

The Gransdens Sportsfield and Recreational Association
Minutes of the Committee meeting 10/06
Held at 22 Church Street on Monday 8 November 2010

1. Present

Claire Walton (CWa), Charlie Whinney (CWh), Andy Paul (AP), Ian Darroch (ID), Paul Thomas (PTh), Phil Taylor (PTa), Barry Girling* (BG)

2. Apologies

Stuart Titmus (ST), Nik Johnson* (NJ)

* non-voting members

3. Matters arising from the minutes:

09/07.4: Ian Hamilton is now aware of the job and will clear the gutters. **PTh to check on Saturday.**

10/03.2: CWh has spoken to Peter Round who is preparing a quote via Diane Taylor based on Russell Thompkin's spreadsheet of cuts and fertilisation by month.

PTh proposed that the field management be put out to tender to companies, specifying the objective to be producing high quality durable and sustainable weed-free pitches. He has HDC Parks and Grounds and three other contacts to approach for tenders. The companies can provide a bottom up detailed tender for the committee to consider costs. **It was agreed that PTh will put this into action.**

10/03.4: Pitches and drainage – CWh is in contact with Cambridgeshire County Council. He has provided the council with photos to show that the water cannot drain under Sand Road. Diane Taylor is now driving this forward with the Council.

GFC has resurfaced the Sand Road car park. ID thanked PTh for this on behalf of the tennis club.

The drain behind the tennis courts cannot be reached easily and the drain running down from Caxton Road to Sand Road along the field is full because the water cannot drain past trees. **CWh will speak to Mike Capps for suggestions who to approach for quotes to drain the area.**

The grids on the field are now full of water. **PTh will clear when they dry.**

The final paperwork is in process before the lights are replaced at the tennis club. The work should go ahead in the next 2-3 weeks. **ID will notify nursery when access is necessary.** Quotes for moving lights to face pitches and fit outside sockets will be obtained at site and passed on to GFC and GSRA.

10/03.5: **BG to suggest to Graham Chapman that the 6 aside team talk to GFC about their requirements.**

10/04.5 ID questioned that the ball should not be allowed to park on the field as it is a one night event every two years in midsummer. The problems caused by parking on the field had been extreme this year due to the playgroup users parking on the field while building work at the playgroup took place. It was agreed that no rule about parking on the field for events

could be made and that each case should be considered independently based on the number of people, cars and setting up requirements.

10/04.7 The sewage tank's first service was carried out last month with no problems. CWa has written to thank the Pours Land Fund.

10/05.1 The committee vacancy has been advertised in November's Roundabout. There has been no response. **CWa to advertise on ParentMail, Touchbase and GRA.**

10/05.2 Paul has removed the trees in the corner of the field. He will require a digger to pull out the stump of one and dig out the area which has seeded with new trees. There is some rough ground to clear.

There was a discussion about removal of the cricket square. **CWh will ask Stuart Bygraves to have a look at the extent of the job.**

10/05.5 The GFC container can be added to the GSRA Aviva insurance policy. **PTh will check that GFC will cover the premium increase.**

10/05.6 The annual return has been submitted to the Charity Commission and a Trustee's report has been prepared.

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

5. Treasurer's Report

2010 forecast at November is attached.

Income

Two cheques have been received from the tennis club (£750 and £260.94). **ACTION 10/06.1: ID to check what the second check is for and when the second £750 will be paid.**

The Chequers FC has paid up for last season. Thanks to PTh for forwarding the cheque.

The figure for the bonfire is an estimate.

There should be £500 field rent from the Ball, but no other donation has been requested.

There has been no income from a sports day or from Mid Beds Soccer this year.

Expenditure

The sewage tank replacement was a large expenditure this year. However there will be no more bimonthly charges to Red Stripe.

The £2000 will not be spent on field maintenance this year.

ACTION 10.06.2: CWh will speak to Kevin Diss about the CCTV service.

The Pavilion kitchen needs to be improved. The nursery has asked for a contribution from the GSRA. **ACTION 10/06.3: CWh to follow up.**

David Brown was asked to investigate a damp patch at the pavilion. **ACTION 10/06.4: CWa to follow up.**

Insurance was renewed with AVIVA at the end of October and continues to cover events such as the ball and bonfire.

The football container needs to be painted dark green. **ACTION 10/06.5: PTh to follow up.**

6. GFC proposal for 2010/11

The football club proposed a fixed 3 year rental: £1100 for 2010/11, £1200 for 2011/12 and £1300 for 2012/13 with any incidentals, e.g. in 2010 there have been £240 for the Sand Road car park surface and £300 for turning the floodlights (expected). Additional investments will be made depending on what the club can afford.

Last season, 2009/2010, the adult teams paid £25 per game (£15 + 1 hour labour) and the children paid £5 per game. All fees have been paid and there are 9 hours of labour outstanding. Last season there were 2 adult teams and 21 matches were played. It is hoped to have 2 teams per age group, under 8, under 9 and under 10 to eventually feed an 11 aside under 12 team.

GFC accounts run up to end of April and GFC would pay the £1100 fee for 2010/11 season as £550 in November and £550 in April.

ID asked that GFC provide the numbers of matches and projections for the next 2-3 years. **ACTION 10/06.6: PTh to follow up and provide quotes to show that the initial rental is high compared with other available facilities.**

7. Bonfire

The event was spectacular with an estimated 500-600 people attending. The weather was very good. The Scouts did a great job on the barbecue and the bar sold out. NJE were great and have offered to play again next year. The fireworks display was exceptional. There was a noticeable delay before starting due to the fire being too big.

NJ was not present so exact takings were unavailable. It is expected that revenue will be in the region of £850 from presold tickets, £800 from tickets on the night, £700 from the bar and £400 from the barbecue. The fireworks cost £1500. An electrician was required to enable use of the outside sockets from the pavilion at a cost of £75. The profits will be shared between the Scouts, Revellers, PTA and the GSRA. PTh raised concerns over the financial control of the event, however the ticket presales cover most of the costs should the event be poorly attended or cancelled due to bad weather conditions.

Lessons learned for next year – restrict size of the bonfire, shorter display (15-20 mins), more mulled wine, other wines and snacks at the bar, keep vehicles off the pitches, more rubbish bags hung on posts around the boundary and have the band ready to play at end of display.

Thanks were given to NJ who has organised the bonfire for the last three years and done a fantastic job. He has stepped down from the position. It was suggested that he should record his role and the model for his successor. **ACTION 10/06.7: CWa to follow up.**

PTh asked where the bonfire would be next year as the bonfire site is hoped to be within the area of a new pitch next season. The area currently has poor drainage but could be improved by raising the level using earth from the mound behind the tennis courts and sloping the land down towards the edge of the field so that water will run off. The question will be addressed at a future meeting.

8. AOB

The football club has 5 new sets of keys. **ACTION 10/06.8 CWa to email the Key Security Forms to PTh to complete and return.**

ID is stepping down as the tennis club representative on the GSRA committee. He was thanked for his contribution.

9. Next meetings:

Monday 17 January 8pm

Tuesday 8 March 8pm