

Minutes of the 196th. meeting of the Abington Recreation Ground Committee

13 July 2015

Present – Peter Brunning, Robert Chesham, Liz Sainsbury, Guy Underwood and Sally Smith.

Louise Patten joined the meeting at 7.50p.m. and Derek Patten, Dennis Tiplady and Carlote Adam at 8.25p.m.

1. Apologies for Absence. Paul Pritchard, who had sent a summary of the financial statement. P.P. wishes to resign from the committee and will be replaced by Julia Gunning who is willing to become treasurer

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting. Agreed

3. Matters Arising. None other than those covered below

4. Treasurer's Report

The accounts both for the last financial year and those since the last committee were presented. It was noted that the bill for flailing of weeds has not yet been received.

5. Children's Play Area

5.1. Weeds and nettles need attention and will be dealt with together with the rest of the ground – see item 7.

5.2 The possibility of replacing the wooden fence with a metal one in the future was discussed.

6. Liaison with the School

G.U. talked about his hopes to use an area of the ground to provide an outdoor area for school activities, He would prefer the part of the ground joining the school, but at present this is used for the storage container, and finding another place for this is not straightforward. L.P. suggested that a disused part of the ground, nearer the church would present fewer problems, and the committee agreed to look at these sites in more detail on 17July. S.S. said that she thought that it is important that this area of the ground should be available for all village children at week-ends and during school holidays.

7. Multi- sport Area

7.1. D.P. will replace or repair the worn boarding at the edge of the court. **Action D.P.**

7.2. G.U. said that he could arrange for the court markings to be re-painted.

8. Ground Condition

8.1. Flailing and spraying of weeds has been done. The nettles and other weeds needing treatment from hand held equipment still needs to be arranged. R.C. said he would do this, as Paul Pritchard, who was previously arranging this, has left the committee **Action R.C.**

8.2. L.P. said that the problem with moles is being attended to, but that the best time to deal with the rabbit problem is in October.

9. Future Purchases

9.1. Bernie Talbot, chairman of the housing committee, is trying to arrange for the money allocated by the developers of the proposed new houses at the top of the High Street for a grassy area on the site, to be given instead to the development of the recreation ground.

9.2. C.A. said that she would order two picnic tables and a table tennis table complete with matting. She is concerned that she is having problems finding some-one to provide a concrete base for the picnic tables.

9.3. Doubts were expressed about the suitability of the ground for a skate park and it was decided to discuss this further at the next committee meeting.

10. Any other business - none

11. Date of Next Meeting

T.B.C.