

**Minutes of remote Recreation Ground and Open Spaces Meeting**  
**held at 6:30pm Thursday 11th March 2021**

Present: Cllr Dawson, Cllr Emms, Cllr Brockman and Bob Schofield.  
1 members of the public  
Clerk Carol Harbach

**20/63 Welcome and Apologies for absence**

Chairman Cllr Dawson welcomed everyone to the remote meeting of the Parish Council (PC).

**20/64 Declaration of Members Interests**

Any declarations of interest will be brought up and declared as they arise on the agenda.

**20/65 Agree minutes from the last Recreation Ground meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021.**

These were agreed to be true and accurate.  
Proposed Cllr Emms and seconded Cllr Brockman all agreed.

**20/66 Matters arising from these meetings.**

Quotes for the porta cabin/bonfire clearance will be followed up by Cllr Dawson now he is back at the council. **Ongoing Cllr Dawson**  
Update of Asset Register and the Terms and conditions. Later on agenda 20/62.  
Cllr Brockman follow up with project co-ordinator of P3 project – later on agenda 20/70.

**20/67 Public Open Forum (maximum 10 minutes)**

Questions to be noted and answered at the next meeting.  
Invite representatives will speak later on agenda.

**20/68 Committee members individual reports**

Cllr Brockman mentioned the difference in these meetings which were previously held compared to the meetings now. Cllr Dawson stated that as these tend to have more members of the public attending them now than before.

Cllr Emms reported that there were still problems with dog fouling in the village and owners not clearing up after their pets, even when confronted. Cllr Dawson reminded everyone that the Parish Council (PC) only have the same power as any individual in this case, and report it to the PC, as they do not want to deal with it themselves. The PC can only put up signs and provide the bins and ask people to report it to the zone wardens themselves. It is a difficult situation to deal with.

Cllr Dawson – Tree woodland trust project – These trees are for Parish and County/ Borough councils only and not for individuals and are only for council land. There are still 6 left over from last year that can be planted on the Recreation Ground ground field so the PC do not need anymore at the moment. **Action clerk:** To thank the project for contacting the PC but do not require anymore at the moment.

The green Gigabit boxes will be looked at another time as they have still not finished the Broadband work around the village. When this is completed then it will be looked at again.

Bob Schofield – no report at the moment thinks. Bob Schofield thought that Gigabit are doing a good job to get these cables etc laid and are covering all sorts of areas. Some residents are not happy with the way something's have been left. It was worth remembering that the front land in Moor Road to half way down to the actual road is still Highways land, people have kept it nice but this still belongs to Highways.

**20/69**

### **Reed Hall Sentinel Youth Team representatives**

The representatives were welcomed to the meeting and asked to explain a bit more about their club and the expectations that they hoped to have if they hired the recreation ground as their home ground in the future.

The Chair replied that with regards to the teams the club have 6 teams from under 8 to under16 at any given weekend. It was hard to give exact numbers of matches they would play as they don't currently have a fixture list. There would be at least 1 game every weekend and would like to look at using the facilities during this time, there may be 5 teams and there may be 1. Any games would have staggered kick off times from 10am to till 2pmin the winter and 10am to 3pm in the summer. They would only play on a Sunday occasionally and prefer a Saturday if and when they can play.

Training – at the moment they use “Play football” in Colchester of an evening usually on a Saturday or in the week early evening. Training wise we not use the Langham pitches as it is too much wear and tear on them and only use them for matches.

The Club would like to use all facilities including evening use of halls for fundraising events etc which would be requested as and when.

The Chairman stated it is hard to locate in one area at moment but as a club, we would be in the village and hopefully youngsters from the village would join and if there is something to do in the village to help for they would like to help and be involved.

Bob Schofield asked about how the PC would arrange charging if this is going to go ahead. This would be discussed with the football club and be included in all terms and conditions agreements. Some charge one flat per year, some per day or match by match. This can be discussed by the council and passed on at a later stage.

The Chairman stated that the Club is sound financially and would like to use a year on year contract and would want to try to bring in local village residents to join the club. It is a well established club and we are trying to get the club into a position to work with the children locally as well. All the staff have CRB checks and anyone else connected with the club and the coaches are at a level 1 minimum trained.

The youth side have mixed teams of both boys and girls, the club also has 3 lady managers and 1 lady coach. They do not have enough girls currently for a girls team but they take part.

The PC will back in contact with you when it has been discussed by the council. Cllr Dawson thanked the Chairman for coming along and explaining things and look forward to talking to them again.

Club representative left at this point in the meeting.

20/70

### **Cllr Brockman inspector update**

Cllr Brockman has been in touch with P3 representative regarding this footpath. Cllr Brockman has sent two draft letters to Cllr Bottwood but still needs to update this again.

