



PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
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**MINUTES OF THE
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE ROTHER HALL AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY, 27th MAY 2021**

PRESENT: Cllrs Henly (Chairman), Clarke, Court, Hare, Hunt & Riddle

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs L Underwood (Deputy Clerk)

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Lawson.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CHANGES TO REGISTER OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

There were no changes to Register of Interests. Cllr. Clarke would like new forms sent to him.

3. MINUTES

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th April 2021 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chairman signed them.

Clerk's Report

From the meeting held on 11.03.21

MIN NO. 177 – PROFESSIONAL ADVICE ON LEGIONELLA TESTING AND RISK ASSESSMENTS AT THE SPORTS PAVILION.

The legionella risk assessment has now been carried out and a copy of the report has been circulated under correspondence.

From the meeting held on 08.04.21

MIN NO 185 – MINUTES- CLERK’S REPORT – RIVERMEAD NATURE RESERVE

A response from the Landowner Advisor on the Parish Council’s request to take over the maintenance of Rivermead Nature Reserve has been received and has been circulated under correspondence. The Deputy Clerk will diary this matter to follow up.

MIN NO 189 – PLAYGROUND INSPECTION

After approval was given by Full Council for Kompan Ltd to complete the playground works, a 30% deposit has now been paid and the works will be booked in, but there is a 7 week lead time.

Additional Information

The Deputy Clerk advised that the 10th June 2021 meeting will be cancelled as there are no urgent items for the agenda and due to the close proximity of the two meetings there is insufficient time to action and update any tasks from tonight’s meeting.

The Chairman thanked Vanessa Green and Fred Bushby for their clear up work after the travellers vacated the recreation ground.

4. PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no public speakers.

5. RECREATION CLUB REPORTS

SCYP had sent in termly reports, which were circulated under ‘Correspondence’ and reports were sent over as follows:

U7’s Football Team

The team manager said that he would love to see any Parish Councillors at their upcoming football games.

Bowling Club

The only news is that work has started on their machine shed.

Cricket Club

‘We have recruited four new players to our squad in the closed season which is most welcome and strengthens the team.

The cricket season commenced on the 8th.May and, unfortunately, Pulborough CC was not able to play either of the first two scheduled matches.

Late withdrawal of players on the 8th. May resulted in insufficient members being available to complete a team.

The home match on the 15th. was disrupted by the travellers at the Recreation Ground and although we were able to arrange an alternative ground at Amberley the weather was against us and the match was abandoned.

Although we were able to play the latest match the outcome was a loss so the start of our season has not been what we would have hoped or expected.

Our match next Saturday is at the Recreation Ground. Kindly confirm that we can use the changing rooms to store kit bags etc. Government and ECB guidelines will be observed with social distancing etc.

We will require two rooms, i.e. home and away teams, which can be locked while the teams are in the field.’ The Deputy Clerk confirmed again that 2 changing rooms would be available.

6. ALLOTMENT TREE WORKS

Members received revised quotations, which included the option of felling the Ash tree (tag no 11). After some discussion, Members **AGREED** that the Ash tree should be felled and **AGREED** to all the other works in the quotations and **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Beechdown Arboriculture Ltd for £750.00 +vat. The Deputy Clerk advised that a planning application would need to be submitted for the birch tree as it is subject to a TPO and the residents of the neighbouring property will need to be written to before all the works are carried out.

7. RIVERMEAD

Members received various emails from Cllr. Riddle and discussed as follows:

06.04.21 – 1i & 1ii – Extermination of native plants in Rivermead – The Deputy Clerk advised that the spot treatment authorised for Rivermead had already been carried out. Members agreed that any further discussion on this point could be covered in min no 9.

06.04.21 & 09.04.21 – 2ii & 13.05.21 – 3 – Cllr Riddle advised that the fencing at the back of 27 Little Dippers has been moved to the edge of the water in the ditch so that there is no bank and concrete bags placed in the ditch. The surface water drain is eroding the bank and the concrete fence supports. The Deputy Clerk advised that the Groundsman said that this has been like this for a very long time.

Cllr. Riddle advised that whilst he was at Rivermead, the owner of the property stated that his fence was being eroded and asked what he could do. After some discussion, Members **AGREED** that the Deputy Clerk should write to the resident suggesting that if they moved the fence back this would resolve the issue of the eroding fence. The Deputy Clerk would like confirmation that this is the correct number for the property – Cllrs Riddle & Hunt agreed to check this and advise the Deputy Clerk before she writes to them.

