

Report of the Recreation Committee Meeting held on Monday 6th July 2009, at Great Waltham Village Hall.

1. Record of Members present

Chairman: Mr J Bell

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

Also Present

Ravens FC - Gary Porosa

Walnut Tree FC – Peter Stokes and Roger Gaffney

2. 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 6, 7 and 13.

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

The members of the football clubs as listed above were involved in the discussion on items 5,6,and 8.

5. Consideration of Changing Room Accounts year 2008/9 season.

The accounts were presented reviewed and explained by the Chairman. Questions raised on the accounts were answered. The accounts were agreed.

6. To review the use of Great Waltham Recreation Ground by the Ravens FC during the 2008/9 season.

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

Three complaints received during the past season were reviewed:

One complaint regarding bad language

One complaint regarding litter (orange peel) being left on the touchline.

A few complaints regarding retrieval of footballs from neighbouring gardens without seeking permission from the householder.

The issues surrounding the complaints were discussed. The Chairman indicated that it had been a good season and good relationships had existed with the Ravens FC.

7. Review of the Rent to be charged for use of facilities during the 2009/10 season.

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

The football club representatives left the meeting whilst the level of rent was discussed.

The Chairman explained the background to the setting of previous years rent and how the charge was made up. The Chairman also gave comparisons of facilities provided by CBC and other more local facilities. The Chairman also indicated that inflation was zero and suggested that the rent remain at the same level as 2008/9 season.

It is therefore recommended that the rent for the use of the facilities be £40 per adult match and £20 per Junior Match (junior being teams of under 16 year olds).

8. Any other matter raised by football clubs.

The clubs indicated that they had discussed together the issues surrounding the use of the facilities and particularly referred to footballs being kicked into neighbouring properties and to the marking out of the pitch. This would usually be by carried out by

a contractor but in an emergency the equipment stored at the changing rooms would be used. Ownership of the line marker was in question and further enquiries would be made. The Walnut Tree Football Club indicated that they would like to make use of the kitchen for rolls and refreshments before the match on Sunday mornings to raise funds for the club.

The Walnut Tree FC had also tended to the infilling of the goalmouths and sowing of grass seed.

Mr Micklem referred to the positive attitude between the two clubs and was pleased at the co-operation shown by Ravens FC in moving aside to allow the local team to use the facilities on Sundays.

9. Allotments.

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

The clerk reported that all allotment plots were allocated and that there were currently six people on the waiting list.

It was agreed that letters would be written to two allotment plot holders at Brookmead whose allotments were not being kept in good order. The letter would give one month for the allotment to be cultivated failing which notice of termination would be served.

The clerk referred to a survey of allotment sites being carried out by CBC – this would be included on the next Recreation Committee agenda.

Further reference was made to a garden share scheme which allowed people waiting for allotments to share private gardens with householders who could not cope with the own gardens on the basis of sharing the crop produced. It was felt that this scheme should be publicised locally.

10. Additional Play Equipment - GW Recreation Ground

Mr Huggins reported on the quotations provided by three play equipment manufacturers who had been selected to produce a scheme. Mr Huggins expressed concern that the proposals were not sufficiently dynamic and produced a further brochure from a play manufacturer named Kompan.

It was also stated that there was now insufficient time to consult the youngsters on the choice of the new equipment before the school summer holidays.

It was therefore agreed:

To obtain a scheme and quotation from Kompan

To consult the youngsters upon their return to school in September

To further display the proposals received on the Parish Council stall at the Village Fete to be held on 25th July 2009.

11. Programme for Summer Holiday Activities Scheme

The Clerk indicated that the proposed programme was:

5th August 2009 Great Waltham Recreation Ground – Multi Sports 9.30am – 12 Noon

12th August 2009 Great Waltham Recreation Ground – Multi Sports 1pm – 3.30pm

Ages 6 -14 years old.

Also Summer Play Activity (provisional date)

28th July 2009 Great Waltham Village Hall – Play Activity – 10.30am – 12.30pm and 1.45pm to 3.45pm

12. Deployment of the Handyman.

Mr Bell referred to the duties of the handyman attending to the refilling of water tanks at Brookmead allotments, the grass cutting programme and the movement of the

speed indicator device. Mr Bell also referred to outstanding jobs which the handyman had not attended and mentioned specifically:

The preservative treatment to the rear of Ford End bus shelter (this had been outstanding for two years)

The preservative treatment of Great Waltham bus shelter.

The movement of the Junior goalposts at Great Waltham Recreation Ground.

The clerk stated that the summer period was a far busier time for the handyman than the autumn and winter months and that some works were held over for a slacker period.

The clerk also stated that he was unaware that the jobs specified by Mr Bell remained outstanding as there had be no feedback to this effect.

It was agreed that a list of jobs requiring to be done would be prepared.

The clerk reminded those present regarding the procedure for work to be carried out. Any jobs requiring the handyman would be reported through the clerk who would determine the work to be carried out by the handyman on a weekly basis and issue a job sheet accordingly.

13. New Gate - Bury Lane Allotments.

Mr Micklem declared an interest.

It was agreed to chase Mr Jackson regarding the installation of the new gate at Bury Lane Allotments.

14. To give consideration to the introduction of an ongoing maintenance programme in respect of the recreational/playing fields at Great Waltham, Ford End and Howe Street.

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Recreation Committee.