

**MINUTES OF RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE HELD
WEDNESDAY 14th April 2010
AT THE CHAPEL ROOM, SOUTH END 7.30pm.**

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE: Mr Webb (Chairman) Mr White, Mr Hallett, Mr Geraghty, Mr Clarke, Mr Bunton, Mr Freeman, Mr McNulty, Mr Haigh
Members of the Public: 1

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None were received.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th February 2010, copies previously distributed, were agreed a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

KNUTSFORD ROAD STREAM –The Chairman reported that 25 Blackthorn and 25 Hawthorn shrubs had been purchased and planted.

REPLACEMENT DOG WASTE BIN –Mr Dickerson had agreed to install the dog waste bin on the Recreation Ground.

PARKING ON RECREATION GROUND –The Chairman had spoken to the police about bollards. They advised that it was not their responsibility to provide cones and suggested the Parish Council apply to the County Council. There would be a charge of £50 per cone. The Chairman would speak to County Cllr Mrs Oliver. Mr Geraghty advised that there had been a parking problem in Knutsford Road the previous weekend, where cars were parked on the pavement causing an obstruction for the wheelchair users of the Papworth Trust properties. Mr Haigh confirmed that the junior footpath club had issued information about parking at the Village College to visiting teams. He would reiterate this at the next junior club committee meeting. The key holders for the recreation ground gates were then discussed. It was agreed that, in addition to the Chairman, keys should be held by Mr Bunton and Mr Geraghty.

*-Mr
Webb*

CORRESPONDENCE

SOUTH END PLAY AREA –An e-mail had been received from a resident of The Tanyard about the lack of play equipment in the play area and whether there were any plans to update the existing.

Mr Webb advised that the swings should be back in use soon as the correct chains had been received from SMP. He suggested painting the metal equipment which would make it look better. Mr Bunton added that he had also been approached by parishioners but didn't realise how much the equipment cost. It was agreed the Chairman obtain quotations for painting the equipment with epoxy paint. It was suggested the resident be reminded that there was another play area in Elbourn Way which had a selection of play facilities for older children.

-Clerk

UPDATE ON THE ROUSES

The application for planning permission for change of use had been submitted to the District Council (application number S/0439/10/F). Once this had been approved this project could be progressed.

RECREATION GROUND MAINTENANCE

DIP ON FOOTBALL PITCH –There were plans to replace the mains water pipe in the near future. It was suggested that while the equipment was on the recreation ground, the dip could be filled then. It was noted this would have to be after the football season. The Chairman advised that there was a roller in the Pavilion which could be used. Mr Clarke expressed concerns over the work. Mr Bunton confirmed that the ground disturbance would be kept to a minimum.

SOUTH END RECREATION GROUND GRASSCUTTING 2010 –Two quotations had been received. Buchans had quoted £55.00+VAT and Bullards £90+VAT. The committee agreed that Buchans would be awarded the contract for 2010. All grasscutting contracts would be up for renewal in 2011. The contractors to be asked for the recreation ground to be cut on a Thursday or Friday during the primary growing season, depending on whether there was football or cricket being played.

SALE OF GANG MOWERS –Mr Bunton reported that the mowers had been sold to Ware Cricket Club for £400. A lower offer of £300 had also been received. The Chairman thanked Mr Bunton for all his efforts arranging the sale. They would be removed from the Parish Council Asset Register and

insurance.

MOLES IN SOUTH EAST CORNER OF RECREATION GROUND –Moles were still causing a problem. The Clerk was urged to arrange for their removal as soon as possible.

-Clerk

WEEKLY SAFETY REPORTS

The weekly reports were still highlighting a problem with the South End spring rocker, chain wear on the swings and damage to the ramp on the Fortune Way mini adventure course. The Chairman confirmed he had looked and felt that the equipment was rickety rather than dangerous. Mr Bunton advised that he was trying to find a five sided allen key which would fit the spring locker. He would then be able to tighten the bolt. Mr Hallett agreed to see if he could purchase a key through Playdale.

*-Mr
Hallett*

PAVILION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Chairman advised that before any updating of the Pavilion was carried out, the committee were waiting to find out whether the future plans for the Pavilion were progressed. A lot of work needed to be done to bring the building up to standard. Mr Freeman confirmed that he had been approached by officials over this, especially with concerns over the changing rooms. It was stated that a meeting to decide the future would be held following the Parish Council election. Mr White confirmed that he had the plans drawn up by the Architect, David Cousans a few years ago. A brief discussion took place on possible funding sources with the committee acknowledging that most of this would be related to sport for children. Mr Hallett stated that even if everyone was 100% support for an extension, there would still probably be work needed to be done on the Pavilion in the short term. The Clerk advised that the Pavilion future was on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting on the 21st April 2010.

PARISH PATHS

Mr Hallett reported that a problem with the trees on footpath 6 had been discussed at the Finance and General Purposes committee meeting. Nothing could be done at the present time as the birds were nesting. There was also the question of who owned the land the footpath ran over. Mr Bunton confirmed that he was still trying to get some wood chippings to put on footpath 7.

*-Mr
Bunton*

FINANCIAL POSITION

The Clerk agreed to produce a report on the income and expenditure against budget for 2009/10.

-Clerk

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

FORTUNE WAY TREES –The Chairman asked the Clerk to remind the District Council Tree Officer, Roz Richardson that the stumps from the trees removed in the Autumn still needed to be ground out. She had also agreed to replace with two trees, an Ash and Ornamental Ash. Separately she had agreed to supply five english variety trees for the recreation ground along the stream.

-Clerk

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

16th June 2010

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm

**MINUTES OF RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE HELD
WEDNESDAY 16th June 2010
AT THE CHAPEL ROOM, SOUTH END 7.30pm.**

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE: Mr Webb (Chairman) Mr Hallett, Mr Geraghty, Mr Bunton, Mr Freeman, Mr McNulty, Mr Haigh, Mr Goater
Mrs Mead-Blandford (Parish Council)
Members of the Public: 1

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr Hallett, the Parish Council Chairman, opened the meeting and asked for nominations for Chairman. Mr Geraghty proposed Mr Webb, which was seconded by Mr Bunton. There were no other nominations. Mr Webb agreed to continue as Chairman.

CO-OPTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

It was agreed that Mr Freeman, Mr McNulty and Mr Haigh be co-opted, representing the sports clubs. Mr Goater was also co-opted as a Parish Council representative.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr Clarke.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th April 2010, copies previously distributed, were agreed a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

MOLES –The Clerk confirmed that the mole work had been carried out.

FORTUNE WAY TREES –The Chairman confirmed that he had drawn up a plan for the District Council Tree Officer, and as requested would forward it to her. Mrs Mead-Blandford asked the type of tree which would be used in the replanting. The Chairman confirmed that they would all be natural to this country.

*-Mr
Webb*

AGREE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference would be copied to members for approval at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

CAMBRIDGE WATER –The Chairman advised that a representative had contacted the Clerk to advise that a parishioner had reported a puddle of water on the Recreation Ground. On investigation it looked as if this was where the leak was. Cambridge Water had confirmed that they would repair the leak for free if required. Members agreed to give them the go-ahead rather than repair the pipe themselves, as discussed previously. The Chairman agreed to contact Cambridge Water to confirm.

*-Mr
Webb*

UPDATE ON THE ROUSES

The Chairman updated members on the planning requirements of the District Council for a flood risk analysis and archaeological investigation. He had obtained a quotation for a company to examine the site, which would cost £1500. If they were to find something, a full investigation would cost £10,000 to £20,000. This was a routine request and if the Parish Council did not comply with the request, planning permission for change of use could be refused. Mr Haigh advised that he had contacts in this field and would see if he could get a more affordable quotation for the preliminary investigation. A discussion then took place on whether to proceed with the project and the costs. Mr Hallett advised that there was £12,000 in the current budget for the year. Another large allocation was £10,000 for the repair of the football field but it was not sure how much that would cost. It was then agreed that the go-ahead should be given for the preliminary investigation. If something was found then the committee would have to reconsider the whole project.