06.04.21 – 4i, 4ii & 4iii & 13.05.21 – 3 – Southern Water (SW) issues. The Deputy Clerk advised that she has only reported possible foul water to SW, but no reply has been received, despite several chasers. Cllr. Riddle advised of other issues and said that SW did have a look at the drain cover and repaired a pipe ten yards further east. Cllr. Riddle advised that, after complaining, a SW Engineer promised to put a camera down the pipe to check it. Cllr. Riddle will go to site when they are there. He will keep the Committee informed.

06.04.21 – 5 – Cllr Riddle would like to propose that a new willow tree be planted to replace willows that have been removed. The Deputy Clerk advised that Rivermead is a habitat for water voles and as willow trees drain a lot of moisture, consideration should be given to the water voles, which are protected by law. After some discussion, Members **RESOLVED to AGREE** to this proposal and **AGREED** that Cllrs. Riddle & Hunt could arrange for one willow tree to be planted in the Autumn, away from the footpath, so it won't overhang. Cllr. Hunt will be able to get a willow tree donated.

06.04.21 – 6 & 13.05.21 – 4 - Cllr Riddle would like to propose that nearby residents are written to again regarding the dumping of vegetation and rubbish. Members **RESOLVED to AGREE** that the Deputy Clerk should put something on social media regarding this, stating what the objectives are for the area and at the same time asking for volunteers.

13.05.21 – 5ii – dumping of screened untreated sewage into the River Arun. Members stated that this matter was not in the Parish Council's remit and the Parish Council do not have powers to deal with this issue.

8. ALLOTMENT HOLDER REQUEST

Members received an allotment holder request to increase their plot – the plot holder has already extended the plot – after some discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to this request. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the additional size will not alter the rental amount.

9. PARISH COUNCIL PESTICIDE USE

Cllr. Hunt would like to discuss the Parish Council's use of pesticides, looking at where pesticides are used and why as she feels they are damaging to wildlife and people. Some members stated that if the pesticides are applied correctly, any risk is minimal. It was pointed out that the contractor used by the Parish Council has the correct credentials and the Parish Council's Groundsman has received specific training for the use of pesticide spraying.

The Deputy Clerk advised Members what ground treatments were currently carried out by the Contractor.

After much discussion, Members requested that the Deputy Clerk find out what the Groundsman uses pesticides for and where, which will be brought back to another meeting to look at other options.

It was also suggested that the Groundsman may need refresher training, the Deputy Clerk will check when training was received and report back.

10. HORSHAM MATTERS REQUEST

Horsham Matters requested to use the sports pavilion car park every Thursday 10am -11.30am for a mobile foodbank alongside information and signposting. The Deputy Clerk advised Horsham Matters to check that they could access the car park with the foodbank vehicle, which they did, and access is fine. Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to this request.

11. PLANTING A TREE ON THE MAIN RECREATION GROUND

Cllr. Hunt requested to plant a copper beech tree on the recreation ground in memory of Cllr. C Esdaile. Cllr. Hunt advised that the tree will be donated and will not need to be maintained by the Parish Council. Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to this request, but requested that the location is mindful of the Groundsman's mowing areas. Cllr. Hunt will speak to the Groundsman to decide a suitable location and the tree can be planted in the Autumn.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Recreation Reports

Termly reports from SCYP. Copied to Committee.

Aquacare – Legionella Risk Assessment at Sports Pavilion

Risk assessment report – no remedial works required. Copied to Committee.

Sussex Wildlife Trust

Response from the Landowner Advisor on the Parish Council's request to take over the maintenance of Rivermead Nature Reserve. Copied to Committee.

Publications

- SDNPA April, May & Spring newsletter.
- Wey & Arun April & May e-newsletter.
- Countryside Voices – Spring 2021

13. PAYMENTS RESOLVED

Members approved the following payments and were signed by two authorised signatories.

Mr F Bushby	20.00
Kompan Ltd (from MSF/Playground EMR)	10,611.36
Studio 5 (from Sports Pav Refurb)	500.00
Viking	293.69
Business Stream	182.23
Business Stream	473.65
Business Stream	8.31
Aquacare Ltd	240.00
Plumber on Tap	102.00
George Potbury Forestry Ltd	144.00
Pulborough Social Cte	41.82
Kent County Council	114.47
Kent County Council	1,075.41
Laker Builders Merchant	17.99
West Sussex County Council	6,145.03
Wesley's Window Cleaning	216.00
National Westminster Bank	3.50
Daisy Communications	27.67
HDC	12.40

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

.....CHAIRMAN

.....DATE