

Minutes of a meeting of the **SPORT, RECREATION and CEMETERY** Committee
held at the Town Hall, The Broadway, Crowborough on
Monday 3rd October 2011 at 7.30pm.

Present	Councillors	Quentin Burch Michael Cooke Peter Cowie Philip Fermor Beverley Johnstone Kay Moss Ronald Reed Wendy Scrace David Shaw Sandra Timms Neil Waller	Chairman Vice Chairman (left 9.30pm) (left 8.15pm)
Also present		David Foot 1 member of the public	Operations Manager

* *Denotes non attendance*

APOLOGIES

None.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Philip Fermor declared a personal interest in Owlsbury Allotments as he lives near the site and a personal interest in tree work as his son is a tree surgeon.

Cllr Kay Moss declared a personal interest in Owlsbury Allotments as a plot holder and a personal interest in Goldsmiths as she lives opposite the site.

MINUTES

Meeting – 1st August 2011

- 6281** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2011 as confirmed be signed by the Chairman.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A request was received for the basketball facilities at Goldsmiths to be improved as the hoops are in a poor state of repair and there are issues with surface water drainage. It was reported that the basketball facilities are used on a regular basis by members of the community with learning disabilities.

GOLDSMITHS RECREATION GROUND

To consider request for improved basketball facilities

This agenda item was moved forward.

It was reported that some minor damage to the surface occurred when works were carried out to the running track and the contractor is to undertake repairs. It will cost approximately £6000 to resurface the basketball area. New hoops and back boards are £300 each.

Members were pleased to note that the facilities are being well used and supported the principle of improving the area. A proposal to resurface the area and provide new hoops using funds from Reserves was not taken forward as members wanted further investigation into the drainage issues.

6282 **RESOLVED** to spend £600 + VAT to provide new basketball hoops and backboards.

UPDATE ON MATTERS OUTSTANDING

Progress on vandalism and litter issues at Goldsmiths

There were issues with litter at the weekend due to use of the site in the good weather. The ground staff are continuing to provide additional litter clearance support at weekends.

Lease for Jarvis Brook Recreation Ground (6170 & 6171)

The new lease is being progressed.

NOTED

Chapel at Cemetery (6228)

The chapel has been reopened to the public 10am – 3pm, Monday to Friday
It was noted that there have not been any issues with vandalism.

Round seat at Chapel Green (6231)

Seat and concrete base have been removed for health and safety reasons. Replacement seat to be considered under item 10.

NOTED

Housing development at Bethany – scheme for youth/adult recreation (6234)

A scheme for outdoor fitness equipment at Silver Jubilee was submitted to Wealden District Council and accepted for the Bethany housing development. The planning application for development at Bethany was refused by Wealden District Council.

NOTED

Path at Rayners Close (6238)

Letters have been sent to owners of properties adjoining the lower section of the path. One owner has been able to provide a conveyance for a section of the path dated 25th March 1964; they have been asked to consider registration.

NOTED

Pilmer Road allotment – termination of tenancy (6238)

Letter sent to tenant of unused allotment plot. Update under section 7.2.2

NOTED

Sign at entrance to promote recreation ground/refreshments

Work continues on a revised sign.

NOTED

Improvements to the Skatepark

The Skaters Association is working on proposals for improvements and these will be presented at the next meeting

Following a discussion about the possibility of establishing a joint working party, it was agreed to continue with the current arrangement for the Skaters Association to come forward with a proposal for improvements. It was suggested that the issue of litter at the skatepark should be linked to any improvements at the site.

OTHER AREAS

Jarvis Brook Recreation Ground

Update on play project and authorisation for the skatepark under Phase Two

The old equipment has been removed and the installation of new equipment is due to commence 4th October. Jarvis Brook Residents Association has been awarded a grant from Veolia. The Association was commended on the success in achieving a total of £160,918 in grant funding for the project; this includes a grant of £45,000 from the Town Council.

In view of the additional funds from Veolia, the Jarvis Brook Residents Association has reviewed the proposal for the skatepark. Consultations with youths had previously identified additional requirements and these have now been incorporated within the design. The work was put out to tender and the tender documents were opened in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations by the Clerk in the presence of two members.

Wheelscape, Gravity and Freestyle provided tenders and the price was identical at £60,000 + VAT. The Jarvis Brook Residents Association has selected Wheelscape as the preferred contractor as this meets the requirements as identified in the consultation exercise.

- 6283** **RESOLVED** to spend £60,000 + VAT on Phase Two of the Jarvis Brook Play Project and to use Wheelscape as the contractor selected by the Jarvis Brook Residents Association for the skatepark following public consultation. Funding is covered from the total budget of £160,918 for the entire project. Spending permitted under Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Complaints have been received about dog fouling and also issues with adults late at night. This will be reported at the next police street meeting for the area.

Wolfe Recreation Ground

To consider improvements to the works yard, storage bays and staff rest facilities

A health and safety inspection of the buildings at Wolfe Recreation Ground identified a number of issues to be addressed and these are to be prioritised. A number of points were also raised following a site visit by new members. It was agreed that providing a rest area and heating for the ground staff is a priority before winter.

