



Minutes of the Committee General Meeting

Held at the John Pygram Pavilion, Thursday 19th January 2017

Present: Jerry Wells (JW), Bill Norman (BN), Dave Nightingale (DN), Dave Curtis (DC),
Chris Richards (CR), Albert Lutz (AL), Paul Pates (PP), Jason Stevens (JS),
Jemma Kingsbury (JK), Louis Thomas (LT)

Apologies: Darren Pitt (DP), Helen Finbow (HF),

The draft Agenda was approved with the addition of an item under AOB about TV licences

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

JW welcomed **Louis Thomas** to the meeting and congratulated him on the Karate Club activities that now took place on Sunday mornings in the Pavilion.

Finance and regulation

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of 18/01/2017 -	Barclays current account	£3,922.23
	Barclays Base rate	£105.38
	Virgin Charity	£14,977.69
	Cash	£30.84
		£19,036.14
	Outstanding liabilities	Nil
	Outstanding income	Nil
	Committed future expend	Nil
	Reconciled total balance	£19,036.14

Summing up **BN** said that the balance is continues on an upward path and so the accounts remains remain in robust health. **CR** asked what the impact the solar power system was having on the electricity bills. **BN** agreed to produce the relevant figures for discussion at a later date. **JW** thanked **BN** for his report.

Action: [BN to produce figures on electricity bills.](#)

PAVILION BOOKINGS REPORT

DN reported that bookings remained steady and no particular difficulties had presented themselves during the last quarter.

DFPFA COMMITTEE - THE YEARS AHEAD

JW repeated his request to trustees to be proactive in efforts to encourage local residents to join the association in an attempt to identify suitable replacements when members of the

current committee start to step back. With the exception of Louis Thomas there were no new faces in attendance testifying that the flyer delivered around the community had failed to spark an interest in joining the DFPFA effort.

JW said that research on worst case scenario closure procedures and costs of contracting in help for field maintenance had not yet been carried out.

Action: **JW** to research on 'closure' strategy and costs of contractors.

APPLICATION TO INCREASE ECC GRANT

JW informed those present that following the letter pointing out that through changes in budgetary structure and procedures the individual schools themselves were now managing their own budgets, he had written a letter to the Headmistress of Wethersfield CofE School requesting a review of the current grant and proposing that an annual increase of £400 would seem reasonable. The School had replied offering to increase the fees by £200 to £1000 annually. Those present agreed that this was an acceptable offer and instructed **BN** to liaise with the school to arrange the new increase.

Action: **BN** to finalise.

ARTICLE 106 MONEY

JW informed the committee that following a letter he had written to Cllr. Godley suggesting that the £1400 be spent on a series of safety measures on the ground he had received a reply from Cllr. Godley indicating that the PC insisted on the money being spent on an item or two of playground equipment. **JW** had subsequently produced a dossier including quotes on playground equipment for review at the next PC meeting. At that meeting however it was clear that the PC were not as one on the idea of playground equipment and after some muddled discussion decided to divert the £1400 away from the DFPFA in favour of park benches for installation around the village.

JW then asked those present if in light of AL's note that ROSPA had recommended the placing of protective matting around the monkey bars, the committee should in any case proceed with the purchase of said matting. There was an agreement that this should be done and **AL** was asked to produce a layout and related costs for the appropriate material.

Action: **AL** to action.

Pavilion Complex

PRE-SCHOOL

JK was pleased to inform the committee that the Pre-School had seen an overall improvement in their operation with more new children attending, accounts showing a surplus for time in many months, new and positive liaisons with the 'Little Legs' Pre-School in Wethersfield and other Pre-Schools further afield. **JS** said that the administrative aspects of the business – one of the issues picked up by the OFSTED inspections in 2016 - were also now in much better shape. In response to a question from **JW** on the likely length of his tenure **JS** replied that he saw his role as essentially one of troubleshooting for the business until such time as the operation had reached an acceptable level of stability. **JS** also re-affirmed that the Pre-School were happy to comply with the new increase of fees from the start of 2017.

INTERNAL DROP_DOWN STEPLADDER SYSTEM

DN reported that the new ladder had been installed

WORKING PARTY OVER SUMMER RECESS

JW proposed that the planned general painting refurbishment be carried this year along with a refurbishment of the main hall floor. Those present agreed.

Action: Working party to action in the Summer recess.

ASH TRAYS

DN still to do.

Action: DN to follow up

TOILET FANS

JW referred to **AL**'s note that if the original building spec. is to be upheld then the defective fan should be repaired/replaced and newly installed. **BN** said that to avoid excessive costs Lodge & Sons should not be engaged to do the work and instead we should use an electrician he had found who appeared to be competent judging by the work he had done for him. Those present agreed that Tom Smith the electrician should be given the opportunity to assess the situation and produce the necessary quotes before proceeding on reparations and re-installation of the fan. A discussion then followed on establishing a cleaning regime for all the fans of this type within the building in the hope that regular cleaning may help to avoid further failures.

Action: DN/BN to follow up.

PATH LIGHTING

Lodge & Sons had found the fault was due to a severed cable on the path's lamppost nearest the carpark and had carried fixed the problem.

Playing field

BDC's PLANS TO PROVIDE LARGER GLASS RECYCLING CONTAINERS

JW updated those present with the latest situation which unfortunately involved waiting on the PC to see if BDC's current initiative to change the district's waste recycling methods could impact on the issue of relocating the glass recycling units away from the playing field's carpark.

Action: JW to continue to monitor developments

DAMAGE TO PLAYING FIELD NOTICE BOARD

JW informed the committee that the extent of damage was still to be investigated.

Action: JW/BN/DN to investigate

PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP FIELD BORDERING EASTERN BOUNDARY

JW informed the meeting that following an unhappy and at times outrageous sequence of events involving the PC and BDC Local Plan sub committee, all three proposed new sites for housing development (Hudson's Hill, West Drive, Silver Street) had now been included in the Local Plan for recommendation to Full Council. A planning application had also been ultimately submitted for the development at Hudson's Hill.

The Committee were unanimous in deciding that the questionable proceedings of the Local Plan sub-committee's meeting on the 28th November with specific regard to the Hudson's Hill proposal merited a complaint to the chair of that committee and that the planning application for the same should be vigorously contested.

Action: **JW** to write to the BDC and attend the public meeting to be held in the VH on Feb 13th

REQUEST TO ERECT LARGE GOALPOSTS FOR AD HOC FOOTBALL

JW still to do

Action: **JW/BN** to follow up

A.O.B.

2017 WETHERSFIELD WEEKEND FESTIVAL

JW informed those present that a second meeting had taken place involving representatives from the DFPFA, the Club, the PC and the church with a view to combining resources as was so successfully achieved for the Tour de France spectacle. **JW** that insufficient progress was made at this meeting for there to now be a realistic chance of organising a combined weekend of events in time for the coming summer and that work should really begin now in seeking support for such an event to take place in 2018. All those present agreed however that the DFPFA Fun Day should go ahead this year as usual and a date should be fixed to fall within a window currently free of cricket for three weekends in July.

Action: **DN** to establish the date after consulting the bookings calendar.

TV LICENCE ISSUE

BN wanted to remind those present that the DFPFA had no TV licence for the Pavilion and therefore if heavy fines were to be avoided, everybody should remain vigilant that users hiring the Pavilion did not wittingly or unwittingly seek to use equipment that fell within the terms and requirements of a TV licence.

KEY SCHEDULE

BN mentioned that the 'Key Schedule' needed to be updated and **DC** agreed that he would carry this out.

Next Meeting:

Thursday 20th April, 7.30pm at the **Pavilion**