

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PAVILION AND RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE TUESDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2025

PRESENT

Chair Cllr Perrins (JP), Cllrs Peal and Street (FS) and Clerk Mrs R. Jones.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None were received.

PAVILION AND RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT

The Chair expressed concern about the Pavilion roof. One corner had a patch of tiles which appeared to have lifted after recent high winds. Darren Jones had nailed down a number of tiles but this damage was recent. JP expressed a wish to go into the loft to assess the problem. Members agreed that Darren Raymond should be called out to tackle repair or replacement.

Members also agreed to invite John Taylor to suggest a suitable method of replacing the picket fence. Concrete posts were thought better than wood, but wooden paling to match the building would have to accompany them.

Members discussed next steps with the side access project. It was decided to supplement existing information by meeting the contractors, starting with Rocon, to request their detailed specifications and quotes. Three quotes were required. The ash tree next to the Pavilion, which is suffering from Ash Die-Back, would have to be felled to make room. It would be replaced, possibly by a cherry tree, elsewhere on the recreation ground. An oak tree had already been chosen for a site near the Skate Park in honour of former Councillor David Selby.

Clerk confirmed that the new bench would arrive in the next couple of weeks and the remaining abandoned bicycle would be re-homed.

FINANCE

Clerk had recently had a meeting with Swifts Football Club. The club was currently running two junior teams in South Wonston, a third in Sutton Scotney, which wants to stay there, and an adult Sunday team. She noted that Swifts had been affected by Covid and were still rebuilding their teams. The representative left with the contracts to sign and return within the week. Clerk advised that she would send the full invoice for the year in February for September to May. Her usual practice was to invoice in two parts in November and February. The last November invoice had not been paid. The next contracts would be due in July. The raised invoice would cover the whole year. JP suggested raising the rates to recoup the expense, currently not covered, of maintaining the pitches. Clerk stated that it was difficult to judge what was being charged elsewhere because of the different charging mechanisms. She had raised the recent issue with Swifts of the state of the pitches due to poor weather and the inadvisability of playing on them. The club members agreed that inspections were late on Sundays and there wasn't enough information about fixtures. Committee members agreed that training and matches couldn't continue in bad conditions. FS

recommended getting a second-hand roller. After the meeting, he inspected the pitches and concluded that they were in fair but not good condition.

Happy Days were pleased with their new rate, it was reported, and their numbers had not changed much. One member of staff was stepping away for a while but others were closing the gap.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed.