



# BOX PARISH COUNCIL

## THE MINUTES OF A REMOTE MEETING OF THE PLAYING FIELDS & PAVILION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD VIA ZOOM ON 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020

1. **Present:** Councillors: M. Tye (Chairman); R. Smith; B. Walton; H. Parker; S. Parker; A. Woollard  
Mrs Carey (Clerk)
2. **Apologies:** Cllr S. Gould  
The apologies were accepted.
3. **Absent:** Nil
4. **Public Question Time:** There were no members of the public present
5. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> August and 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were taken as read and will be signed as a true record at the first proper meeting
6. **Matters Arising:**
  - a. **Dog Control Order:** The terms for renewing the Dog Control Order were reviewed and it appears that the Parish Council would not be able to enforce the order. It was agreed to address the issue of dog mess generally.  
**Control of dog mess:** Cllr Smith had sourced details of dog bag dispensers which would cost £68.99 each and the bags would cost £37.75. Cllr Smith agreed to look at where these would be needed and obtain full costings for discussion with the budget setting. She had not been able to get any sponsors for this. It was agreed to fund the dog bag dispensers at the three main points of entry to the Recreation Ground within this year's budget because of the urgency of the issue and importance to parishioners. Dispensers for Rudloe and other others would be considered by other Committees once their positive effect had been established. **Action: Cllr Smith and Tye**
  - b. **Seats/ Bench by Cricket Club:** Alternative sites for the bench had been sent out for the family to consider but no reply had been received. Clerk to write again to the family.
  - c. **Play Area:**  
**Under 7s Play area**  
**Non slip surface:** A new entrance direct to the steps had been made and the ramp had been cordoned off. It was agreed that the Committee would meet with Joel on the next walkround to discuss this  
**Tyre swing:** To be painted green – this will be weather dependant. It was asked whether it would be feasible to make all the play equipment into one area and to look at putting fencing round it. To be put on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting. It was stated that this would need to be discuss with the cricket club.

- d. **Adult fitness equipment**: Details of types of equipment had been circulated. To be discussed at a future meeting when the CIL money had been received.
- e. **Path**: Further limestone chippings had been received to complete the path.
- f. **Condition of Football pitch**: Clerk to arrange for the FA to inspect the pitch and give a report
- g. **Spraying and cutting of Recreation Ground** Discuss further at the next meeting when the FA assessment of the Football pitch had been received. Groundsman to be asked whether he felt he would be able to take on this work and what equipment would be needed for this.
- h. **Mill Lane hedge**: It was agreed that this should not be cut until the end of the growing season.
- i. **Litter bins**: the new litter bins are in position.
- j. **Horse Chestnut tree**: It was confirmed that this had been planted out.
- k. **Trench across from the tractor shed**: This will be reseeded shortly.

**7. Issues relating to the Allotments:**

- It was reported that there is grey asbestos in the allotments. Clerk to speak to the Groundsman about removing this
- Cllr Walton reported that she had met with an allotment holder. A large hazel tree is being coppiced and branches left for the allotment holders to use
- The base panels for the shed had been put down and the shed will be erected shortly
- Most of the edging boards have been put into position
- Hedge along the bottom of the allotments – the whole boundary needs attention. Add the pollarding of this to the list of winter jobs for the Groundsman.
- All the plots were being worked and the allotments look neat

**8. Lovar Garden:**

- **Management Plan**: This had been agreed by Full Council. The funding applications with the Cotswolds Conservation Board will open on 12<sup>th</sup> October
- **Replacement bridge**: This will be considered with the Lovar Action Plan
- **Clearing of pond**: After discussion at Full Council it was agreed to leave this until late winter/early spring
- **Sluice gate**: This will be discussed at a future meeting. It was agreed to investigate any ideas for the sluice gate when the pond had been pumped out

**9. Risk Assessments**: These had been reviewed. Clerk to complete the section re chemicals and machinery

**10. Replacement mowers**: The Groundsman is researching this and a full report will be drawn up with costings to be discussed with the budget setting.

**11. Walkround**: The following items were reported:

- **Slope at bottom of Bowling Green**: It was agreed to cut the grass back and rake this so that the wild flowers can regrow.
- **Compost heap**: This was now very large. It was suggested that this could be spread down the bank. It was agreed that the cuttings from the Common should not be added to this and it was agreed to ask if the provision of a compost area on the Common could be discussed by the Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces Committee.

**12. Allotment Pricing Structure:**

Cllr Walton had drawn up a comparison of charges with allotments in six other areas. There had been no increase in the rental since 2010.

It was **recommended** that the allotment rentals be increased by 50% from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

It was further **recommended** that there be a 50% discount for anyone in receipt of the following benefits: Council Tax Support; Attendance allowance; Guaranteed Pension credit; Housing benefit; Disability Living allowance; Working Tax credit; Income support; Employment Support allowance or Personal Independence payment. Proof of entitlement must be shown each year in order for the discount to be applied.

**13. Flower tubs in the village:** After discussion it was **recommended** that the flower tubs could be planted by the Committee but the watering should be carried out by Council staff. Mr Rich would supply the flowers. Some of the planters are in need of replacing. Cllr Hazel Parker offered to survey the tubs and draw up a planting plan. **Action: H. Parker**

**14. Vine Court bedding:** A Licence had been granted by Wiltshire council. It was felt that once this was planted it would be low maintenance. It was **recommended** that the Council staff continue to maintain this area

**15. Clearing of ditch and Pendulous Sedge:** It was stated that learning to clear ditches was part of the Work Experience Student's modules for this year. It was **recommended** that he be asked to clear this over the course of the winter. A working party will look at clearing the bulrushes from the pond

**16. Pavilion**

- **Cills by the door (top floor):** The work had been carried out
- **Public toilets:** These will be monitored regularly when they are all reopened
- **Solar Panels and Air Pump:** Cllrs Tye and S. Parker had spoken to Nick Murry, the Chair of Zero Chippenham. Zero Chippenham had looked at a number of providers and had selected two companies who would be able to quote. However, he stated that the council may not get the investment back through electricity saved as there is now only one company who will buy this. Also an air pump did not appear to be feasible but this will be investigated further. Clerk to complete a survey to return to Zero Chippenham. It was also agreed to look at carrying out a survey of the boiler by a heating engineer to assess what is needed.

**17. Correspondence:** Nil

**18. Items of report and future Agenda items:**

Future Agenda items

- FA Assessment of Football pitch
- Spraying of Recreation Ground
- Discussion re fencing of the play area
- Dog bag dispensers

Items of Report

- In light of the current regulations it was stated that there should be a separate exit door from the Pavilion. Quotations would need to be sought
- Siting of benches - it was felt that the Council should look at the parish as a whole to identify sites where any benches could be placed, including the Lovar Garden.

**Chairman**

*Meeting closed at 8.30pm*

DRAFT