Mr Haigh then advised that he had prepared a report regarding the Flood Risk Assessment. The Environment Agency map showed a local area east of the ditch prone to flooding every 100 years. The Environment Agency had advised that they would need to know more should a converted access be installed from the recreation ground to the Rouses. The Parish Council Solicitor had also recommended

that the Environment Agency be advised of the intentions.

RECREATION GROUND MAINTENANCE

DIP ON FOOTBALL PITCH –Mr Geraghty stated that it was now too late to carry out the necessary work before the football season. It had been agreed at a recreation ground meeting that the repair would happen at the beginning of May, as soon as the football season had finished. Mr Freeman added that he had been advised that the ground would take 3-4 months to recover. After further discussion it was agreed the work would be scheduled for the last week in April 2011. Mr Bunton agreed to work out the cost.

*-Mr
Bunton*

DESTROYED LITTER BIN –The Clerk advised that she had been contacted by a youngster owning up to the fire which caused the damage. She had advised how the accident had happened and had been very apologetic. Mr Webb proposed that the bin be replaced with a concrete bin, like the other bins on the recreation ground. The cost would be £310.00 plus VAT and installation. It was agreed the bin be purchased. Members then discussed the youngster's confession feeling it was commendable of her to own up. It was agreed that she be made aware of the replacement cost and suggest that as a contribution she join in the next village tidy up. Clerk to contact her.

-Clerk

POLICE BOLLARDS

The Chairman had been in contact with County Cllr Mrs Oliver regarding bollards. It was the intention to have 50 cones, which would be put out to stop selfish parking when matches were being played. The main area was the bend on Knutsford Road. If the cones could be obtained, it would be the responsibility of the clubs to put them out. Parking restrictions could not be enforced but if the parking problem persisted the PCSO would be asked to get involved. Mr Haigh confirmed that more people were parking at the Village College when junior matches were held.

WEEKLY SAFETY REPORTS

RoSPA REPORT 2010 –The Chairman agreed to look at the report, arrange for any urgent action, and report back at the next meeting.

*-Mr
Webb*

PAVILION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

PAVILION WORKING PARTY –The Chairman advised that a working party had been set up, through the Parish Council, to look at ways of improving the Pavilion or extending. All options and sites to be discussed. All the Parish Council members of the Recreation Ground committee had volunteered to be on the working party and he asked the other members whether they would join, which they agreed to do. The Chairman explained the history of setting up the group and confirmed that there was no funding in the budget for this financial year. Mr Hallett added that there was some potential funding which could be explored from the Huckle Trust and Section 106 monies. This would be a budget item for the 2011/12 financial year. The Chairman would call a meeting of the group in the near future for a general discussion on views. Mr Goater asked about the current position of the Pavilion. The Chairman confirmed that it was not falling down and could possibly be refurbished or extended. All options were possible.

*-Mr
Webb*

PARISH PATHS

Mr Hallett reported that he had attended a training course on Rights of Way with Mr Webb. He had since purchased a recommended text book which would be helpful. He then advised that he had inspected most of the village paths over the past couple of weeks. The only problem being Footpath 12 which ran across the triangle by the Doctors surgery, where the grass was long. This footpath was on the grasscutting schedule so a pathway should be cut. He would investigate further and advise the Clerk. Mr Bunton confirmed that he now had access to some chippings for footpath 7. Access to the path was discussed and Mr Geraghty agreed to find out who had the key to the access gate from Saddleback Lane.

*-Mr
Hallett,
Mr
Geraghty
& Clerk*

FINANCIAL POSITION

A statement of income and expenditure against budget had been prepared by the Clerk who was asked to copy it out to members.

-Clerk

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

USE OF GROUND AND PAVILION –The user groups advised that they were fully affiliated again and would like to use the facilities for another year.

RECREATION GROUND FIRES –It was reported that the fire service had been called out to fires on the recreation ground the previous week, believed to have been started intentionally.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11th August 2010

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm

**MINUTES OF RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE HELD
WEDNESDAY 11th August 2010
AT THE CHAPEL ROOM, SOUTH END 7.40pm.**

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE: Mr Webb (Chairman) Mr Hallett, Mr Geraghty, Mr Bunton, Mr McNulty, Mr Haigh, Mr Goater, Mr Clarke
Mrs Vigus (Parish Council), Mr Nichols (Parish Council)
Members of the Public: 1

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr Freeman

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16th June 2010, copies previously distributed, were agreed a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

CAMBRIDGE WATER COMPANY –The Chairman advised that they had carried out the repair work and the problem with the leak appeared to have been cleared. The next utility bill should show the usage although the cricket club had used a fair amount of water this season, which would need to be taken into account.

LITTER BIN –The Clerk confirmed that she had advised the youngster concerned of the committee's decision and would let her know when the next village tidy would take place.

AGREE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Copies had been forwarded to members. It was proposed by Mr Geraghty, seconded by Mr Clarke that they remain the same. All members in agreement. The Chairman pointed out there was a typing error where £1,000 was shown as £1.000. The Clerk to correct.

-Clerk

CORRESPONDENCE

CHARITY TICKETS –It was advised that tickets for Charity Paintball had been received. These could be used for fund raising and groups holding an event could use them, for example, in a raffle. The tickets were held by the Clerk.

UPDATE ON THE ROUSES

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to the District Council officer responsible for the planning application, who was happy to keep it open while the two items raised were pursued. Mr Haigh advised that the Environment Agency did not think there was an issue regarding flooding. He agreed to get this view in writing from them. The Chairman advised that there was an error in the amount quoted at the last meeting for the archaeological investigation. It should have been £2,500 not £1,500. A further quotation had been received for a desk top investigation which would cost £1,585. The Chairman would see if this would be adequate. Due to the amounts of these quotations the expenditure would have to be agreed at the Finance and General Purposes committee meeting. Mr Hallett advised that there was a website which contained details of all archaeological investigations which had been carried out in the area. He would forward the link to the Chairman. The Chairman then advised that he would go back to County Farms regarding the stipulation of a chain linked fence as the District Council Conservation Officer had asked for the fence to be wooden. He stated that he hoped these points would have been cleared up by the next meeting.

-Mr Webb

RECREATION GROUND MAINTENANCE

DIP ON FOOTBALL PITCH –It was believed the length of the dip was around 50 metres. During the recent dry weather the grass had died in the area of the dip before that around it.

DECORATION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT –The Chairman advised that he had received one quotation for the decoration and was awaiting another. As the Parish Council were not in a position to replace the equipment he suggested it was painted. He confirmed the equipment on the Elbourn Way and Fortune Way play areas were in good condition as they were much newer. It was then agreed that expenditure on the decoration be approved up to a maximum of £695, if a second quotation was forthcoming. The Chairman to arrange for the work to be carried out.

-Mr Webb

TREE WORK RECREATION GROUND & KEFFORD CLOSE –A request for the trees by the Pavilion to be cut back was made by a Tanyard resident. The Chairman advised that the District Council Tree Officer had advised in Autumn 2009 that these trees did not require any action. The trees were a distance from the fences of the properties and the only problem she could see was a loss of light at a certain time of day. If the trees were cut back, there could be a problem in future years if regular cuts were made.

The Chairman and Mr Hallett had looked at the tree by number 11 Kefford Close which was a single tree outside the boundary on Parish Council land with some dead branches but only one branch overhanging the garden. The Chairman suggested a contractor be asked to remove the dead wood. It was agreed that expenditure be approved up to a maximum of £250. The Clerk was asked to arrange.

