

Whiteley Parish Council

Recreation and General Purposes Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held at Meadowside Leisure Centre, Whiteley on Wednesday 24th February 2010 at 7pm.

Parish Council Committee members present: Pat Thew (Chairman), Colin Bielckus Al Menzies (Vice-Chairman), Mike Evans, Kairen Goves

Parish Councillors: Roland Diffey, Brian Hughes, David Jenkins, one member of the public (left after agenda item 3) Parish Clerk Nicki Oliver

- 1. To receive apologies for absence** Vivian Achwal, James Wade Manager of Meadowside Leisure Centre
- 2. To receive declarations of interest regarding agenda items** None
- 3. To adjourn meeting to allow participation by members of the public**

Gary Steward from Whiteley Wanderers Football Team spoke of the need for floodlit training facilities in Whiteley particularly during the winter months and asked whether it would be possible to install lights on the Meadowside MUGA. It was agreed to pursue this with WCC and to work with Whiteley Wanderers to secure grant funding if appropriate.

4. Meeting resumed to consider the following agenda items:

4.1 To receive an update on plans for 2010 Annual Parish Assembly (Clerk) **It was agreed that chairs should be hired as last year and to request an increase in the catering budget of £100 – request to be made to April Full Council meeting.**

4.2 To receive an update on Area K issues (Chairman) **The estate managing agent has requested tenders for the landscaping, the results are awaited. An ARK AGM will be called in the near future.**

4.3 To receive an update on project for new sculpture bench (Chairman) **Members discussed concerns about the finish of the concrete and proposals for landscaping around the bench. It was agreed to meet with the artist and representatives from Henry Cort and Whiteley Primary School to seek an acceptable solution for all involved. Action Clerk.**

4.4 To receive an update from the Skatepark User Forum (James Wade) **see agenda item 4.8.**

4.5 To receive update on WCC proposals to refurbish Angelica, Caraway, Cheshire, Mollison and Thyme Avenue play areas. (Chairman) **Thyme Avenue and Angelica play areas have been removed as agreed, work has started on the Mollison and Caraway refurbishments. It was agreed to check with WCC that Mollison proposals included dealing with mud and drainage problems at the entrance gates. Action Clerk.**

4.6 To note any outstanding play area repairs and landscape maintenance issues
A list of requests to be pursued further with WCC, in particular work to the hedge adjoining Whiteley Village car park needs maintenance before the middle of March when birds being nesting. Action Clerk/Chairman.

4.6.1 To receive update on repairs to timber sculpture benches. (Cllr Menzies)
Eric the footballer has been removed to the carpenter's workshop. A quote for £130 to pave in front of the grasshopper has been received.

4.7 To receive report and recommendations from Climate Change Champion (Cllr Menzies) **Plans are going well for the meeting arranged for 27th February it is hoped to gather a group of interested residents together to progress achievable projects of benefit to the environment.**

4.8 To receive update on proposal for a youth shelter (Chairman) **An email from James Wade was noted advising that the skatepark users are unlikely to want the shelter near the skatepark. It was agreed to set up a Facebook group to consult with young people on their preferences. Action Clerk.**

4.9 To review the Parish Council's 2009/10 strategy and key objectives relevant to this committee and agree amendments and additions for 2010/11

The following key objectives were agreed:

- **To fully research a project to install a youth shelter in Whiteley and progress if appropriate.**
- **To fully research a project to install floodlights on the Meadowside MUGA and progress if appropriate.**
- **To oversee and work with WCC to refurbish play areas in Whiteley**
- **To seek parallel working with WCC on the management and maintenance of open spaces and play areas that the Council may adopt in 2011**
- **To continue to maintain existing assets**

5. To identify any unmanaged risks within this committee's remit Continue to monitor.

6. Review effectiveness of communication, development of links with other community organisations and support for local democracy through making information more widely available Continue to monitor.

7. Recent correspondence/ reports from meetings attended of relevance to this committee

Request for floodlighting to Meadowside MUGA / Tennis courts for the benefit of local junior football teams and organisations from resident Gary Steward **see agenda item 3.**

Meeting closed 8.25pm