

**The Gransdens Sportsfield and Recreational Association  
Minutes of the Committee meeting 09/09  
Held at Farthings Cottage on Thursday 10 December 2009**

**1. Present**

Claire Walton (CWa), Charlie Whinney (CWh), Nik Johnson (NJ), Tina Elkington (TE), Barry Girling (BG)

**2. Apologies**

Celia Chignell (CC), Chris Turner (CT), Stuart Titmus (ST)

**3. Matters arising from the minutes:**

09/07.1: ST has some netting and is waiting for the field rearrangement before erecting

09/07.3: Stuart Bygraves will clear the ditch when it dries up. A skip will be required to remove the waste.

09/07.4: Action carried forward to next meeting: **ST to ask Hammy to clear the gutters.**

09/07.6: The meters were installed the last week of November 2008. Action carried forward to next meeting: **CT to read the meters.**

09/08.1: Action carried forward to next meeting: **NJ to pick up pavilion keys from Chequers Pub and pass on to GYFC**

09/08.2: CWh has passed on keys to Kevin Diss.

**[ACTION 1: CWa to chase action 09/09.3: CC to talk to Des Merrill about the hedge cutting]**

09/08.5: CWh reported that it was no longer an issue as the tennis club is always open on a Friday evening and Andy Passman can turn the lights on for Friday evening football coaching.

09/08.6: Installation of the sewage treatment plant will cause minimal disruption for the nursery. Applications for LA and EA approval have been submitted and work will be carried out in January. Poor's Land Fund (PLF) monies are available when required.

09/08.7: CT has invoiced Andy Passman. GYFC are disputing charges for next year. This will be discussed at the meeting on Saturday.

09/07.13: CWa has asked Andy Passman to remind parents not to use Sand Road car park.

09/08.8-9: Jason Dixon's costs were circulated to the committee prior to the meeting. CWh has shown the plans to the nursery staff.

09/08.11-13: Field layout was discussed later in the meeting.

09/08.14-16: Preparations for the bonfire went to plan. The event raised around £1,700 to be divided among the groups involved. The fireworks were spectacular and ran for longer than expected. It was agreed to limit the amount spent on fireworks to £1200 for next year. NJ will speak to Kevin Cleary about how this may be achieved. It was noted that the bar ran out

of mulled wine and white wine before the end. The band's lights were run out of the pavilion which would not have been appropriate had it been a wet night. The band had not been able to borrow Jamie Chignell's on the night. A second generator would probably be required next year.

09/08.17: CWa wrote to the PC about the committee's support for the MUGA project. The PC has since had a meeting with the school. A lease will be drawn up in the new year in order for fund raising to commence. The PC believes that use of the facility will be predominantly by the school and therefore involve younger children. There will be no use after dusk, i.e. no floodlights.

09/08.18: There will be a huge incremental increase in Council tax from April. **[ACTION 2: BG to talk to Diane Taylor about PC costs for comparable sites such as the bowls pavilion and playing field.]**

09/08.19: TE will check position will ball committee.

**4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** the minutes were approved.

#### **5. Plans for the Pavilion**

The nursery is happy with a 5 year or longer tie in to the pavilion and agrees to the use of portacabins while the building work is completed. Requirements in terms of area per child have been passed on to Jason Dixon. Feedback on room layout etc is yet to come.

In summary, Jason's proposal was £5,000 for preparation for planning up to builders' quotes. A further £17,000 would be required for Jason to manage the project, which includes preparation of plans for building regulations, obtaining quotes from suppliers, up to completion. Therefore the total costs for the project are approx £150,000 for the works plus £22,000 for Jason plus cost of the portacabins.

The committee discussed how feasible the project was. The idea is to obtain £50K from WREN and the balance from other sources, e.g. the football foundation, FA, English Cricket Board, HDC, CDC, Lottery. The GYFC may be competing with us for funding from football sources so it is important to discuss plans with them. **[ACTION 3: BG to look into cricket funding options]**

Running costs were discussed. With the nursery in situ and the reduced costs for sewage expected after the new treatment plant is in place, the running costs will be covered.

The committee does not have the initial £5000 for Jason's work to date and for planning permission. **[ACTION 4: CT to inform the committee of the amount available including funds from bonfire night]** The committee considered approaching the PLF for the balance as a loan to be repaid by the end of 2010.

In Jason's quote there was a £500 charge to arrange a pre-planning meeting with HDC. The committee voted on commencing with this step. All five present were in favour. **[ACTION 5: CWh to inform Jason Dixon of the decision]**

#### **6. GYFC representative on the committee**

Nik Johnson resigned as representative for the GYFC and was co-opted on to the committee. The GYFC will be asked if they would like to provide an alternative representative on the committee.

#### **7. Field Layout**

The draft proposal was well received by the Chequers FC. It will be discussed with the GYFC on Saturday. The bonfire area has been included and four adjacent cricket pitches. It was suggested that an all weather strip might be required for a youth team.

#### **8. Tennis club fence repair**

The fence took two man days to repair.

#### **9. Groundsman meeting update**

The field is in good condition considering it has only been cut for the past 25 years. To bring it up to very good quality will involve spiking, spring and autumn feeds and fertilizing. All of which will cost around £5000 per season. The committee will look into including the funding to upgrade the grass in any applications it makes to funding bodies.

At present the goals do not comply with standards. Movable goals will be considered so that they can be moved back and forwards to preserve the goal area.

#### **10. AOB**

Alan Linger has quoted £360 + VAT to cut the hedge by Sand Road. The committee will need to look for another provider. If anyone knows of a hedge cutter to try please let CWa know.

**[ACTION 6: BG to check with PC who is responsible for cutting the grass on the verge and clearing the ditch along Sand Road]**

#### **11. Next meeting:**

Thursday 14 January 8pm, venue to be confirmed.