The point of drainage of the ditch came up at the last meeting Cllr Brockman spoke to the inspector who is in charge and she is going to look at this herself. When the draft has been agreed this will then go on to the noticeboards and website for people to leave their responses so the PC can then compile the results. With regards to the footpath sign at the Recreation Ground this is being repaired at the moment. The CBC unfortunately do not work quickly on these things but it is on the list. Cllr Brockman stated that if we had P3 this could have been completed straight away. Cllr Brockman did not think this was discussed for long enough before it was voted on at the last meeting. Cllr Brockman had obtained the information that the councillors asked for and felt it was not discussed at length.

Cllr Dawson stated that historically the P3 has been discussed before and has now been talked about again and everyone has their own views on the subject. If the councillors do not want to agree on it then that can be the case, but they do not need to give a reason as the councillors have their own views. It maybe something we can look at in the future but at the moment it was thought that this is not a good idea to discuss this again and it is not currently high on the priority list.

Cllr Brockman believes that the PC has adopted footpaths in the village. Cllr Dawson stated that if she has proof of footpaths ownership then the PC can look at this.

20/71

### **Working Group update**

Cllr Emms and Mrs. Shouksmith put forward a 2<sup>nd</sup> names who are James Puxley (who works with the Scouts) also have also spoken to John Palmer who has agreed to be a member of the public in the group. So addition to Cllr Emms and Mrs. Shouksmith there are now Cllr Emms, Mrs Shouksmith, Cllr Bottwood, James Puxley and John Palmer representing the public.

The current group will pick up on the paper for the terms of reference (T.o.R) and any new ideas to the other member of the team have, and also to obtain the views of other members of the village. This was suggested to be completed by surveys and knocking on doors. When this has been decided by the group it will come back to the PC and the other groups concerned.

There was agreement from Cllr Dawson and Cllr Bottwood that on the T.o.R group meeting, for this first meeting to make it a "meet and greet" session and to set ideas for the future, but hopefully have some recommendations on the table to the PC by end of July. The PC views of the report can then be added. This group will then may disperse or regroup and take on the views of the PC and make a further report. This group may then need different skill e.g. a project manager to take this forward.

20/72

### **Update of Asset Register Update**

This has been looked at individually by Cllr Dawson, and Cllr Emms. They have been looking at this and things are moving forward. There are a couple of duplications and a couple of things that need removing. At the big wooden gates the entrance to Recreation Ground it is known where the flag pole is but Cllr Dawson asked Bob Schofield what was meant by the “tabernacle”. Bob Schofield explained that this is what the flag pole stands on and has the mountings for post in it. Cllr Dawson stated that as the auditors may not understand this the wording will be changed to explain this. A meeting will be arranged to combine the information in readiness for the auditors inspection. **Ongoing**

20/73

### **Caravan Hire Update**

The Clerk had contacted the caravan usual hirers regarding the inability to use the drain at the community centre for waste in the future. There was a suggestion from one of the caravan hirers that they have in the past hired themselves a portable “waste unit” which is delivered and collected to the site at the time of hire. This would solve the problem of the waste disposal for these hirers and could be something the committee could consider. The club concerned did ask if this was considered to be viable, and could the committee consider a reduction in the nightly hire cost to help pay for this. The smaller caravan clubs were contacted but would not be interested in this as they are not big enough to cover the costs involved. This was discussed by the committee and agreed to take this on to the full council committee at the next meeting for discussion until the insurance/car park situation with the CC can be resolved. This is something that can continue to be looked at and this can be looked at by the Working party as to if this is something in the future that they would like to promote for small caravan rally's. **Action** working group to consider.

The LPC have also been contacted by the running race people who want to race in April. As at the moment if we are looking at 5/10km run the PC could be looking at a large amount of people and at the moment due to covid restrictions this would not be allowed. At the moment the committee were not happy for this to go ahead with this due to the covid restrictions and the lack of toilets and no car park for such a large event. If the PC sanctioned this the PC have a responsibility to keep them clean as well. The car parking could be accommodated on the field (if weather permits) with portable toilets in could in principle work but due to current legislation may not be able to police this.

It does take a lot of things to get in place now that things are changing at this time and is dangerous to say yes. The PC can not go against government legislation. All agreed not to go ahead with this. **Action** Clerk to contact them regarding this decision.

20/74

### **Items for the next Agenda**

Any other items to be added – let the Clerk know.

20/75

**Time and date of next meeting**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 6:30pm to be confirmed with Cllr Dawson.

Meeting finished at 8:25 pm

Signed .....

Cllr Dawson

Date .....