-Clerk

ELBOURN WAY STREAM CLEAR UP –The Chairman advised that the houses backed onto a ditch and both sides were now covered in brambles and growth. It was feared that if not cleared there could be a problem with flooding. Mr Hallett stated that he had not seen any water in the ditch and suggested it be inspected during wet weather. It was suggested that a working party could clear the growth but it was stated it was too thick. It was agreed that committee members would look before the next meeting. The Chairman in the meantime would prepare a specification and get quotes for clearing along the hedge which he estimated would be two days work.

-Members

PARKING CONES

The Chairman had obtained the cost of parking cones which he advised was £5.24 +VAT per cone. He suggested that 30 cones be purchase at a cost of £157.20 +VAT. Mr Geraghty stated that the senior footballers never park in Knutsford Road. The Chairman advised that the cones would be there for everyone to use, not just the football clubs. It had been agreed with the teams that they would be responsible. Mr Hallett advised that the Church had yellow ‘no parking’ cones and a discussion took place on whether they would be better. It was then proposed by Mr Geraghty, seconded by Mr Bunton that the 30 cones be purchased. Mr Haigh asked if there was a trolley available to transport the cones to where they needed to be placed. It was advised that there was one in the shed which could be used.

-Mr Webb

WEEKLY SAFETY REPORTS

RoSPA REPORT 2010 –The Chairman advised that nothing had been highlighted in the report as ‘high risk’. He added that the committee needed to replace some of the equipment in the South End play area at some stage and this was why he had instigated the painting of the existing.

PAVILION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

This would be linked to the new Pavilion Working Group. The first meeting of the group was cancelled but a new date had been set.

COMPLAINT FROM TANYARD RESIDENTS

The complaint had been made at the last Finance and General Purposes committee meeting. Concerns were raised over the noise from footballs being kicked against the goalposts against the Pavilion. A request had been made for the goalposts to be moved or left out. It had also been suggested that shrubbery could be planted in front of the Pavilion. Mr Hallett suggested that the committee arrange some planting as a temporary measure to show they were trying to tackle the problem. A discussion took place on types of planting with mixed feelings from members. The Chairman then asked members to vote on whether or not they wanted some planting in front of the Pavilion. Four members voted against with two for. Mr Haigh stated that the problems raised would be taken into account by the Pavilion Working Group. The Chairman agreed to prepare a temporary sign ‘No Ball Games’ to put on the Pavilion.

-Mr Webb

PAVILION WORKING PARTY

A date for the first meeting had been set.

PARISH PATHS

Mr Hallett confirmed that the grass had been cut by Spring Lane surgery. Mr Bunton also confirmed that the chippings were available for the footpath by the Church and it was agreed that they would be put down at the end of the month. The Chairman and Mr Geraghty agreed to help.

*-Mr Bunton,
Mr Geraghty
& Mr Webb*

FINANCIAL POSITION

A statement of income and expenditure against budget had been prepared by the Clerk. Mr Hallett asked for this item to be moved up the agenda so that members were aware of the committee’s financial

position before any expenditure was approved.

Mr Bunton confirmed that the path by Wellhead, to the end of the clunch pit, had been cut by Mr Robinson and him. Thanks were made.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none for discussion.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

20th October 2010

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm

**MINUTES OF RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE HELD
WEDNESDAY 20th October 2010
AT THE CHAPEL ROOM, SOUTH END 7.30pm.**

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE: Mr Webb (Chairman) Mr Hallett, Mr Haigh, Mr Goater, Mr Clarke, Mr Freeman
Members of the Public: 1

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr Geraghty

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th August 2010, copies previously distributed, were agreed a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

DECORATION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT –The Chairman advised that the play equipment had been painted. He had received the invoice from the contractor which he passed to the Clerk to arrange payment.

COMPLAINT FROM TANYARD RESIDENTS –The Chairman had an action to erect a sign which he would do. He added that the problem with balls should decrease during the winter months.

