



**PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL**  
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**MINUTES OF THE  
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE  
HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM AT PULBOROUGH SPORTS PAVILION  
ON THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2024**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Hunt (Chair), Lee (Vice Chair), Curd, Court, Ellis-Brown, Esdaile, and Marcuson.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs Beverly Nobbs (Deputy Clerk) and one representative of the Bowls Club and one representative of the Cricket Club

*The meeting opened at 7.30 pm.*

**97. APOLOGIES FOR THE ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and reasons approved for Cllr Martin, (Personal Commitment) and Cllr Clarke (Work Commitment)

**98. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CHANGES TO REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest or changes to the Register of Interests made.

**99. MINUTES**

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chair signed them.

**100. PUBLIC SPEAKING**

The Chair welcomed a representative from the Cricket Club and a representative from the Bowls Club. It was **RESOLVED** that the matters would be discussed in the Club Reports agenda item.

**101. RECREATION CLUB REPORTS**

The Chair welcomed the two clubs and their representatives.

Pulborough Bowls Club is up and ready for the new season but will have to delay as the green is too wet, expenses remain an issue they have had to buy new machinery for the coming season.

The lease has not yet been signed, as the Bowl Club Management cannot agree to some conditions. The previous lease stated the Bowls Club should take care of the maintenance of the buildings unless it was something major. The Parish Council was supposed to deal with major issues suffered by the building. The Bowl's Club

approached the council to report that the roofs were leaking (2011) and needed maintenance, however, the work was not completed. The building deteriorated into such a state of disrepair that it needed to be demolished and replaced. The Parish Council was approached again but at that time advised it did not have the funds to replace it. The building was built in 1952 and housed the toilets and changing rooms for the Bowls Club.

Members of the Bowls Club collectively bought materials and demolished part of the old building, what remains of the building now has a roof over it to preserve it. The new lease states that the maintenance is still the responsibility of the Bowls Club which cannot be correct as the building belongs to the Parish Council.

Also, according to the new lease, the Bowls Club cannot have a flagpole. The representative from the Bowls Club highlighted that there is a flagpole on the site, which has been there since 1952. A Council member advised that this is likely to be 'grandfathered' in so allowed to remain.

The representative of the Bowls Club was asked to provide a list of their grievances and a meeting will be arranged to sit down and discuss them. The Clerk is to advise the Solicitors that the signing of the lease is currently on hold. Discussions will resume after April 1<sup>st</sup> when there is a new budget.

The representative of the Cricket Club reported the costs have risen for them but they have been successful in securing funding to help with this. The Club is now back in the league and will cover the maintenance of the square. Councillors recognised that this is very important for the Club's success.

The extension of the Football Club's season has forced the Cricket Club to postpone its first match until 26th May 2024 which leaves the Club with only fourteen matches to play this season; seven of which will be played at home in Pulborough.

The Stoolball Club has confirmed the Club's fixtures for the coming season, but the Cricket Club has advised the Stoolball Club that no part of the cricket square can be used for stoolball this season.

There needs to be a discussion with all of the clubs on how to best set out the field.

The Cricket Club asked that the Parish Council look at somewhere for tea & coffee/refreshments to be provided as they are not part of the Sports & Social Club any longer.

It was mentioned that due to the cricket nets installation the junior football pitch is getting flooded; the Parish Council is looking at this and trying to come up with a solution.

Cllr Lee gave a brief update on the football club which has requested a storage area for their football nets and poles.

#### **102. NUTBOURNE COMMON RECREATION GROUND.**

Members received an update from the Deputy Clerk on the ownership of the Bridleway next to Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground as some owners wish to site 'No Parking Signs' there. The Deputy Clerk advised that the bridleway is owned by WSCC. Cllr Marcusson will now feed this information back to Nutbourne Residents Association. Permission for the signs will have to be sought from WSCC.

#### **103. COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT UPDATE & WORKING GROUP PROPOSAL**

Members received an update on the progress of the Community Allotment from the Deputy Clerk. The team of volunteers led by Nichola and Maria have been working

hard and our groundsman Fred has cleared the fence and the ditch next to the Community Allotment of nettles. A very kind volunteer, collected pallets from Worthing which will be used as raised beds. Nichola has proposed that we ask local businesses to sponsor a raised bed for £100 and the sides can then be used as advertising for them. Lakers Builders Merchants are already interested in this initiative as is The Pulborough Exchange. The volunteers have also collected various plant pots and canes donated by New Place Nurseries which would otherwise have ended up in landfill. There has also been an offer from a gentleman with a mini digger to dig over the plot which has been arranged for Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The Working Group proposal will now be dealt with by Full Council.

#### **104. YOUTH SPORTS PROVISION**

Cllr Hunt and Cllr Lee provided an update on the provision of a youth club in Pulborough.

Cllrs Hunt and Lee had a meeting with Gareth Miller who runs Renegades, a successful youth club in Wisborough Green. He has team members who help with fundraising although Cllrs highlighted that Horsham District Council has funds to spend on youth provision. A meeting with Mr Miller is being set up with the Clerk and Parish Council Chair as well as Cllrs Hunt and Lee to review a proposal for Pulborough youth activity. It is possible that Cousins Way could be used as a space for things like campfires and outdoor events.

#### **105. POSSIBLE INCURSION ONTO PULBOROUGH RECREATION FIELD**

To consider a request from a concerned resident who has made the Parish Council aware that despite the protective measures there remain two entry points where access can still be obtained into the recreation field.

There was a discussion about the emergency exit needing to have a label of some kind.

The Chair allowed the Cricket Club representative, to speak. The Cricket Club is very concerned about damage to the cricket square if travellers come on the recreation field, even if they are evicted within 24 hours, as this could force them to cancel a league match for which they would be fined.

Members **RESOLVED** that the Deputy Clerk should obtain more 'Bollards' for the entry points to be installed before the Easter Holidays.

#### **106. PLAYGROUND INSPECTION COMPLAINT**

Members **NOTED** the outcome of the complaint made to KOMPAN regarding the timescale of the repair to Rectory Close. KOMPAN will give us a further two inspections one in March and another in June at both sites, free of charge. The invoice has now been paid.

#### **107. COMMUNITY ART EVENT – MAY HALF-TERM**

Members **RATIFIED** the Community Art Event planned for Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024. This is an initiative brought to us by Horsham District Council, the art produced will be used as part of a larger collage celebrating fifty years of Horsham District Council.

#### **108. TRACTOR SHED AND ALLOTMENT SECURITY**

Members discussed security concerns.

#### **109. SKATE EVENT**

Members considered holding a further Skate Event in the May half-term. If this event is successful Pulborough Parish Council will look at running it quarterly for the children of the Parish.

Members **RESOLVED** to go pursue the Skate Event

#### 110. PAYMENTS

Members **RESOLVED** approval of the Payments List, which was duly signed by two, authorising members, comprising the following payments:

Association of Parish Councils Aviation Group	£100.00
Laker Builders Merchants	£13.87
KCS Procurement Services	£62.69
Howdens	£16.45
Howdens	£86.24
Sport Play Ltd	£178.78

***Meeting Closed at 8.32pm***

.....CHAIRMAN

.....DATE