

GREAT LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Recreation & Environment Committee, held on Tuesday 12th April 2005, at the Parish Office, Neath Hill.

PRESENT: Cllr Allum, (Chair), Cllr Wright, Cllr Byfield, Cllr Stabler, Cllr Lovesy, Cllr Perrott, Cllr S Williams, Cllr Williamson.

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr A Williams, Cllr Morsley.

2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: There were no declarations

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: It was proposed by Cllr Tripp and seconded by Cllr Byfield that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2005 be accepted as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

Newsletter: Delivery has been very poor, awaiting an explanation from the Citizen.

5. DOWNS BARN SPORTS FACILITY:

Lighting: Still awaiting a quote from Milton Keynes Council, for lights on each corner of the building.

Vandalism: The pavilion was broken into over the Easter weekend, entry was forced by breaking the upstairs balcony door. No further damage was done.

X Factor Leisure: A letter has been received advising that the quote for wooden flooring is £2,600. Clarification is required as to whether the pavilion may be used for sun beds and beauty related activity. It was agreed that whilst the Parish Council fully supported the proposed dance classes and possible youth group, there was no possibility of accommodating the beauty side of the proposition. The reason being, that the limited available space needs to be retained for varied uses by other groups. Parish Manager will reply to letter.

6. MARSH DRIVE SPORTS FACILITY:

Cllr Williamson had met with Ray Dark (Parks Trust), and advised that the adjacent paddocks are not suitable to be used as additional football pitches, they had however looked at an area of grass on the opposite side of Marsh Drive. This could possibly be used as a small football pitch/training area, but would require joint use of the Memorial Hall car park. It was agreed that the Memorial Hall Committee be asked for their comments and that a formal letter will be sent to the Parks Trust. Milton Keynes Council have supplied a map of the Childrens Millennium Wood and adjacent area. Cllr Williamson advised that he feels a full sized football pitch could possibly fit into the area of meadow currently managed for wildlife. Parish Manager will write to Milton Keynes Council regarding this piece of land.

7. HIGH STREET FACILITY:

Trees: Cllr Wright had been to the Buckingham Nursery and inspected their stock of trees. It is felt that probably a broad leaf tree would be more suitable as a mix with the existing Chestnuts, nursery will advise of suitable varieties. There may be a need

to thin the chestnuts in the avenue and there was discussion as to whether the circle should be replanted as phase one, followed by thinning as necessary and replanting of the avenue.

8. RESERVE SITE-SANDY CLOSE: Milton Keynes Council have advised that the landscape depot is currently leased to the police. We are awaiting details of the terms of that lease.

9. PLAY AREA-GIBBWIN, GREAT LINFORD: Bernard Perkins (MKC) has advised that he would like to remove a swing in this area, for amongst other reasons, that it does not comply with current European regulations. It was agreed that before the Council agree to this Councillors will inspect the swing and report back to Full Council.

10. ALLOTMENTS: Cllr Perrott advised that the current fencing on the redway side of the Gifford Gate site, at 5ft does not stop intruders. The problem has been made worse by the severe cutting back of the hedges on the redway.

11. CLEANLINESS OF PARISH: The list of questions regarding cleanliness, has been sent to Martin Small (MKC) and he has advised that he is preparing the answers. He is also trying to arrange a meeting of the heads of Cleansing, Landscape and Highways and the Parish Council.

12. LOCAL CENTRES:

Giffard Park: The general store and take away shop were severely damaged by fire early today. It is not known at this time how long the facilities will be out of use. There are no other reported incidents.

Great Linford: Following complaints about rubbish, Douglas Duff have advised the Parish Council that they are no longer the managing agents of this site. Parish Manager is trying to contact the new agents.

Neath Hill: Douglas Duff have advised that the costs incurred by the clock repairs and maintenance are paid for from the service charges. They also confirm that there is communications equipment in the tower for which payment is received, but at the moment have not confirmed what this amount is.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Loriner Place: Cllr Wright asked about maintenance of this area. This is currently still owned by Milton Keynes Council and mowing etc is their responsibility.

Hedges in St Ledger Drive: Cllr Lovesy asked whether we had been informed of the reason for the severe cutting back of some of the trees and shrubbery. Whilst the Landscape Dept have already been asked this question, no reply has yet been received.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th May 2005.

The Meeting closed at 9. 29pm.