

# GREAT LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Recreation & Environment Committee, held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2006, at the Parish Office, Neath Hill.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Allum, (Chair), Cllr Byfield, Cllr Tripp, Cllr Stabler, Cllr S Williams, Cllr Perrott.

**Items 1, 2 & 3 were taken by Cllr Stabler, the remainder by Cllr Allum**

**1. APOLOGIES:** Cllr A Wright, Cllr B Morsley, Cllr A Williams.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS:** There were no interests declared.

**3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** It was proposed by Cllr Tripp and seconded by Cllr Stabler that the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July be signed as a true record.

**4. PRESENTATION BY EVERYDAY ACTIVITY CO-ORDINATOR:**

Kirsty Heath attended and explained her role as Everyday Activity Co-ordinator. This is a three year post and the work is in conjunction with the Primary Care Trust, The Parks Trust and the Sports Development team at Milton Keynes Council. The aim is attracting primarily adults to take part in activities such as walks, cycling etc. The Parish Council agreed to promote any activities in the Parish by notices on our boards and website. The activities are park based and if we have any ideas, then Kirsty can be contacted on 07932 453759.

**5. MATTERS ARISING:**

**Loriner Place-Downs Barn:** We are now advised that our application to Section 106 funds does not meet the criteria, as it is to improve existing sites. This matter will be on the Full Council Agenda for a decision on how to proceed

**6. WREN GRANT FOR DOWNS BARN PLAY AREA:** Phil Snell attended and explained the grant application (not yet submitted). The grant to Wren (formerly Shanks Landfill Fund) is to refurbish the play area opposite Percheron Place, the planned work will extend, fence and provide new equipment at a cost of £25,000. If the grant is successful, then the Parish Council will need to find 10 –15% of the cost. The Parish Council was under the impression that any play area refurbishment would be made for with the S106 from the Beds Pilgrims development. Parish Manager will contact Steve Crowther with regard to this. Full Council will discuss this further.

**7. SEAT/SHELTER- NEATH HILL:**

The request for bus shelter has not been successful, however the Parks Trust have agreed to replace all the corrugated plastic sheets on the pergola. It was agreed that a recommendation be made to Full Council to purchase a seat (like the one by the Co-op), at a price of £356 (plus fittings and carriage + £50 installation). Cllr Stabler agreed that the £205 held by the Parish Council and donated by the defunct Residents Association, could be used towards this project.

**8. TREE SURGERY:** Parish Manager has met with Salcey Arbocare and has quotes to carry out work at Marsh Drive. We are advised by Salcey Arbocare (also by MKC), that all chestnuts at Marsh Drive and the High Street are diseased and have a maximum life span of 2-3 years. The suggestion is a programme of felling and replacement with possibly Oaks. With regard to the Marsh Drive trees the recommendation to Full Council is that £6,245 be spent to reduce the conifers (alongside Andrewes Croft) by 30%. The rest of the hedgerow along the right hand side of the sports field to be crown raised b to 3 metres and two days at day rate to be allocated to fell diseased chestnuts (we await confirmation from Salcey Arbocarere as to how many trees they can take down in two days).

**9. ALLOCATION OF CRICKET PITCHES:** There had been problems this year with trying to accommodate the needs of all clubs. Both of the clubs using the High Street have indicated that they would like them for the 2007 Season, both clubs at Marsh Drive will have two teams each next year and if they all continue to play on Saturdays then they cannot be accommodated. It was agreed that New City would be offered all Saturdays and that Jenny will speak to MK Air and offer them Sundays, if this is not acceptable, then to work with Milton Keynes Council to try and find them another venue.

**10. NOMINATION FOR URBAN REPRESENTATIVE FOR CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD DELIVERY GROUP:**

It was agreed not to make any nominations from this Parish Council.

**11. DOWNS BARN FACILITY:**

**Grants for Court Refurbishment:** Milton Keynes Council have not yet heard for definite whether the grant application has been successful.

**12. MARSH DRIVE FACILITY:**

**Replacement Goal Posts:** It was agreed last year that a second pitch would have new goal posts this year and money was allocated in the 2006/7 Budget. Proposed by Cllr Stabler and seconded by Cllr Tripp that a pair of posts and nets be purchased, the cost is approx £626 including fitting (exactly the same as last year). This to be recommended to Full Council.

**Development Meeting:** A very successful meeting had been held with representatives from all user groups, the Parish Council, groundsman and caretaker. A wish list was compiled and Jonathon Lee (MKC), is working with the Parish Manager to price the work. A further meeting will be held in October.

**13. HIGH STREET FACILITY:**

**Request for Hedge to be cut:** Resident had asked that the Parish Council cut back the hedge alongside their property. RJS had inspected and advised that the cost would be £50. It was proposed by Cllr Tripp and seconded by Cllr Williams that this be accepted, all agreed.

**14. ALLOTMENTS:**

**Bells Meadow Site:** The outer hedge is in need of a further cut back. RJS has submitted a price of £150. There is money in the budget for extra maintenance. It was proposed by Cllr Tripp and seconded by Cllr Stabler that the quote be accepted. All agreed.

**Sandy Close Reserve Site:** Parish Manager has met with Steve Crowther with regard to the Section 106 allocation of £45,000 from the Stantonbury Park Farm Development for the provision of allotments. He is happy to support this being used to develop the reserve site at Sandy Close. Currently a letter has been sent to all residents reminding them of the sites purpose and that it will be developed in the near future.

**15. LOCAL CENTRES:**

**Blakelands & Giffard Park:** Cllr Tripp reported that Phil Snell (MKC), had advised him that the Blakelands bandstand will be repaired shortly, the play items will be painted and a new safety surface. The play area at the rear of the Giffard Park pub is also to receive some upgrading.

**Citizens:** Cllr Tripp had discovered a large pile, the Citizen had taken 12 days to remove.

**Trees-Wedgewood Avenue:** Complaints from residents Nos 37-43 about the size of the trees outside their properties. Landscape Department will be contacted.

**Downs Barn:** There have been tremendous problems with a large group of young people in the area of the shop. A public meeting had been called last week, to which the police had attended. Officers had advised residents that they must report all incidents and obtain an URN number, this will help when applying for ASBOS and Dispersal orders.

**16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** There were no other items for discussion.

**17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2006

**The Meeting closed at 9.25pm**