

Minutes of 201st Meeting of Abington Recreation Ground Committee, held on Monday 5th September 2016 7.30p.m, in the Abington Institute, High Street, Great Abington.

1. Apologies for absence

Dennis, Paul, Jane

2. Minutes of last meeting (4th May 2016)

Agreed

3. Matters arising – other than being considered below

None

4. Membership of committee – new GAPC & LAPC reps

Jane Bowen is the new GAPC representative but was unable to attend.

Bob Chesham is standing down as LAPC councillor so LAPC plans to appoint a new representative at its next meeting.

We assume that Kate Mannion no longer has any interest and will drop her from any circulation list.

Derek suggested that a more active member of the cricket club could better represent their interests. PB would ask D Pimblett for a recommendation, noting that it would be useful to have someone with a good understanding of sorts ground maintenance.

5. Treasurer's report

Paul did not submit a report but PB reported that the items of significant non-routine expenditure since the last meeting were £144.00 and £400.00 for fencing.

6. Risk assessment

LP was almost ready to issue forms and ask members of the committee to start their regular inspections.

7. Children's play area

7.1. General condition

Good, though there are some animal holes near the fence on the river side that should be monitored. The new fence position, further from the trees, might help to resolve this.

7.2. New seats for the toddler swings

CA had obtained a quote which was felt to be high. Since they have not been reported as a hazard, it was agreed to seek alternative quotes.

7.3. Quotation for new fence to play area

CA had obtained a quote from Jacksons of approximately £5000 + £7000 installation for a coloured wooden fence. It was decided to investigate alternatives, possibly including one in coloured recycled plastic.

8. Multi- sport area – damaged fencing & gate

We could ask Charlie Baker to fix the fencing. It is not entirely clear why the gate requires replacement so we should inspect it. Neither of these issues, raised by the RoSPA inspector, is a high priority

9. Ground condition

9.1. General condition – flailing of edges

This was done, but nettles are growing again. DP agreed to arrange spraying.

9.2. Repair of rabbit holes and levelling of topsoil piles, repair of ruts caused by transporting topsoil

All now sorted out.

9.3. Repair of fence along southern boundary (school & field) and western boundary (Hood's field)

The southern boundary has been sorted and Charlie Baker paid. PB asked him to review any remaining issues, with the exception of the churchyard.

9.4. Tree overhanging GAPS garden

Resolved

9.5. Ground reinforcement around table tennis table

Keith Rayner is waiting for some rain before installing this, so that the grass will grow through the reinforcement.

9.6. Request from school to use part of the ground

No further requests.

10. New Equipment

10.1. Bins and/or liners

It was agreed to purchase 4 new metal liners from Glasdon.

10.2. 'No Dogs in play area' sign

PB has the sign and will install shortly.

11. Any other business

11.1. Sport England Active Places registration

Has been updated. We picked some marker cones as being the most useful gift!

11.2. Half price trees

It was decided to tidy up the southern boundary before planting specimen trees.

11.3. Projects for possible volunteer groups

A possible project would be to pick stones off the rough ground, perhaps by school children, with a view to making an adventure zone, which might make a bigger project for a company group..

12. Date of next meeting

7 November 2016