

The Gransdens Sportsfield and Recreational Association
Minutes of the Committee meeting 08/06
Held at 22 Church Street on Wednesday 26 November 2008

1. Present

Chris Turner (CT), Celia Chignell (CC), Nik Johnson (NJ), Charlie Whinney (CWh), Claire Walton (CWa), Trevor Peer (tennis club) (TP), Craig Pentlow (CP), Kate Caldwell (KC)

2. Apologies

Barry Girling (BG)

3. Matters arising from the minutes:

ACTION 04.1: The funds in the COIF (Sinking Fund) are all from the tennis club and can only be accessed by the tennis club. A deposit account is needed for GSRA funds. [ACTION 1: CT to look into most efficient way to invest GSRA funds]

ACTION 04.2: Two mini meters were fitted, one to the floodlights and one to the CCTV. The cost increased in accordance (approx £400). Analysis of the electricity usage will take a year due to the seasonal use of the floodlights by the tennis club.

ACTION 05.1: BG has added the review of insurance policies to the Parish Council's agenda in April.

ACTION 05.2: Martin Smith identified that the private sewer may only be accessed by properties from the industrial estate. This is not an option for GSRA. [ACTION 2: CC to pass on this information and thank Mrs Hayley]. Des Merrill has had one quote for the Biosphere c.£12,000 and is in negotiations. The £20,000+ cost of tapping into the main sewer (Caxton Road entrance to the industrial estate) is not considered viable. It was agreed that funding should be concentrated on replacing the cesspit. Red Stripe is emptying the cess pit at least once a month at a cost of £2,500 per year. [ACTION 3: CC to find out the running costs of a biosphere].

ACTION 03.7: Nursery sewage volumes have been passed on to Des Merrill.

ACTION 05.3: It was agreed that it is not appropriate to contact Potton Ltd, given the present economic position.

ACTION 04.8: HDC planning department are consulting internally before the preliminary meeting about storage facility and indoor sports hall.

ACTION 05.4: Nursery license copies provided to CC and BG.

ACTION 05.5: Questionnaire reminder submitted to Roundabout for December issue.

ACTION 05.6: CWh has discussed the indoor sports hall with MacroArt and DCNorris.

ACTION 05.7: Reminder to ensure that questionnaire feedback sessions are all completed by end of December 2008.

ACTION 05.11: The insurance documents are not available yet for CWh to check regarding child welfare. [ACTION 4: CT to obtain insurance documents.]

ACTION 05.12: CWa drafted email for discussion. [ACTION 5: CWh to make amendments to email, subject to the terms of the Norwich Union policy]

ACTION 05.13: Des Merrill, BG, CWh and Ian Darroch all met to discuss the car park. Ian will spec the various options discussed. The cost of the repairs will be met by the Parish Council, Playgroup and GSRA. If funding is not available or agreed for major repairs in 2009, then a short term inexpensive solution will be implemented.

ACTION 05.14: Barbara Boddington is talking with HDC about moving the recycling closer to the car park entrance.

ACTION 05.15: CWh has cancelled the contract with Steve Wilson. Peter Round has been appointed by GGPC from 1 March 2009 and has already marked out a football pitch.

ACTION 05.16: All keys have been handed out except one to Kevin Diss. Key holders have completed a key security form. [ACTION 6: CWa to put a notice on the outside of the side fire exit to discourage anyone from blocking the exit route.]

ACTION 05.17: All the hedges around the sports field, except for the Playgroup corner, will be flail cut for £700 during December.

ACTIONS 05.18-20 Covered later in the meeting.

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

5. Proposed Constitution Amendment

It was agreed that the Committee would agree upon a single set of amendments to be proposed to the membership at an SGM in March 2009 [ACTION 7: CWa to organise SGM and AGM]. The current Constitution would remain in force until that SGM.

There was a discussion about the make up of the Committee. It was agreed to propose that the posts of chairman, treasurer and secretary be elected positions rather than honorary. It was agreed to have four organisation representatives, which are not limited to a specific club. It was agreed to propose that the chairman's term of office be increased from three to five consecutive years.

A vote was taken on the number of GGPC representatives. Two options were considered; option 1: one representative from the GGPC and option 2: two representatives from the GGPC. The result was 4 to 2 in favour of option 1, with 2 votes abstained.

It was agreed that Barry Girling be extended an open invitation to attend Committee meetings on behalf of the Trustees.

There was a discussion about the terms of membership. [ACTION 8: CWh to propose a revised clearer wording]. Additional minor wording amendments were agreed.

6. Bonfire Night

The event went very well and NJ was congratulated for his hard work and achievement. The net income for the event is estimated at £2,100. Spillage added to the enjoyment and duration of the evening. The band would like its allocation of the funds raised to go to the GSRA [ACTION 9: NJ to agree net income allocations with CT/CWh and advise the organisations involved.]

7. Sports relief mile event

Sports relief is run biannually and will next be held in March 2010. March 2009 is a Comic relief event.

It was agreed that a fun sports event would be organised for Saturday 25 April. Ideas included a short (mile) walk/run possibly in fancy dress, barbecue, tug of war and family tickets. The event will be organised by the committee as a whole.

8. Charges for sports field and pavilion use for 2009

CT provided the committee with a document outlining annual contributions by source for 2009 (attachment 1).

The committee has written to the Chequers football club twice with no response. It was agreed that GCFC be charged £25 per home game with effect from 1 January 2009. It was agreed that no historical charges be enforced. [ACTION 10: CP to inform GCFC at the meeting on 27 November].

Andy Passman has twice left the floodlights on after Mid Beds Friday coaching. He was charge £11 for the first time. [ACTION 11: CWh to set up a checklist process with Andy Passman].

The GSRA has been approached by the Gamlingay Young Farmers who wish to play football on the tennis courts with floodlights. The tennis club is reluctant to take the nets down because they are difficult to put back. The tennis club has recently resurfaced the courts at considerable expense. [ACTION 12: All to discuss the use of the courts at the next meeting].

GYFC U12's football for 2009/10 remains under discussion, if a team is formed it was agreed that GYFC be charged £25 for each home game.

9. AOB

NJ suggested that the GSRA would benefit from emailing the membership with news and events. It was agreed to approach the sporting and leisure organisations in the village (i.e. tennis club, FC club, badminton) for the email addresses of their members. [ACTION 13: TP discuss with the tennis club, CP with GCFC, CWa with the badminton club, CWh with GYFC.]

CC asked whether the youth football clubs used the pavilion. Andy Passman does not use the pavilion for Friday's coaching sessions. The Gransden Youth FC uses the tennis club pavilion on match days on Saturday mornings (8 times p.a.) and only uses the main pavilion to store goals.

10. Next meeting:

Wednesday 14 January 8pm, venue TBA.

Topics: Car park, Biosphere, Sports hall and questionnaire, Tennis court use.