



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Land Assets Management Sub-Committee Meeting held on
Friday 5th September 2014**

**Present: Chairman
Councillors**

**Cllr Jan Holben (JH)
Robert Bliss (RB),
and Nina Bliss (NB)
G Thomas**

Assistant Parish Clerk

The meeting commenced at 1.30pm

No members of the public attended

Chairman Bliss Proposed co-opting Cllr Nina Bliss onto the LAM Committee for the duration of the meeting

Proposed RB

Seconded JH

1. **Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Tim Prater and Richard Grundy
2. **Declarations of Interest** – there was none.
3. **Minutes** – The Minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2014 were submitted; it was proposed that they be approved and signed as a correct record.
Proposed by: Cllr R Bliss
Seconded by: Cllr J Holben
Agreed unanimously

4. Recreation Ground

- 4.1 **Muga update:** Cllr JH said that she had read the Parish Clerk's summary of the meeting with Chris Walker on the MUGA site and she felt that the Parish Clerk had made a very salient record of the meeting. Cllr JH said that Steve Way (SW) had now been asked to write a report about the on-going problems on the MUGA and to make recommendations of further actions

Chairman Bliss said that he would like to establish the council's legal position with regard to withholding the final portion of payment to Walker.

Cllr JH asked for the Parish Clerk to contact SW and ask him if he felt that an independent grounds expert was required to inspect the site as suggested by C Walker. If so, the Parish Clerk was to ask SW for a recommendation of one and also to check any possible cost implications to the Parish.

Cllr JH said that the chemical toilets have now been removed from the MUGA and that she was aware that some vandalism and alcohol use had been occurring on the recreation ground and that this had been reported to the PCSO.

The Assistant Clerk informed the committee that an email from Roger Joyce had been received on the 30th August about the proposed planting of a tree in the memory of Charles Bryant. The committee was told that different trees were appropriate to different areas of the recreation ground and the committee thought that it would be useful to get advice from Dave Sephton SDC's Arboricultural Manager on the most suitable tree for the bottom end of the Rec.

- 4.2 **Play equipment:** Handyman report was noted
- 4.3 **Fitness equipment:** Cllr JH said that this is being well used
- 4.4 **Caretaker's report:** The report had been previously circulated; everyone agreed that it was a good report.
- 4.5 **Purchase of 2 steel BBQs and 2 steel bins:** The Assistant Clerk informed the committee that Laura Pinkham who had made the BBQs for the Lower Leas Park was willing to provide some identical ones for the recreation ground at a cost of £1200. The councillors asked the Parish Clerk to get clarification of the cost whether it was it £1200 per set of bin and table, or for 2 bins/tables and also to establish, if SPC went with this option, was there any scope for some individualisation of the equipment to make it uniquely 'Sandgate.' It was agreed to have this as an agenda item for discussion at the next meeting.
- 4.6 **Modular unit / car park- update and agree future actions and receive residents' comments**

Cllr JH said that many emails had been received from residents expressing concern about the removal of the dog run; she said that they had been informed that the dog run was going to be 'moved' not 'removed'.

The committee discussed the different possible positions for the dog run and also the required number of parking places. Cllr JH said that she felt the best possible solution would be the position of the car park at the head of the dog run, with room for eight cars. This would minimise disruption and also be a viable solution.

The Parish Clerk was asked to contact Shepway Builders to ask them to visit the site and produce a specification and quote for the proposed work. There may be potential for putting the dog run or the car park on the grassed bank that runs parallel to the road. It was agreed that it would not be worth making changes to the dog run area unless a min of 8 cars could be accommodated there.

4.7 **Vandalism of the fencing:**

Cllr JH said that Giles Barnard had suggested a possible solution to the problem of youths climbing over the fence as a short cut. He had suggested using cleft chestnut paling fencing which is very difficult to climb.

Cllr JH said that a further suggestion would be to have the inside of the fencing as a wildlife area and that Kirk Alexander of the Wildlife Countryside Project may donate free thorny plants.

The Parish Clerk was asked to get quote for the erection of chestnut fencing inside the chain link fence for the full length left of, and up to the toilet block.

- 4.8 **Grounds Maintenance update** The committee read Vic Harmer's update of work carried out and Cllr JH asked that Vic should be instructed to weed killer the mare's tail on the tennis courts. The Parish Clerk was asked to inform Steve that this was being done and to confirm that it was appropriate so to do.

5. **Family Fun Day Review** Cllr JH told the committee that there had been very good feedback about the fun day and that the wrist bands had been a huge success.

The Parish Clerk was asked to provide final accounts for the Fun Day.

6. **War Memorial renovation review**

- 6.1 The Cllr R Bliss said that there was a need to expedite the Parish's application to Southeastern. Cllr Prater to be asked to summarise the granite paving project with measurements and photographs for submission to Southeastern.

- 6.2 Cllr JH said that the electrical boxes on the Saga wall are still in need of refurbishment and asked that the Parish Clerk contact Joy Evans from Saga to get this arranged.

7. **Sovereign Play Equipment- funding guide** – Cllr JH asked that the Assistant Clerk should investigate funding upgrade / replacement of the existing play equipment and the possible funding of 'challenging' play equipment.

8. **Beacon renovations** Cllr JH told the committee that Geoff Daniels had quoted to renovate the beacon for £250 and the committee all agreed.

9. **LAM/AEP budgets 2014-15** – The Parish Clerk was asked to forward these to the committee.

10. **Information** None

11. **Date of next meeting** TBC

The meeting ended at 2.25pm

Signed by the Chairman, Land Assets Management Sub-Committee

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Date.....