, confirmed and signed.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and **seconded** by Councillor David Bard to **accept** the minutes.

**VOTE: 8 FOR : 1 NO VOTE**

**6 MATTERS ARISING – New information only**

None

**7 SPORTS CLUB MATTERS**

• **TO DISCUSS ADDITIONAL STORAGE FOR THE CRICKET CLUB AT SPICERS**

Mr Kevin Pride explained that they have recently purchased more cricket equipment for the juniors and do not have enough storage at Spicers pavilion for it all. He asked on behalf of the cricket club if the Parish Council would consider additional storage at Spicers pavilion. Ideally something built on the side of the pavilion by the cricket nets.

This was discussed and the Head Groundsman suggested we look at getting a storage unit/building for the roller which takes up half the garage and then the cricket club could use that half of the garage.

It was agreed that the cricket/football clubs, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Parish Council and Recreation committee, the Head Groundsman and the Clerk meet to discuss the options.

**ACTION: CLERK**

• **TO DISCUSS THE DAMAGE TO THE CRICKET NETS**

The cricket club expressed they're disappointment about the damage caused to the cricket nets during the Sawston Youth presentation evening earlier in the year. Photos were shown to the committee and this was discussed.

Mr Kevin Pride explained you cannot repair the netting it would need a whole new side which could cost thousands.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Brian Milnes and **seconded** by Councillor Anand Pillai that the cricket club look into how much it will cost to repair the nets and then the Clerk will write to the youth football explaining this is unacceptable and ask if they will be prepared to make a contribution. The Clerk to let the youth clubs know they are not to have their end of season presentation evening at Spicers during the cricket season.

**ACTION: MR KEVIN PRIDE/CLERK**

**VOTE: 9 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

Mr Trevor Davies has no issues and explained he has already sent through the dates for next season.

Councillor Neil Reid thanked them for coming to the meeting and they left.

**8 TO DISCUSS THE LETTER FROM ICKNIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL REGARDING THE MULTI USE GAMES AREA ON LYNTON WAY**

The Clerk received a letter from the primary school about the multi-use games area on Lynton Way recreation ground.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and **seconded** by Councillor Brian Milnes to suspend Standing Orders as two of the school governors were present.

**VOTE: 9 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

Sally O'Leary and Susan Hunter introduced themselves and explained that although the MUGA is a tremendous asset to the village they believe there are youths hanging around drinking by the MUGA on Lynton Way leaving their empty bottles and litter lying around and not using the bins. This is particularly a problem on a Monday morning and causing distress to some children walking past the MUGA on their way to school on a Monday.

They are also concerned that because of people hanging around this area/using the MUGA it is tempting for them to break onto school property and cause criminal damage. There has recently been some damage to a member's bike that was on the school property.

These issues were discussed at length and the Clerk and Head Groundsman agreed to put in another bin by the footpath between the school hedge and the MUGA. Councillor Kevin Cuffley suggested they consider CCTV to deter the vandalism within the school grounds. They did confirm that the County Council are considering raising the height of the fence around the school which would help.

The Clerk will ask the litter picker to go to Lynton Way first thing Monday mornings during school term time which hopefully will help and she will contact Romsey Mill who do detached youth work within the village and ask them to visit Lynton Way recreation ground of an evening to see if they can speak to the group.

Councillor Brian Milnes made it clear that these issues are on all our recreation grounds and not just Lynton Way and that the PSCO's are aware and do make visits.

**9 UPDATE ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A SKATE PARK IN SAWSTON**

The Head Groundsman explained we have not yet met with a member of the Skate Park Group on site at Lynton Way recreation ground to see if it is a suitable site and no one was at the meeting. Councillor Colin Groves believes the Skate Park committee think that Lynton Way recreation ground is the site for the park but it was made clear that this was only a suggestion and is not definite. They need to meet with the Parish Council first to see if this is a suitable site.

The Clerk was asked to make it an agenda item for the next Recreation meeting in October and invite the Skate Park Group to this meeting.

Then the committee discussed the possibility of taking ownership of this piece of land currently being lease to the Parish Council by SCDC.

It was **proposed** by Councillor David Bard and **seconded** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley to **RECOMMEND TO FULL** that the Parish Council writes to SCDC and pursues the possibility of taking ownership of Lynton Way recreation ground whether the skate park goes ahead or not.

**VOTE: 9 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

**10 TO DISCUSS INSTALLING A BOLLARD AT MILL LANE**

The Head Groundsman explained that as the car park is open daily at Mill Lane recreation ground could we consider installing a bollard where the tarmac ends between the existing bollards so that no vehicles can drive up to the groundstore or block this entrance. This will be added security for the groundstore and also will stop people parking in the gap which then prevents the groundsmen getting to the groundstore.

Councillor Brian Milnes suggested we paint yellow hatching by the entrance to the drive to the groundstore to prevent people parking there, he doesn't think a bollard will stop people parking there even though this will be added security. The Head Groundsman was asked to keep the security gates closed at the groundstore when they are not there.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Brian Milnes and **seconded** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley to **RECOMMEND TO FULL** we paint keep clear hatching.

**VOTE: 9 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

**11 TO DISCUSS THE QUOTES FOR PLAY EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS**

The Clerk explained the yearly play inspections are due in September this year for all our sites and she had tried to get three quotes but managed to get two for this meeting.

- £260.00 + vat
- £424.50 + vat plus additional £3.50 per item for anything over 5 items

It was **proposed** by Councillor David Bard and **seconded** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley to **RECOMMEND TO FULL** to accept the quote for £260.00 + vat for all 4 sites.

**VOTE: 9 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

**12 TO DISCUSS PEOPLE HAVING BBQ'S ON PARISH COUNCIL RECREATION GROUNDS**

There have recently been reports of people having disposable barbeques on recreation grounds which could be hazardous. It was discussed whether we should install signs at all recreation grounds stating no barbeques.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and **seconded** by Councillor David Bard to **RECOMMEND TO FULL** we install signs at each recreation ground – No barbeques on this recreation ground. The Clerk will get quotes for the next meeting.

**VOTE: 7 FOR : 1 AGAINST 1 ABS**

**13 TO DISCUSS THE POSITION OF THE BENCH ON MILL LANE RECREATION GROUND**

The Clerk explained that the Environmental officers at SCDC have been in contact with her regarding a complaint about antisocial behaviour at the top end of Mill Lane recreation ground where there is a bench. They have requested we move the bench which may help prevent this kind of behaviour. The Head Groundsman explained he thinks the youths have moved to another bench by the goals on Mill Lane recreation ground as there is a lot of litter left there most mornings. He has a spare bin and will install a bin by this bench.

After a long discussion the Clerk was asked to contact SCDC and ask if there is evidence about the anti-social behaviour, times logged etc. This will then be deferred to the next full parish meeting.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**14 TO REVIEW THE HIRE AGREEMENT WITH MOTIVACTION**

It was agreed to review Motivaction's hire agreement yearly. The Clerk confirmed there have been no issues with them using Lynton Way during Cricket season and Spicers during football season and the Head Groundsman has no issues.

It was **proposed** by Councillor and **seconded** by Councillor to **RECOMMEND TO FULL** that we renew their agreement and review again in 12 months.

**VOTE: 9 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

**15 TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF FENCING AROUND THE PLAY EQUIPMENT**

Councillor David Bard explained that he had been approached at a village fete whilst manning the Neighbourhood Plan stall by a resident asking if we will consider fencing in all our play equipment to prevent dogs being around them. Some felt there are issues on recreation grounds with dogs not being on leads but we do have signs up at all our grounds stating dogs must be kept on leads. If we did consider fencing in the play equipment we would have to consider it at all four sites. This was discussed and agreed it should be considered in the Neighbourhood Plan and the design statement.

**16 TO DISCUSS STORAGE CABINETS FOR PESTICIDES & FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS**

The Clerk explained that as the groundsmen have passed their spraying course we need to install two cabinets in the groundstore, one to store flammable liquids and one to store pesticides.

Pesticide storage unit	Flammable Liquid storage	Total
£422.75	£267.91	<b>£690.66</b>
£662.00	£378.00	<b>£1,040.00</b>
£400.00	£345.00	<b>£745.00</b>

It was **proposed** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and **seconded** by Councillor Brian Milnes to **RECOMMEND TO FULL** we accept the two lowest quotes.

**VOTE: 9 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)**

**17 GROUNDSMAN’S ISSUES**

The Head Groundsman asked the Parish Council to consider purchasing another strimmer. We currently have two strimmers and as they are used considerably they often have to be repaired, if we had a spare one they would be able to continue their work.

FS460 Strimmer

- £678.00 inc vat
- £699.00 inc vat
- £739.00 inc vat

It was **proposed** by Councillor Janet Martin and **seconded** by Councillor Anand Pillai to **RECOMMEND TO FULL** we purchase another strimmer as a spare at a cost of £678.00 inc vat.

**VOTE: 8 FOR : 1 AGAINST**

The Head Groundsman asked that before the Sawston Fete next year the committee arrange for him to attend a meeting beforehand so the arrangements can be discussed with him with regards to the ground.

It was agreed the Head Groundsman, Chair and Vice Chair of the Parish Council and Chair and Vice Chair of the Recreation & Open Spaces committee meet.

**ACTION: CLERK**

The Head Groundsman explained he was cutting Orchard Park and was stopped by a resident saying he should stop cutting as there is lots of dust and he is causing health issues. He did stop cutting on the advice from the Clerk but it was discussed whether we should continue to cut as we could get complaints if it is not cut.

Councillor Brian Milnes agreed he would contact SCDC environment and ask the question so the Clerk and the groundsmen know what to do.

**ACTION: COUNCILLOR BRIAN MILNES**

It was **proposed** by Councillor Neil Reid and **seconded** by Councillor Rajni Padia to have an extension of time for 15 minutes to finish the meeting.

**VOTE: 8 FOR : 1 AGAINST**

**18 PAVILIONS AND GROUNDS**

**Spicers**

The Clerk explained that two of the lights at Spicers in the hallway do not work and the electrician explained they are now discontinued and he cannot get the spare parts for them so the whole unit will need to be replaced. These units will be replaced with LED lights as they are currently halogen. The Clerk is waiting for a cost for these lights and will also get a price to replace all 6 at the same time as eventually they will stop working and will need to be replaced.

**Mill Lane**

The Clerk explained the lock at Mill Lane pavilion is not working and the company that installed it has been out to look at it and it does need to be replaced. The Clerk explained she will arrange for this repair so the pavilion can be used.

**Lynton Way**

None

**19 CORRESPONDENCE**

None

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

**Meeting closed 9.45 pm**