*-Mr
Webb*

CORRESPONDENCE

PARISH COUNCILLOR DISPENSATION –Following an enquiry to the District Council, Councillors had been advised to apply for a dispensation to allow them, as Trustees of the Recreation Ground charities, to take part in discussions. The District Council had now confirmed that the Standards Committee agreed to grant the dispensations to the fifteen Councillors. In future they needed to declare an interest in any matters concerning the charities by stating ‘I declare an interest as a Trustee of Bassingbourn Recreation Ground Charities, for which I have been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee’. The Clerk was asked to include an item at the beginning of the meeting for the declaration to be made.

-Clerk

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk copied the report to Councillors. The Chairman stated that the committee were keeping within their budget.

UPDATE ON THE ROUSES

The Chairman advised that at the last meeting the proposal to pay for a preliminary archaeological investigation was turned down. Other avenues were being explored but the Chairman wanted to keep the planning application alive and intended to discuss the requirement in detail with the District Council. Mr Freeman advised that he had spoken to an officer from Suffolk County Council who stated that they would have to carry out the same investigations on land if machinery was used. The Chairman explained the current status of the planning application and requirements and urged Mr Haigh to finalise the statement regarding the flood risk assessment, which he agreed to follow up the Environment Agency. Mr Hallett asked for a copy of the letter of requirements to be forwarded to the Clerk.

*-Mr
Webb &
Mr
Haigh*

REVIEW OF PAVILION HIRE FEES

The Chairman suggested that as things were likely to change, with the Pavilion, fees should not be increased for the next financial year. Mr Hallett reminded members that the costs of the utility bills were increasing and there was also work being carried out to upgrade the showers. He proposed that a minimal increase be applied. After further discussion it was proposed by Mr Hallett, seconded by Mr Clarke that the fees be increased from £250 per annum to £265 per annum with effect from the 1st April 2011. This was agreed.

SOUTH END PARKING

The parking cones had arrived and would be moved for storage in the Pavilion for use at the weekends. They were larger and heavier than expected and would not need to be weighed down.

RECREATION GROUND MAINTENANCE

DIP ON FOOTBALL PITCH –Mr Freeman reported that he had been advised by a groundwork contractor that to topsoil and seed the affected area would only last for around three years. The Chairman suggested that the area be dug out and consolidated. A discussion took place on the water table and what might be found once the dug. Professional advice would need to be sought as to the best way to proceed. Members again agreed that they would like to complete the work between the last football game and the beginning of the cricket season. After further discussion Mr Freeman agreed to speak to his contact to see if he would be willing to advise members on the best way forward. Mr Hallett suggested that the ‘Playing Field’ magazine may also list professional people to contact for advice.

*-Mr
Freeman*

TREE WORK RECREATION GROUND & KEFFORD CLOSE –Two 20 ft replacement trees were scheduled to be planted on Fortune Way with six more along the stream on South End recreation ground. Mr Haigh expressed concern over the protection of the trees by the stream as some junior football was played nearby and he was worried about stray footballs. It was agreed the Clerk advise the District Council Tree Officer who was arranging the planting. The Chairman then advised that the bushes planted at the beginning of the year did not appear to be growing. Mr Haigh suggested this could also be the result of the football and agreed to let the youth football club know.

*-Clerk &
Mr
Haigh*

The Clerk was still to arrange the cutting back of the dead wood from the tree on Kefford Close.

ELBOURN WAY STREAM CLEAR UP –At the last meeting, members were asked to look at the stream behind the houses. Mr Hallett confirmed that he had looked. The stream was overgrown but there didn’t appear to be a lot of rubbish in there. It was felt that the stream could be cleared by a team of volunteers with the right equipment. The Chairman asked members to look at the area before the next meeting. Mr Hallett suggested Mr Bunton and Mr Robinson also be asked to look.

