

LISS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Grounds Committee meeting held on 5th March 2018, 7.30pm

MEMBERS

*D. Dodds(Chairman) K. Budden R. Hargreaves
*H. Linsley *S. Halstead F. Macnamara *K. O'Malley A. Smith

*Present

Clerk: Sarah Smith

01/G18 Apologies

Apologies were accepted from cllrs Budden, MacNamara and Smith.

02/G18 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

03/G18 Minutes of the Grounds Committee Meeting on 4th December 2017

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on 4th December 2017 be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting (proposed by Cllr Linsley and seconded by Cllr Halstead).

04/G18 Matters Arising from Grounds Committee Meeting on 4th December 2017

74.1/G17 Millennium Mosaic repair work: The Chairman reported that no progress had been made on repair work.

74.2/G17 The Clerk advised that the repair of the bench slats and the remarking of Lower Green allotments had progressed and would be completed shortly.

76/G17 Following a site visit it had been agreed that the height of the hedge in question at Lower Green would be reduced as part of the annual hedge work undertaken by RCD Hoare in the autumn.

77/G17 No health and safety issues had been identified in the trees around the pond.

79/G17 Council had agreed a motion to put £125,000 for play equipment/ leisure facilities on the SDNPA CIL priority list.

05/G18 Playground inspections

The Chairman outlined an alternative to the current twice-yearly formal inspection regime. Members agreed that this would provide savings on the budgeted amount (£1385) whilst increasing the number of inspections per year to four, thereby strengthening the formal inspection regime.

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council undertake the Full Year Inspection Regime with the Play Inspection Company for the sum of £205.00 + VAT Per Site.

The Chairman highlighted that the Groundsman undertook weekly routine inspections in addition to the formal inspection regime and that all findings were logged on weekly worksheets submitted to the office.

Resolved: That routine inspection sheets and the formal reports would be considered by Members at future meetings of the Grounds Committee.

The Chairman noted that the Clerk had produced a Risk Assessment for all play areas which documented the procedures already in place.

06/G18 Drainage at Newman Collard

The Chairman advised that the drainage issues at Newman Collard were continuing to be investigated. Southern Water had undertaken some clearance and investigatory work to a one of their main pipes at Newman Collard. A report was expected in due course. In addition, further exploratory work to pipes under the Centenary Gardens was due to take place by a contractor.

07/G18 Pond at Newman Collard

Members noted that a local resident had expressed concern about the high water level in the pond recently. The Groundsman had responded by making use of sandbags to divert any runoff to nearby drains. Water levels had now reduced but LPC would continue to investigate with the Newman Collard Playing Field Trust in order to ascertain the cause.

08/G18 Tree issues

The Chairman advised that the laurel in the Centenary Garden had been cut down due to splits, cavities and broken limbs; it would now be allowed to regenerate naturally. The tree surgeon had advised that the remaining laurels were in good health.

Members considered correspondence on behalf of a resident living next to Kelseys allotments, regarding an overhanging tree which was dropping deadwood into the garden.

Resolved: That the tree surgeon be instructed to undertake the proposed works on the grounds of health and safety.

The Chairman noted that trees bordering Old School Road had been cut back by SSE due to regrowth which came into contact with the power lines.

09/G18 Proposals to improve leisure facilities at West Liss Recreation Ground

The Chairman advised that the sub group had considered options for West Liss and subsequently met with a playground company. Proposals were awaited for improved leisure facilities, including a MUGA.

10/G18 Fernhills allotment site

The Chairman noted that 18 out of 20 plots at Fernhills had unexpectedly renewed. He proposed therefore that no change in the use of the site be considered at this time. Members agreed.

11/G18 Review of grounds equipment

The Chairman advised that since grass cutting had been outsourced in the growing season in 2017, the future of the out of commission ride on mower required consideration.

Resolved: That the Clerk seek quotations for repair and sale so that a decision could be taken.

12/G18 General updates

The Chairman noted that a new path was being put in by the lengthsman at Newman Collard. In addition, further work to improve the muddy conditions on the field would be undertaken later in the spring when the conditions were suitable.

The Chairman advised that an HCC temporary family outreach service would operate from time to time from a special bus at the West Liss car park, pending commencement of the works to build a new Pavilion.

13/G18 Any other business

Members considered correspondence received on the level of dog fouling at Newman Collard.

Members agreed to consider appropriate actions in response, including increased signage and establishing whether EHDC could provide more red bins.

The Chairman proposed that given investigations into proposals for improved leisure facilities at West Liss Recreation Ground, any general maintenance work undertaken by the Groundsman should be focused on Liss Forest. Members agreed.

14/G18 Exempt Item: Proposal for mobile refreshment hut at Newman Collard Recreation Ground

Resolved: That the Chairman and Cllr Smith continue to investigate the proposals further.

The meeting closed at 21.30pm.

Date of next meeting: 11th June 2018

Signed..... Dated.....