

Minutes
of the MAYLAND PARISH COUNCIL
LAWLING PARK COMMITTEE
meeting held in the Lawling Park Hall
on Tuesday 26th July 2016
at 7.08 p.m.

Present: Cllr Spires (Chairman)
 Cllr Duncan
 Cllr Evans
 Cllr Lund
 Cllr Oatham
 Cllr Pettitt

Clerk: Mrs J Massenhove

In attendance: Mr A Johnston, Jupiter Play
 Mr G Nichols, BDA Architecture
 Mrs E Alabaster, Mayland Village Football Club
 Mr D Reynolds, Mayland Village Football Club

34. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Lund.

35. Declaration of Interests

None.

36. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Cllr Evans proposed accepting the minutes from the meeting held on 28th June. Cllr Oatham seconded the proposal, all in favour. The minutes were signed and dated as a true record.

Cllr Spires closed the meeting at 7.10 p.m. to allow public discussion.

37. Public Discussion including regular hall user groups

Mr Johnston, of Jupiter Play, spoke of a range of interactive outdoor play products. Of particular note was an interactive football goal. This equipment can be used for various games, with or without a ball, and can be monitored/controlled remotely via a 3G connection. Cllr Spires observed that such equipment could be installed on one of the existing tennis courts, as these are currently underused. Mr Johnston showed excerpts of videos about the equipment and answered councillors' questions. He added that he would be willing to take councillors to view an existing installation near Watford.

Having produced some preliminary layouts for consideration, Mr Nichols asked questions of the committee in order to develop the initial briefing. Storage needs, the requirements for a small meeting room, stage area, seating area, kitchen, windows and the exterior finish of the building were discussed.

The Clerk confirmed that the football club's fees are now up-to-date. Mr Reynolds requested the same size pitches for the coming season as last year, i.e. two adult pitches and three junior pitches. (It was noted that once the Committee has approved this expenditure, the football club may liaise directly with our grass cutting contractor regarding initial marking of the pitches.) Cllr Spires stated that we do not want to be in a situation again where fees are overdue and deadlines for payment missed; also the parish council needs to know when the hall and pitches will be used. The possibility of a regular monthly fee was discussed. The preference for the football club to hold its own keys was also discussed. Mr Reynolds confirmed that they will provide information regarding the club's fixtures. It was noted that the goalposts have been taken down and stored.

Mr Reynolds observed that now the club's goalposts have been removed until the new season, there are none for children to use. The Clerk added that this fact has also been reported by a young resident.

Cllr Spires closed the public discussion session and reopened the meeting at 8.40 p.m.

Due to the extended public discussion session, Cllr Spires offered councillors the opportunity to prioritise the remaining agenda items. Items 40, CCTV, and 47, Vandalism and Anti-Social Behaviour, were moved forward, but are minuted in their original agenda position for ease of reference.

38. Football

Cllr Spires proposed agreeing expenditure of £363.92 for initial pitch marking to meet the football club's requirements. Cllr Duncan seconded the proposal. All in favour. Clerk to inform our grass cutting contractor.

The requirement for formalising an agreement with the football club was discussed. Clerk to ask Cllr Massenhove to look into this.

39. Hire Fees

Cllr Spires proposed reducing hire of Lawling Park Hall to non-residents from £12 per hour to £10 per hour. Cllr Duncan seconded the proposal. All in favour, motion carried. It was agreed to defer review of other fees until after the works to the hall have been carried out.

40. CCTV

Cllr Oatham reported that a maintenance visit has been carried out.

A new recorder may be required at some point, due in part to the current recorder's functionality but also to accommodate increased requirements once the hall extension has been built. The cost of this is likely to be between £500 - £1100.

41. S106 Expenditure

Rather than move the existing fire door, Cllr Spires suggested the installation of an additional internal partition door between the referee's room and the corridor toilets. Clerk to obtain a quotation for this.

Consideration of the architect's drawing and questions was addressed during the public discussion session; no decisions are required at present.

42. Clerk's Report

Each LPC member has received an update on matters from the last meeting.

43. Bakersfield Walk

Cllr Duncan reported that some cyclists using Bakersfield Walk are inconsiderate to pedestrians using the route. This was discussed and it was noted that there will be a policy for cyclists once cycle paths have been introduced as part of the Neighbourhood Plan.

44. Play Areas

The Clerk reported that whilst some smaller items have been purchased for maintenance of the play areas, quotations for the larger repairs have yet to be received.

45. Lawling Park Hall

Creaking sounds from the loft have been observed, possibly due to expansion during the warm weather. Rat bait boxes have been purchased for use in the loft.

It was noted that, once again, there is damage to the guttering on the north-west corner of the building. It is hoped that the on-going issue will be resolved when the extension is built.

Cllr Oatham and Cllr Spires both expressed a wish for a telephone line and broadband at the hall, either included within the next budget or from this year's LPC budget. Clerk to retrieve the quotations previously sought for this.

46. General Area and Maintenance Report

It was noted that the picnic benches have arrived, but we are awaiting some missing parts from the supplier.

Arrangements for opening and closing the car park gates were considered. It was noted that, in the event of cover not being available to open and close them, Bakersfield gates should remain locked. This is due to vehicles having been seen using the car park after the park has closed.

47. Vandalism and Anti-social Behaviour

Recent incidents were discussed. MDC's Anti-social Behaviour Officer is aware of these incidents and a disk containing CCTV footage has been handed to the police.

48. Items for Next Agenda

- S106
- CCTV
- Vandalism

The meeting closed at 9.28 p.m.

Date of next meeting, Tuesday 27th September 2016