

Girton Parish Council

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The Pavilion
Girton Recreation Ground
Cambridge Road, Girton
Cambridge CB3 0FH

Minutes of the meeting of the Sport and Recreation Committee with Users held on Wednesday 12th March 2008 in the Pavilion

Present: Cllrs M Wilson (in the Chair), V Godby, R.Hodgkinson, L. Sparling , C. Starling,
CMR Wilson (Co-opted Member), L Miller.

Representatives of User Groups: Simon Pawley (Cricket/ Football Clubs) John Barnett
Principal (Cambridge Academy of English), Bob Killick (Girton Tennis Club) Sarah Sandercock
(Bobtails Toddler Group, Bernard Buckley (North Cambridge Bridge Club)

U08/30 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr de Lacey

U08/31 Members declarations of interest for items on the Agenda

None

U08/32 That Standing Orders be suspended for open session for the duration of the meeting

Cllr Godby prop, Cllr Hodgkinson sec. Unanimous.

U08/33 That the Chairman sign minutes of the meeting with Users held on 26th April 2005

Simon Pawley prop, CMR Wilson sec. Unanimous.

U08/34 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Cllr Wilson noted that the Minutes of the meeting held in September 2007 had been omitted from the agenda and apologised for not attending that meeting due to illness. He stated that a great deal of effort over the past six months had been directed at the preparation of a budget for 2008/09, the setting of user fees for 2008/09 and maintenance issues regarding the Pavilion fabric. Progress on goals identified to and endorsed by user representatives at the last meeting, such as the provision of a lift, had therefore not been as forthcoming as hoped. Ms Sandercock mentioned that if and when the lift project did proceed this would affect the storage of Bobtails equipment. Cllr Wilson assured her that Bobtails would be kept informed of any future plans regarding this matter so that alternative storage for the group could be considered.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting of 26 April 2005.

U08/35 Bookings Administrators Report – (tabled) and comments from the Chair on activities of the committee

L.Miller reported that the Pavilion Hall is booked for use every single day of the week and at weekends and a great variety of sports activity take place. She noted that there had been a complaint to the FA from a visiting football team regarding the cleanliness of the changing rooms after football on a certain weekend. She felt this was probably due to the number of teams using the changing rooms on Sundays when lots of fixtures are booked to be played. It was noted that the complaint had not been directly communicated to the Council. The football clubs will be reminded of their responsibility to ensure that they leave the changing rooms in a clean and reasonable condition for the next user.

B. Killick of Girton Tennis Club asked when the additional fencing was to be installed between the multi-goal court and the Tennis Courts. It was confirmed that the work had been delayed due to bad weather but will be carried out in the next few weeks.

U08/36 New Booking Form, terms and conditions, car parking

Cllr Wilson noted that revised and extended Booking Forms had been distributed to all users for signing. The form is considerably longer and more detailed than the previous version but clarifies responsibilities over a range of issues including use of premises, licensing rules and safety compliance. He hoped that users were happy with the new format. He highlighted in particular the new responsibility placed on the hirer to manage car parking in relation to their activities. The Parish Council was investigating additional options for over-flow car parking but parking on the grass or footpaths around Smithy Green and the bus stop was clearly unacceptable. It was hoped that self-policing and encouraging car-sharing could resolve these problems as the alternative would be to investigate external contracted parking control services. It was noted that reorganisation of the recycling bins may create some extra parking spaces.

U08/37 Comments from Users/Clubs/Individuals

B. Killick of the Girton Tennis Club raised four matters:

1. Whether a footpath could be established connecting the changing rooms and the gate into the Tennis Courts. At present during winter, club members walk through mud to get to the courts, taking the mud on their shoes onto the courts. This is not good for the court surface. Several options for surfacing were mentioned including paving slabs, pathway mats and artificial grass. B. Killick indicated that the Tennis Club would probably be willing to contribute to costs once the various options had been investigated and the matter discussed by the Committee.
2. B. Killick reported that one of the tennis nets is now quite damaged and in need of replacement requested.
3. B. Killick also suggested for consideration the erection of a practice wall to be placed at one side of the court in place of a panel of fencing. This would be of a particular value for small children in the early stages of learning to play tennis. L. Miller was asked to investigate costs etc., for discussion at a later date.
4. B. Killick asked if the Tennis Club could use the Girton Website for circulating information on the club to the Village. The cost to the club to set up their own website would be prohibitive. Cllr Wilson replied that the Village website was not under the control of the council but he felt such use was entirely appropriate. Contact details for the Village website were available from the Clerk.

S. Pawley representing both the Cricket Club and football clubs requested that matting be placed in the corridor leading out from the changing rooms. The floor is quite slippery when wearing cricket boots/football boots. The existing policy that sports boots should be removed prior to entering the Pavilion by the front door was referred to but this was now reported as a problem in relation to the changing room corridor. L. Miller was requested to obtain details of an alternative covering to the floor surface which would be discussed at a future meeting.

S. Pawley also asked if there were any further plans to increase the size of the Referees Room. Cllr Wilson said that initial quotations had been obtained as part of a wider review of the building and that the matter would be discussed at a later date.

U08/38 Date of next meeting with users

This was arranged for 10th September 2008.

The meeting closed at 7.45