

## **Report of the Recreation Committee Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at The Old Fire Station, Great Waltham.**

### **1. Election of Chair.**

Mrs Janet Patch was elected Chair.

### **2. Record of Members present**

Mr. A Micklem, Mr M Steel, Mr I Leyde, Mr A McDevitt.

Also Present:

Walnut Tree FC - Roger Gaffney, Peter Stokes.

Barnston Youth FC – Robert Jenkins.

Great Waltham Under 16's FC – Reece Field, Connor Nagle.

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

Mr J Bell and Mr S Huggins.

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

Mr Micklem declared an interest in items 7,9,13, 16 and 17

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

There was none. The Football clubs present were involved in discussion of items 6 – 13 plus item 20.

### **6. Consideration of Changing Room Accounts 2010/11 Season.**

The accounts were examined and approved.

### **7. To review the use of Great Waltham Recreation Ground by the Walnut Tree FC and the United Chelmsford Churches FC during the 2010/11 season.**

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

The clerk indicated that he was not aware of any issues over the past season having received no complaints regarding the use of the recreation ground by football clubs.

The football clubs present had nothing to raise.

### **8. Review of the Rent to be charged for use of facilities during the 2011/12 season.**

Following discussion of the costing for the forthcoming 2011/12 season and in consideration that the rent had remained at the same level for 3 years, and comparative costs from CBC, it was agreed to increase the charge per use to £42 per adult team and £21 per Junior team. The rent to be charged to the Great Waltham Under 16's may be reviewed.

### **9. To consider the use of the Great Waltham Recreation Ground by clubs applying for the use in the 2011/12 season**

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

Both UCC and Walnut Tree requested to continue to use the facilities for the coming season. The Great Waltham Under 16's teams would also wish to use the facilities for friendly games throughout the 2011/12 playing on either a Saturday morning or a Sunday afternoon.

It was agreed to allow the three teams to use the facilities on the same conditions as the previous season.

### **10. Use of Ford End Playing Field by Barnston Youth FC for 2011/12 season and beyond and plans for the provision of facilities at Ford End Playing Field by Barnston Youth FC.**

Item 20 was brought forward and the items were discussed together.

### **20. To consider the proposal that the Parish Council should investigate the feasibility of erecting a structure suitable as a changing room/store for use by football clubs at Ford End Playing Field and to consider how such a project would be funded e.g. by seeking a grant from the Football Foundation.**

A letter from Barnston Youth FC dated 23rd June 2011 was read. The letter indicated that in accordance with the existing agreement which expired on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012 it was the club's intention to continue to use the Ford End Playing Field for training and games on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Looking forward the club would wish to renew the licence for a further 3 years.

With regard to facilities at Ford End Playing Field the Club proposed a joint venture between the Parish Council and Barnston YFC to promote football including raising funds that would benefit both parties and to possibly enable suitable changing and storage facilities to be installed. Barnston YFC would be happy to work with the Parish Council in any approach to the Football Association, the Football Foundation or any other grant making body to obtain grants to support the venture.

Discussion of this proposal took place. It was agreed that before initiating any feasibility study that the Parish Council members from Ford End should consult with the local villagers to gauge their feelings with regard to the provision of changing facilities possibly through an article in the Parish News asking local residents of Ford End for their views on the development of Ford End Playing Field. Ian Leyde, Alexander Micklem and Robert Jenkins would get together to progress the matter.

Mr Jenkins also reported that it was proposed to site an 8ftx8ftx10ft storage container on Ford End Playing Field for storage of their equipment during the 2011/12 season. The clerk would investigate whether planning permission was required. It was agreed that the proposed container could be sited on the playing field.

The clerk also reported that Barnston Youth FC had agreed to make a grant to the Parish Council of £135 to allow the weed and feed treatment to proceed. An order would be placed.

#### **11. To report and consider any developments with the Great Waltham under 16's Football Team**

Reece Field reported on the situation with the Great Waltham Under 16's FC indicating that for the 2011/12 season it was their intention to play 'friendly' matches only. Costings had been prepared and it was reported that the cost of team strip was estimated at £180. The club proposed fund raising activities to finance the costs involved.