*-
Members*

WEEKLY SAFETY REPORTS

The Clerk advised that the latest inspection report highlighted a problem with an Elbourn Way swing. The Chairman advised that a ring on the newly installed swing had been forced out causing it to tilt. He had tried to put the ring back with no success but thought that it could be reinstated by two people. It was not considered a hazard in it’s present condition. Mr Hallett agreed to look at the swing with the Chairman.

*-Mr
Hallett
& Mr
Webb*

PAVILION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

A separate committee meeting had not been held prior to this meeting.

Mr Freeman expressed his concern over a recent incident in the home team changing room where the floor had been left awash with urine. He had checked both toilets to see if there was a leak, which there wasn’t. He then had to thoroughly clean the floor and shower before the teams could get in there. Mr Freeman confirmed that he always checked the Pavilion, hosing down the showers after each adult team game. He urged the junior club to ensure an inspection was made before leaving.

The Chairman thanked Mr Freeman for cleaning up stating that this was an internal matter between the two clubs. Mr Haigh agreed to find out who was responsible.

Mr Freeman then reported that the cricket club tea urn had failed an electrical inspection. The Chairman agreed to dispose of the equipment.

Finally Mr Freeman reported a lot of dog mess around the recreation ground which had to be cleared up before the football games could commence. Mr Haigh confirmed the same. It was agreed the Clerk prepare an item for the next Village Voice.

The football clubs agreed that they would now start to drain down the water following their use of the Pavilion to prevent the pipes freezing.

*-Mr
Webb,
Mr
Haigh &
Clerk*

PAVILION WORKING PARTY

Mr Goater reported that he had been investigating requirements for any extension/rebuild. He also now had a contact with Gamlingay Parish Council who were looking at the same type of project. Mr Hallett agreed to distribute a hand out on funding that he had received.

Mr Webb confirmed that the working party findings would be presented at the November Parish Council meeting.

PARISH PATHS

Mr Hallett reported that the path from Guise Lane through Bassingbourn Barracks had been the subject of discussion at the Parish Council meeting. It was not a public path but the piece from the pumping station to the gate of the Barracks could be registered. He suggested that it was worthwhile following that up. Major Irvine, from Bassingbourn Barracks, had advised that there had been ‘difficult’ confrontations with elderly members of the public about the right of way to Whaddon. They had told the

Barracks that they would take up the issue with South Cambs planners. The meeting was made aware in case there was a complaint made to the Parish Council.

Mr Goater then advised that he had received an enquiry recently from a parishioner wanting to use a motorised buggy on the footpaths. Mr Hallett confirmed that there was no requirement to make every footpath accessible as some were field edge footpaths. He added that on the public rights of way all the stiles but one had been removed and where necessary replaced by kissing gates. This had fulfilled requirements.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

RECREATION GROUND GRASSCUTTING –The Clerk had been asked by the contractor about the number of cuts from now onwards during the winter. It was agreed that after the next cut, the Chairman or Clerk be contacted if a further cut was required. Clerk to advise the contractor.

-Clerk

FORTUNE WAY OPEN SPACE –The Chairman advised that there had been a lot of rubbish dumped in the corner. Mr Hallett confirmed that this was as a result of the village tidy up and the conservation group were going to ask the District Council to remove it.

RESEEDING OF FOOTBALL PITCHES –Mr Freeman expressed his concern over an incident at the end of the last football season when he had spent a lot of his own money to tidy the pitch and re-seed the penalty area. He had seen some youths from the youth club with a trainer in the area, and pointed out the work he had carried out, and asked them to move which was refused. Mr Freeman stated that he would not carry out the work in future as it was not respected. The Chairman added that there was the same problem with the cricket club but as the recreation ground was a public area, there was nothing that could be done. A brief discussion on whether the Parish Council should take on the responsibility of maintaining the pitches took place.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

15TH December 2010

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm

**MINUTES OF RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE HELD
WEDNESDAY 15th December 2010
AT THE CHAPEL ROOM, SOUTH END 7.30pm.**

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE: Mr Webb (Chairman) Mr Hallett, Mr Clarke, Mr Freeman, Mr Geraghty, Mr McInulty
Members of the Public: 1

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr Goater, Mr Bunton

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

All Parish Councillors declared an interest as they were Trustees of the Recreation Ground Charity.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th October 2010, copies previously distributed, were agreed a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

PARKING CONES –Mr Freeman expressed concern over the storage of the cones in the Pavilion and suggested that they should be stored in the shed as they were a hazard. The Chairman agreed to move the cones.

