

Burwell Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Community, Leisure and Sport Group held on 17.8.2021

Present: Michael Swift (Chair), Helen McMenamin-Smith, Jim Perry, Liz Swift, and Paul Webb.

CL&S/170821/01 Apologies for absences and declarations of interests

Apologies for absence had been received from Jenny Moss, Gill Miller, and Geraldine Tate. There were no apologies for absence.

CL&S/170821/02 Approval of the minutes of the 22.6.21

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd June 2021 were approved. Proposed by Paul Webb and seconded by Helen McMenamin-Smith.

CL&S/170821/03 Action Sheet Updates including Westhorpe Play Area and initial marking out of football pitches

Michael Swift reported that the next Spring Close meeting is to be held on 6th September 2021. Some work has been carried out to trees by individuals. Some trees appear to be suffering from Ash Dieback, with one tree having fallen. Kevin Drane Tree Officer ECDC has advised to leave the trees at present, some smaller ones which are more vulnerable to the disease may be lost, but the larger trees which are more resilient may survive. Mr Nichols, member of the County Geological Team, has now suggested that the springhead is not repaired, but brambles could benefit being cut back prior to winter.

The hay cut has been carried out at both Spring Close and Pauline's Swamp.

Hopkins Homes have advised that they are now able to transfer the area of land to the Parish Council. Once the transfer has been completed there will be a lot of work to do. Live and dummy CCTV cameras have now been installed at the Pauline's Swamp. There has been some anti-social behaviour at the Swamp. Some new beehives have now been installed within the Swamp.

BAFY are currently running sessions at the Recreation Ground on a Wednesday evening and the sessions have been well attended. Sessions at the Day Centre restart in September. The cost to hire the Day Centre is quite expensive. The organisation could possibly be offered the use of the Gardiner Memorial Hall when work is completed, although storage may need to be considered. The next BAFY meeting is on Monday 23rd August 2021.

There is no update for the Community Orchard.

A meeting has been arranged for Thursday 19th August 2021 to discuss the Terms of Reference for the proposed Climate Change Forum.

Liz Swift reported that she had forwarded a copy of the Cycle Survey Results to members of the A to B1102 Group, who had found the document very interesting and useful. The Group have not held any meetings recently but has been in contact with both the Greater Cambridge Partnership and the Combined Authority. They have also written to Lucy Frazer MP and are trying to get a meeting with the Mayor of the Combined Authority. An opportunity had arisen to ask the Chair of ECDC why they had not agreed to join the Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership Group, but no reason was forthcoming.

CL&S/170821/04 Proposed Community Garden and Pound Hill – Update

A letter drafted by Jenny Moss requesting donations towards the Community Garden was approved for circulation. Helen McMenamin-Smith was thanked for the photo demonstrating where the benches and planters could possibly be situated on Pound Hill. An application for funding through the Welcome Back Fund has been submitted for the benches and planters on Pound Hill.

CL&S/170821/05 Use of Margaret Field for Football/Scouts

Following a meeting with the football clubs, Wayne Hardy (Mr Groundsman) had been asked for a quotation to carry out the initial marking of the football pitches at the Recreation Ground. Unfortunately, due to current work load he was unable to submit a quotation. The initial marking out the pitches could be included in the ground maintenance or grass cutting contract when they are renewed next year.

Swifts to be told that they can continue to mark out their pitch at a width of 64 m. The other clubs to be responsible for marking out their own pitches.

A meeting had been held with one of the Scout Leaders about the possibility of moving Forward the suggestion of a joint venture to provide a scout hut which can also be used as a football pavilion at the weekend. The Scouts currently have been £30,000 and £40,000 which could be used towards the cost of the building. 10 metres by 15 metres building with car park is likely to cost between £170,000 and £200,000 and could be situated next to the hedge. Paul Webb to approach the FA to see if such a building would be acceptable for footballers needs and if any funding is available. Paul Webb will also ask if a portaloos with hand washing facilities would meet the necessary requirements to allow junior football to be played on Margaret Field. Once we have heard back from the FA, initial draft sketches could be produced to acquire some pre planning advice from ECDC. It is hoped that if funding and permission allow the building of a pavilion, then the building could be connected to the mains.

An email had been received regarding the condition of the ground at Margaret Field, it is likely that work will need to be done to the field if football is to be played.

CL&S/170821/06 Donations for consideration

1. Rowan

A request for a donation had been made by the Rowan Charity. After some discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should find out if any residents from Burwell use the service and once has been found out, the request comes back to the group for further discussion

CL&S/210220/07 Tennis Court Security

Two possible options had been suggested to prevent youths climbing over the tennis court gate to gain access. The first suggestion from Cambridge Courts will cost in the region of £1413 plus VAT. The other quotation from Brian Marsh will cost in the region of £400.00. The Group agreed that this appeared to be a better option which will also utilize one of the existing fence panels.

The Group recommends to Full Council that Brian Marsh is asked to carry out work to the tennis court entrances as per his suggestion for a cost in a region of £400.00.

CL&S/170821/08 Any other business

East Cambs Youth Strategy

Liz Swift reported that she and Paul Webb had been to a meeting regarding the Youth Strategy and would continue attending the meetings in the future.

How Are You Website

The Clerk reported that the aim of the website was to advertise events and well being activities across the County. Pauline's Swamp and Spring Close could be added.

Carols around the Christmas Tree

It was agreed that this event should be held this year if possible. The suggested date being the 17th of December 2021. The Clerk to check to see if Newmarket Town Band could play. The event to be held on Pound Hill unless it rains when Mandeville Hall could be used. A Christmas Tree will need to be purchased. Liz Swift invited Councillors, Staff, and their families for a Christmas drink once the Carols are over.

CL&S/170821/09 Date of the next meeting – 19th October 2021

The next meeting will be held on 19th October 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.26 pm.

Signed

Dated