Mention was made by members present regarding the funds raised by the youth of the village in respect of the youth shelter which was held by the Parish Council and could possibly be used to 'kick start' the football club.

Advice was sought from Ian Leyde and Robert Jenkins regarding what would be a suitable make-up and constitution for the club. Adult support was required in the form of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Child Protection Officer.

Discussion followed and it appeared that currently the club had only one adult interested in managing the team.

The club representatives present agreed to provide a list of the youngsters who were interested in forming the club. A letter would then be sent to the youngsters and their parents inviting them to attend a meeting facilitated by the Parish Council to endeavor to get the club up and running.

Reece Field also reported that there were nine players available for the International match with the French visitors on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

#### **12. Any other matter raised by football clubs.**

There were no other issues raised

#### **13. Allotments.**

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

**(a) Report of current situation regarding allocations and vacant plots.** – it was reported that one allotment had lately become available. There were three people awaiting allotments and the vacant plot would be allocated to the first person on that list.

#### **(b) To consider applying for a grant for water to be laid on to Bury Lane and Brookmead allotments.**

The Parish Council had received information about a three year project entitled 'Edible Essex' which proposed to set up or renovate allotment sites across the County and to establish or expand orchards with public access. The scheme included finance of capital expenditure on the provision of a water supply.

Alex McDevitt stated that a project had recently been carried out in Felsted to provide a water supply to the allotments and undertook to find out more information and report back to the clerk. The clerk was authorised to write to allotment holders to gauge the interest in having mains water laid on which would have the effect of raising rent for allotment holders to pay for the water consumed.

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

The clerk reported that an order had been placed on Playground Services for the supply and installation of Pick Up Sticks 6 subject to Wicksteed (the manufacturers of the equipment) providing an external inspection report by an independent test by other than Wicksteed themselves to indicate that the equipment has received BS EN1176 certification. The latest information from Playground Services stated that the unit is scheduled to be tested in September. Playground Services presumed that they should be able to get a certificate and proceed with the order then. Playground Services confirmed that they had secured a 'price freeze' with Wicksteed so the price would remain the same.

The clerk also referred to the amount £2637.62 worth of planning contributions which had now been agreed with CBC and which would be paid over to the Parish Council to be spent on additional play equipment at Great Waltham Recreation Ground. A suggestion had been made to replace the train.

It was agreed to defer further consideration of the use of the planning contributions fund until after the next Recreation Committee on 3rd October 2011, when, hopefully the Pick Up Sticks situation would be resolved.

#### **15. Programme for Summer Holiday Activities Scheme**

The programme for the two half days on 3rd August and 10th August were presented and agreed. The scheme would be advertised in the Schools, parish notice boards and the Parish News

#### **16. Modification of the Multi Play Unit at Howe Street Playing Field**

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

It was reported that the modifications to the unit had been carried out and had been signed off by Mr Bell. The modifications were considered to be satisfactory.

#### **17. To consider water supply to eastern end of Great Waltham Recreation Ground.**

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

The suggestion to pipe an underground water supply to the eastern end of the Great Waltham Recreation Ground was considered. It was decided not to progress this suggestion.

#### **18. To consider the Play Area Safety Inspection Report carried out by ROSPA on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2011.**

The report was reviewed. There were no urgent items to be dealt with. Some of the minor repairs had been carried out by the handyman. Others would be monitored by playground inspectors.

It was agreed that the following items which had been raised by the report would be attended to:

Multi Play Unit – Ford End Playing Field – replacement of decking.

Swing – 1 bay toddler – Ford End Playing Field – replacement of damaged swing seat.

#### **19. To make arrangements for the removal of prickly shrubs from the hedge adjacent to the Mini Soccer Pitch at Great Waltham Recreation Ground.**

It was agreed to proceed with the proposal to remove the prickly shrubs from this length of hedge using the handyman supplemented by a Community Service worker. Before arranging the works consideration would need to be given to the disposal of the shrubs removed.