-Mr Webb

CONSERVATION GROUP –Members were unsure whether the rubbish collected at the last village litter pick had been removed from Fortune Way. They would look.

- Committee

OPEN FORUM

There were no items raised for discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence for discussion.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk copied the report to Councillors.

BUDGET 2011/12 –Mr Hallett discussed the framework for the precept discussions advising that the precept would have to be approved at the Parish Council meeting on the 25th January 2011. Detailed discussion would take place at the Finance and General Purposes committee meeting on the 12th January 2011. A discussion took place on the Recreation Ground committee requirement which included £15,000 towards the upfront costs of the Pavilion project. Members agreed the proposed allocation would be sufficient.

UPDATE ON THE ROUSES

The Chairman reported that the District Council had agreed the archaeological survey was no longer required although the flood risk assessment, which Mr Haigh had agreed to prepare, was now urgent. Once this was available and planning permission granted, the project could proceed. It was hoped this work would commence in March 2011. The Chairman reminded members that one quotation for the clearance work had been received to date. Mr Geraghty agreed to try and obtain another.

-Mr Geraghty & Mr Haigh

RECREATION GROUND MAINTENANCE

DIP ON FOOTBALL PITCH –Mr Freeman reported that his contact discussed at the last meeting had advised he would not be able to help as it was too far to travel. Mr McInulty advised that he might have a contact at Bassingbourn Barracks who could manage the project. Members of the committee would supply the labour and were reminded that there was only one more committee meeting before the earmarked date for the work to be carried out at the end of April 2011.

-Mr McInulty

ELBOURN WAY STREAM CLEAR UP –Members would look at the stream once the weather improved.

WEEKLY SAFETY REPORTS

There were no major problems highlighted.

PAVILION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

This report was covered under the following item.

PAVILION WORKING PARTY

The Chairman reported that at the recent Parish Council meeting, he had made a presentation of three options and it was agreed that the working party look at a new build. As reported under the budget discussions £15,000 would be included to cover the upfront costs such as architect fees and planning consents. Mr Geraghty queried the need for a project manager and felt that any builder should work to architect plans. The Chairman advised that the project manager would be responsible for grant applications as well adding that this was a time consuming job. Mr Geraghty believed that he might know someone interested and agreed to make enquiries. The Chairman agreed to arrange a meeting with Bridget Smith, who was involved with a similar project in Gamlingay, for members of the working group to attend.

-Mr Webb

VILLAGE GRASSCUTTING 2011- 2013

The Clerk was asked to forward copies of the specifications used in 2008 to the Chairman and Mr Hallett to review before sending out to contractors. A decision would be made at the next Recreation Ground committee meeting.

*-Mr Webb,
Mr Hallett
& Clerk*

PARISH PATHS

Mr Hallett advised that at some stage the legal position regarding the path from Guise Lane to the Barracks would need to be confirmed.

PATH THROUGH VILLAGE COLLEGE – A request for assistance in closing the footpath across the Village College had been received from Mrs Isherwood, Premises Manager, Bassingbourn Village College. It was stated that the only authorities that could close this Right Of Way would be the County Council and Secretary of State. A discussion took place on proposed rabbit fencing that was taking place on the ground. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk reply to Mrs Isherwood stating that the closure of the Right of Way was not within the power of the Parish Council as there was a legal process to go through. The Village College concerns were sympathised with but Councillors also had to take the concerns of users of the path into consideration so therefore could not support any application to close the path.

-Clerk

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business raised.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

16th February 2011

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm