

Great Waltham Parish Council

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Report of the Recreation Committee Meeting held on Monday 28th June 2010, at Great Waltham Village Hall.

1. Election of Chairman.

Mr. John Bell was elected Chairman

2. Record of Members present

Mr J Bell, Mr. A Micklem, Mr M Steel, Mr S Huggins Mrs A Dickinson, Roger Gaffney (WTFC), Peter Stokes (WTFC), Frans Bauke van der Meer (UCC) and Paul Waldron (UCC)

3. Apologies for Absence

Mr M Blaber, Mrs T Harper

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

Mr Micklem declared an interest in items 14 and 17

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

There was none

6. Consideration of Changing Room Accounts 2009/10 Season (copy of Accounts enclosed)

The accounts were examined and Mr Bell was to make enquiries as to why the electricity cost had nearly doubled for the year. It was noted that 37 matches had been played during the season which was a rise of 10 from the previous year. The accounts were approved.

7. To review the use of Great Waltham Recreation Ground by the Walnut Tree FC and the United Chelmsford Churches FC during the 2009/10 season.

Mr Bell was not aware of any issues over the past year. Mr Stokes said that there was one incident of bad language from a visiting player. Both Walnut Tree and UCC agreed that the pitch sharing arrangements worked well, the pitch was in good condition and that line marking was done well. UCC stated that this was the first time that they had a 'home' ground and that they were made to feel very welcome. UCC now have a first team and 2 reserve teams. Requests were made for an additional litter bin by the children's play area by the new seat. Mr Stokes asked if the shutters in the kitchen could be removed (on a trial basis) with a view to leaving them off permanently. There was a request for a stash of net clips to be left in the changing rooms. Both Walnut Tree and UCC expressed worries about leaving the changing rooms open when they leave. Mr Bell undertook to have a word with Vic Smith to find a solution to this.

8. Review of the Rent to be charged for use of facilities during the 2010/11 season.

After a discussion it was agreed to leave the charges for the 2010/11 season the same as the 2009/10 season. Both F.C's agreed to this.

9. To consider the use of the Great Waltham Recreation Ground by clubs applying for the use in the 2010/11 season

Both UCC and Walnut Tree requested to continue to use the facilities for the coming season and for a similar number of matches and it was agreed to allow them to continue on the same terms as the previous season.

10. To consider the offer by United Chelmsford Churches FC to decorate part of the changing rooms and to install a whiteboard – also to consider a contribution towards this if agreed.

UCC would like to redecorate the changing rooms for the coming season and put forward the

following budget.

Magnolia for walls £64, White for ceiling £25, Red or Gray floor paint £25, Magnolia gloss for woodwork £15, Sundries (filler, sandpaper etc) £25, White for goalposts £10, Varnish for benches/thresholds £10, TOTAL £174.

the plan of attack: Day 1(3/7): preparation - scrape off flaking paint/loose plaster, fill holes, sand down walls/ceiling/woodwork/goalposts where needed. Clean and Hoover throughout. 1 coat of paint on walls/ceiling and floor. Primer/undercoat where needed to woodwork. Day 2 (10/7): final coat to everything.

It was proposed to split the cost equally between the two clubs and the Parish Council. UCC wanted to start the painting on the 3rd July and it was explained that the Parish Council would not be in a position to confirm their financial contribution until after that time, but if the UCC wanted to 'take the risk' of starting without its financial undertaking then they were welcome. The installation of a white board was also agreed.

11. To review use of Ford End Playing Field by Barnston Youth FC during season 2009/2010 and to consider use of the facilities by the club in the forthcoming season 2010/2011.

No representatives of Barnston FC were present due to other commitments, but Mr Bell informed the Committee that the season had gone well with no known issues. Barnston FC wish to continue to use the facilities for the coming season on the same terms as the previous season

12. Provision of a building that can be used as a changing room, storage facility and toilet facility at Ford End playing field.

This item was deferred as no member of Barnston FC was present

13. Any other matter raised by football clubs.

There were none

14. Allotments. Mr Micklem declared an interest

(a) Report of current situation regarding allocations and vacant plots.

There are currently no vacant allotments and a waiting list of four people. Mr Huggins asked if any more allotments could be found within the parish. It was agreed to look for suitable areas (area by the GW scout hut was suggested) or to look into 'garden sharing'

(b) To consider the terms of the new agreement for the Brookmead and Bury Lane Allotment areas

Mr Micklem declared an interest and left the meeting

The only change to the Agreement was the rent, raised from £330 to £365. The agreement was recommended to the Parish Council for signature.

15. Children's Play Area- Great Waltham -To consider the next phase/project to be completed

Mr Huggins informed the committee that no further progress had been made. The issue of the distance for the fireman's pole from the tower was raised as a resident had requested it be moved closer to the tower. The distance is dictated by Health and Safety as if it were closer then children were likely to bang their head on the tower if they lent back. The tower was inspected by ROSPA and no issues were raised by them.

16. Programme for Summer Holiday Activities Scheme

The programme for the two days on 4th August and 11th August were presented and agreed. The scheme should be advertised in the Schools, parish notice boards and the Parish News

17. To review progress to date of the provision of a footpath through the car park and from the changing rooms to the play area and to consider the planting of a hedge where required to cover the entire length of the larch lap fence adjacent to the Great Waltham Recreation Ground car park.

Disappointment was expressed that further progress with this project had not been made. Mr Micklem informed the Committee that the Clerk had had a further meeting with JF knight over the specifications but did not have anything further to report. Mr Micklem also informed the committee about the meeting with the Owners of the neighbouring property and for their desire to have a hedge

planted down the full length of the path. The committee considered this request but did not feel it was necessary. Mr Bell raised his concerns about the location of the path and that it would be better on the other side of the car park. The rationale of the choice for its location was again reviewed and it was pointed out that the Parish Council had agreed the terms with the landowner including its location. The landowner also stated that he was not prepared to consent a change of location.

18. Should the Parish Council adopt a more robust role in the management of the recreation/playing fields within the parish?

Mr Bell stated that with more activity on the recreation ground should the Parish Council look at other ways to open up the area and deal with problems. He cited the case of the mini soccer area and the time to get issues resolved. The idea of opening the WC facilities during the summer holidays was raised and discussed but due to problems with keeping the area clean and who would be responsible it was decided that this would be unworkable. However if someone would like to have access to the WC's for a day and would take responsibility for leaving them in the same state as they were found then this should where possible be facilitated. The idea of a youth shelter at Ford End was raised but Mrs Dickinson said at present there was no demand.