6284 **RESOLVED** to spend £1800 + VAT to undertake improvements to the staff rest area including insulation, electrical work and heating.

Spending is permitted under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Cllr Ron Reed was thanked for his help with the health and safety inspection.

The resurfacing of the works yard and creation of storage bays will be considered as part of the schedule of work/priorities.

Report on equipment stolen from vehicles

A blower and hedgecutter were stolen from a council vehicle at the works yard. The theft was not captured on the CCTV and enquiries are being made about possible improvements to the system. Arrangements are in hand to provide increased security at the site.

The theft has been reported to the Police. All equipment is security marked.

Lime Kiln Recreation ground

To consider request for a storage container

The football club has asked for permission to install an additional storage container at the ground. An enquiry to the district council planning department has indicated that planning permission is usually required.

6285 **RESOLVED** to allow the football club to install a container subject to:

- Satisfactory information regarding the size of the container.
- A plan showing the proposed location.
- Details of proposed use.
- Landscaping information.
- Confirmation that the planning authority is satisfied with the installation.

ALLOTMENTS

Owlsbury allotments

Report on Owlsbury allotments

The water troughs have been serviced and leaks repaired. OATS has requested the installation of a water fountain and also a container for storage of equipment. A bonfire/Halloween event is planned at the site. A request for security measures to restrict access following a series of crop thefts was not taken forward in view of the number of allotment holders at the site.

Car park extension

A meeting was held with a representative from East Sussex County Council to discuss access arrangements. A revised planning application is to be drawn up showing a new access to the existing car park and proposed extension.

Pilmer Allotments

To consider the installation of rabbit fencing

- 6286** **RESOLVED** to spend £500 on materials for rabbit fencing at Pilmer Allotments with the work to be undertaken by the ground staff.

Spending is permitted under Section 26 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908.

Arrangements for clearance of unused plot

The plot holder will be off-site by the beginning of next season.

AUDIT ON THE CONDITION OF TREES ON CROWBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL LAND AND AUTHORISATION OF WORK

A report was submitted by the Ranger on the recent tree survey. Many tree works were identified and much of the work will be undertaken in-house using chainsaws and pole pruners. Tree surgeons will be required for work involving tree climbing.

- 6287** **RESOLVED** to accept quotations totalling £2580 + VAT for emergency tree work required following the tree audit.

Spending is permitted under Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

REPORT FROM CRICKET WORKING PARTY

There was a report on the third meeting of the working party.

It is expected that the cricket club will remain at Wolfe Recreation Ground in the short term. Sussex County Cricket has confirmed that the square is

UNCONFIRMED UNTIL NEXT MEETING

acceptable and some minor work is required. The club has volunteered to undertake some painting at the changing rooms/pavilion with materials to be supplied by the Council. An alteration to the access of toilet facilities in the changing rooms has been requested and will be considered as part of a review of staff welfare requirements.

The club's preferred option is to move to Beacon Community College and a meeting has been arranged with the Principal to discuss. A cricket square/ground takes 3 years to establish.

A further option is the use of land at Summersales. Considerable expenditure would be required to establish a cricket ground and provide a clubhouse and other facilities.

Enquiries are being made into the funding opportunities that may be available.

The provision for hockey is also being considered. It was agreed that facilities for netball and the promotion of this sport should form part of the review.

TO CONSIDER SEATING AT CHAPEL GREEN

Estimate for a replacement tree seat with back £2000 + VAT and without a back £1500 + VAT. A request has been received to place a memorial seat on Chapel Green.

6288 RESOLVED to install a replacement hardwood seat with a back for £2000 + VAT around the tree at Chapel Green.

Discussion on memorial seating and the possibility of paying for a seat to be dedicated for a limited period of time. It was agreed that a statement on memorial seating should be considered by the Full Council.

TO CONSIDER A 4 YEAR PROGRAMME FOR SPORT, DEVELOPMENT AND CEMETERY

Report on arrangements for Section 106 funds

A report on developer contributions for recreation facilities was discussed. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was introduced in April 2010 and funds can now only be collected under a planning obligation if certain criteria are met. A planning application for 74 dwellings at Alderbrook has recently been submitted; the Council will need to consider a scheme for youth/adult recreation facilities.

Schemes will also need to be considered for funds collected under Section 106 before the introduction of CIL.

Report on Section 106 working party and possible use for current/future projects

Members were asked to consider possible schemes for recreation.

Report on vehicle replacement

To be considered at the next meeting.

Consider programme of work

To be considered at the next meeting.

FINANCE

Management Reports to 31st July 2011 (sent to all Councillors 15th August)
Management Reports to 31st August 2011 (sent to all Councillors 9th September)

6289 **RESOLVED** to adopt the Management Reports to 31st July 2011 and to 31st August 2011.

To review projected spend to the end of the financial year and Reserves

To be considered at the next meeting.

To consider draft committee budget 2012/13 and list of charges

To be considered at the next meeting.

URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND/OR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA

None.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 25th October 2011 at 7.30pm.