

Report of the Recreation Committee Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010, at Great Waltham Village Hall.

### **1. Record of Members present**

Chairman: Mr J Bell

Councillors: Mrs Dickinson, Mr Huggins, Mr Blaber, Mr Micklem and Mr Steel.

Also present: Bob Jenkins – Manager under 8 Team Barnston Youth Football Club.

### **3. Apologies for Absence**

Were received from Mrs Harper.

### **3. Declarations of interests (existence and nature) with regard to items on the agenda.**

Mr Micklem declared an interest in items 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

### **5. Public Participation session with respect to items on the agenda.**

**Bob Jenkins reported on the use of Ford End Playing Field by Barnston Youth FC during the 2009/10 season and thanked the Parish Council for allowing the use. Two of the players came from Ford End. The use would continue with training sessions up to the end of May. A break would then take place and the club would wish to continue the use on Saturdays and Sundays for Junior (including '9 a side') and Mini Soccer for the 2010/11 season. With the involvement of local parents it was hoped to form a new under 8s team. Barnston Youth FC would gladly welcome and pay for the coaching of a local parent to start the team. Plans were being made to prepare posters for a recruitment drive to advertise for youngsters from the Parish Recruitment takes place in July. A Portacabin and Toilet facilities were being considered. Mention was made about using the Parish News for communications.**

### **5. Allotments.**

Mr Micklem declared an interest

**(a) Report of current situation regarding allocations and vacant plots.** -the clerk reported that all allotments were allocated apart from 3.5 rods which Mr Micklem had kindly cleared. It was agreed that the area, which would be sufficient for two plots, should now be dug over by Community Service workers prior to being allocated. Thanks were conveyed to Mr Micklem for the works undertaken. Mr Micklem drew attention to the deposits of rubbish along the bank of the stream and it was agreed to enquire whether CBC would collect this rubbish if it were gathered together in one place at the allotment entrance. If this was possible then letters would be sent to allotment holders calling upon them to clean the area up.

### **6. To give consideration to the construction of a pathway to the children's play area at Great Waltham Recreation Ground using the budget of £1250 included in the 2009/10 budget estimates.**

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

Following discussion it was proposed that this pathway be carried out as a second phase following the construction of the footpath across the car park.

A paper giving the dimensions, the process, the materials required and the estimated cost of £1110 was presented and agreed. It was additionally agreed that weed suppressant material should be used to lay beneath the Bodpave85 material. A new gate would be provided in the fence-line of the children's play area where the path

ended and the present gate would remain in situ. It was noted that some works were required to overcome the eroded muddy section beneath the present gate.

#### **7. To give consideration to the construction of a pathway across the Great Waltham Recreation Ground Car Park using the budget of £1250 included in the 2010/11 budget estimates.**

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

It was resolved that this footpath be constructed as the first phase of the project to provide pathways at the recreation ground.

A paper giving the dimensions, the process and the estimated cost of several options was presented. It was noted that all options exceeded the budget available.

It was agreed that the pathway would be to the following specification:

Pathway on the White House (north side) of the car park 34metres long x 1.2 metres wide x 175mm deep with concrete kerbing on the car park side and timber edgings on the fence side and infilled with crushed stone.

The fence between the field gate and the White House fence should be removed and left as a gap.

The existing hedge would be faced back, and the earth hump removed by Community Service Workers. (It was agreed that no further hedging shrubs would be planted against the exposed larch lap fencing.

The poor example of a Sycamore stump would be removed by a contractor (this would require prior approval by CBC before action is taken).

Provide and lay BodPave85 or similar from the end of the crushed stone footpath to the concrete apron of the changing rooms (approximately 15 square metres) infilled with earth and grass over. It was noted that the material used should be laid to a specification that would withstand the weight of vehicles.

It was agreed that estimated cost of the two projects to provide pathways (Minute 6 and 7 above) should be put together and a grant applied for (from a source to be determined). A specification would then be prepared and three contractors (to be determined) would then be invited to quote for the work.

It was also agreed that permission be sought from the landowner for the works to be carried out as the area upon which the works were proposed to take place were leased rather than owned.

#### **8. Children's Play Area- Great Waltham -To consider the next phase/project to be completed in the financial year 2010/2011**

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

It was agreed that Mr Bell and Mr Huggins would further investigate the equipment to be installed following consultation with the youngsters. Proposals would then be presented to the Committee at the next meeting. It was indicated that the next phase/project was unlikely to take place until the financial year 2011/12.

#### **9. To give consideration to a proposal for modifications to the security window cover at the kitchen of the changing rooms at Great Waltham Recreation Ground.**

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

The Walnut Tree FC had put forward a suggestion to modify the kitchen window cover. A quotation had been obtained by them for £540 plus VAT. The clerk had asked the Walnut Tree FC to provide:

A list of the shortcomings of the present window cover

A list of the benefits of the proposed cover

A rough sketch of the proposed window cover

The information had not been provided. The project was considered and it was agreed that the Parish Council had no funds to provide a different window cover at present. Should the Walnut Tree Football Club wish to proceed with the proposal using the club's funds then the Parish Council would give the matter further consideration.

**10. To determine the dates for the July and October meetings.**

It was agreed that the meetings would be held on 28<sup>th</sup> June and 4<sup>th</sup> October as scheduled. Mr Blaber undertook to take the Minutes of the meeting.

**11. UCC and Walnut Tree Football Clubs - number of games played so far this season and income generated including the matches played by Ravens FC before their demise and how this compares to budget projected income.**

A report could not be given as the Parish Council books were currently undergoing audit.

**12. Use of mini soccer pitch played at Ford End by Barnston Youth FC - representatives of the club will be present at the meeting.**

Following the presentation by Bob Jenkins the Committee noted that further publicity was to be given. It was confirmed that the licence for use was already in existence for a two year period ending in June 2012. It was also noted that no provision had been made for changing/toilet facilities at the playing field during the 2009/10 season. An email from Chris Muir indicated that Barnston Youth FC was pleased with the way the arrangement with Ford End had worked during 2009/10 and that the club was keen to develop the facility and partnership over the years to come. The club was also keen to demonstrate to the Parish Council that the facility was being developed for the benefit of people within the Parish and the community as a whole. The club was seeing an increase in demand for teams and capacity as the club was viewed as well run and considerate. The club would wish to build on this image. The club would like to be able to offer in conjunction with the Parish Council a plan to which Barnston Youth FC would contribute to develop the facilities at Ford End Playing Field which aims towards the building of a clubhouse which can be used to support the sporting activities but also be a base for other general sports activities within the Parish (i.e. Summer camps). Barnston AFC would like to suggest a project to see what funding could be obtained for the clubhouse (target 50%) with perhaps the Parish Council and the football club contributing the other funds evenly.

The Committee considered the suggestion and it was agreed to ask Barnston Youth FC what plans they had to provide changing and toilet facilities at the playing field. At the original discussion it was stated that these would be provided in conjunction with the Football Foundation. Barnston Youth FC would be asked what they had in mind and to cost up the proposals and come back to the Parish Council with more detail. It was stressed that there was no funds available for this project in the Parish Council budget for 2010/11.

**13. Additions of Fireman's Pole to tower at Howe Street play area.**

The Committee agreed that Mr Bell could make further investigations into this proposal.