



# BOX PARISH COUNCIL

## THE MINUTES OF A REMOTE MEETING OF THE PLAYING FIELDS & PAVILION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD VIA ZOOM ON 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2020

**1. Present:** Councillors: M. Tye (Chairman); R. Smith;  
B. Walton; H. Parker; S. Parker; A. Woollard  
Mrs Carey (Clerk)

Mr. C. Priston (Box Bowls Club)

**2. Apologies:** Cllr S. Gould  
The apologies were accepted.

**3. Absent:** Cllr Clifford

**4. Public Question Time:** There were two members of the public present.

Mr Walton thanked the committee for the wonderful job that had been done on the Hawthorns in the allotments. He asked that a hole be drilled in the bottom of the litter bin by Mill Lane to stop the water collecting. He stated that there was still a problem with the metal on the allotment path.

Mrs Case reported that she had visited the Recreation Ground and seen a lot of dogs not on leads and stated that there was no problem with dog mess on Box Hill Common or the Rudloe Play area. She confirmed that the groundsmen do clear this up if they see it.

She disagreed with the previous comments re the Hawthorns and felt that this had been a terrible job and they should have been felled to the ground. Cllr Woollard agreed with this and also asked for the ivy to be removed from the trees. Mrs Case was willing to donate more trees if needed.

She reported that someone from the gardens is dumping garden rubbish on the allotments. She offered snowdrops which would need to be planted soon. She also offered natural hedging plants for the Lovar Garden.

**5. Minutes:** The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 were taken as read and will be signed as a true record at the first proper meeting

**7. Matters Arising:**

a. **Control of dog mess:** Adhesive signs that could be fixed onto the dispensers have been ordered. There was a discussion on the issue of dog mess and it was agreed to look at signs that could be put up. It was suggested that the Council could pay someone to clean up the dog mess but it was agreed that this was not the solution. It was felt that there needs to be a long term strategy on how to deal with this problem

b. **Play Area:**

Under 7s Play area

Steps for the bank in the Under 7s: Three quotations had been received in the sums of £1530; £2400 and £2965.62

The Committee discussed the options and liked the idea of using the self-binding gravel instead of the Cotswold chippings and using a membrane and a sub-base of scalplings

It was **recommended** that the quotation from A.J. Rich in the sum of £2965.62 be accepted

It was agreed to discuss the second entrance to the Under 7s when the work to the steps had been done.

Painting of play equipment: It was felt that the painting of the play equipment was not a priority and that the wooden equipment should not be painted. Discuss further in the Spring

c. **Adult fitness equipment:** Details of types of equipment had been circulated. To be discussed at a future meeting when the further CIL money for this had been received.

d. **Inspection of the football pitch:** The new FA app was now available to download.

e. **Spraying and cutting of Recreation Ground** It was agreed to leave the spraying until the FA report on the football pitch had been received.

f. **Mill Lane hedge:** Letters had been received from two of the residents regarding the height of the hedge. It was agreed to discuss this with the new committee and make a definitive decision.

g. **Litter bins:** A new bin had been purchased

h. **Compost heap:** The other Committees had discussed composting green waste on site as it is created. The composting area on the Recreation Ground had been dug out and it was agreed to look at planting a native hedge in front of this. The Council could apply to the Woodland Trust for this.

i. **Flower tubs in the village;** Cllr Hazel Parker had spoken to the Gardening Club who were willing to help with the planting. Cllr Tye will speak to the groundsman about moving the planters.

j. **Vine Court bedding;** Cllr Tye undertook to dig this out. A risk assessment had been drawn up. Working party will plant out the bed.

k. **Repairs to the Rock Circus:** Marcus Mitchell had repaired this

l. **Playground log book of repairs:** A copy of the RoSPA report had been put into a file. Cllr Tye will meet with the Groundsman to discuss the work carried out and the details will be noted against each item of equipment.

m. **Additions to the Playing Fields section of the website:**

The Clerk will forward the following documents to be added to the website:

- Lovar Garden Management Plan
- Copy of the Deed of Gift
- Map of the Recreation Ground

n. **Mowing of Recreation Ground:** Following the defeat of the proposal for the summer meadow it was asked that the Council consider "No mow May". This would not include the football pitch or the cricket pitch and would encourage the plants to produce nectar. **To be discussed at Full Council**

## **8. Issues relating to the Allotments**

- Metal on the bank of the allotments
- The existing gate needs replacing. It was agreed to ask The Shed if they could make a new one

## **9. Lovar Garden:**

- Clearing of Pond: The pond had been cleared and the bull rushes had been taken out
- The Groundsmen had done a lot of work. The laurels had been cleared and a dead hedge had been wired in by the Cotswold Wardens. It was reported that several of the branches had been pulled out of the hedge and more wiring needs to be put in to prevent this. Primroses had previously been planted and some of these might have been damaged when the work was being done.
- Benches: The grants received had included the purchase of three benches. Various options for benches made with recycled plastic had been circulated and were discussed and it was agreed to **recommend** that 1 Ellwood seat at £640.47 and two Phoenix seats at a cost of £459.40 each be purchased from Glasdon

## **10. Risk Assessments**; to be reviewed annually

Metal on the allotments: This needs to be reassessed

## **11. Items for discussion:**

- a. **Discussion on recent vandalism**: It was reported that on two recent weekends damage had been done to the public toilets and to the benches outside the changing rooms and glass had been broken onto the tennis courts. The Clerk will ask the Community Police to patrol at the weekend. The public toilet had been locked at the present time for repairs to the taps to be carried out. It was agreed that these will be locked up at night and Cllr Tye volunteered to do this over the Easter weekend. It was agreed to put an article into the Parish Magazine and to look at getting advice for deterrents ie a security camera.

## **12. Pavilion**

- **Public toilets**: These will be monitored regularly when they are all reopened
- **Solar Panels and Air Pump**: Meetings had been held with two companies to discuss this but only one quotation had been received. More quotations to be obtained. The insulation etc would have to be checked for heating

## **13. Correspondence:**

- **Renewal of Irrigation Service Contract**: It is **recommended** that the service contract be renewed in the sum of £666.24 pa + vat
- A letter had been received from a resident reporting that children had been sliding down the bank and damaging the primroses. It was agreed to monitor the situation

## **14. Issues to be discussed at a future meeting:**

- Assessment of litter bins: An assessment to be carried out as to whether any more bins are required.

## **15. Items of report and future Agenda items:**

- Footpath 2: It was reported that remedial work to Footpath 2 would start shortly
- It was suggested that the walkround prior to the next meeting be reinstated starting at 6 pm
- It was asked if the tree surgeon could look at the tree which is growing in the water in the Lovar Garden to the left of the tunnel to assess its condition.

- It was asked why there were dams across the by brook. It was reported that these collect the sediments and clear the water before it goes into the pond. It also helps regulate the flow of water
- It was asked if the ivy on the Hawthorn tree could be removed
- It was reported that more whips had been planted into between the hawthorns. Another section of hazel whips had been planted in the allotments
- It was reported that the hedge of the house next to Vine Court is overhanging the pavement. Clerk to write and ask for this to be cut back
- It was reported that the footpath in Ashley had been damaged
- It was asked if the white railings on the main road could be power washed
- Clerk to ask Joe Thomas if he could carry out a full survey of the trees on the Recreation Ground

**Chairman**

*Meeting closed at 8.55 pm*