

Girton Parish Council

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

Minutes of the Sport and Recreation Committee meeting with Users held on Wednesday 8th September 2010 at Orchard Close Community Centre

Present: S & R Committee Members- Cllr M Wilson (Chairman), Cllrs,V Godby, P Johnson,
Co-opted members: CMR Wilson, G. Clare, L Miller

Users: Peter Kirwan (Girton Cricket Club),Glenda Mee, (Girton United Football Club) Jane Mansley, (Bobtails Toddler Group)

10/09 Apologies: Cllr Carol Noble
John Barnett (Cambridge Academy of English), Lesley-Ann Parker (Girton Tennis Club) Rachel Moore (Yoga)

10/10 Members declaration of interest for items on the agenda.
None

10/11 Public session for items on the agenda or other matters of interest
None

10/12 To confirm the Minutes of the meeting with users held on 10th March 2010
Cllr Wilson prop. Cllr Godby sec.unanimous

10/13 Matters arising from the Minutes:

- i) 09/38 1 Fee notification letter for 2010/11 had been sent out to all users
- ii) 09/38 8 New play area fencing and self closing gates now installed
- iii) Dog signage: initial signs have been installed along the dog route
- iv) Ditch work has been carried out
- v) Moss on Tennis Courts: moss removed in May 2010
- vi) Heating in Hall: New meter installed and working correctly
- vii) Plaque for Vic Watson: Unveiled at Colts Presentation Day Sunday 13th June 2010
- viii) Hot Water: Water Heater in loft now reconnected

10/14 Bookings Administrators Report – the report dated 8th September 2010 was tabled. Several issues were noted. The Parish Chairman is awaiting a reply from the architects concerning continuing problems with the Pavilion Hall. The hall is booked out every day and is particularly busy in the middle of the week. The Youth Club also used the hall and facilities in the summer holidays for the Girton Youth Project. Girton Glebe School have been using the MUGA to play Hockey and Football for Lunchtime clubs. Now that the football season has started the facility will again become very busy in the winter months for training purposes. Girton Cricket Club had a very good season and the first team got promoted from Senior 3 to Senior 2. The Tennis Court lights were due for a 3 year inspection and service – this was carried out in May. We continue

to receive good feedback from both home and away football teams on the excellent condition of our recreation ground and football pitches. Thanks should be given to both our Groundsman, Chris Wilson and our grass cutting contractor Peter Rounds for the conscientious way they continue to carry out their work.

10/15 Chairman's report:

The Chairman noted that the Committee had drawn up a four year plan of activity and goals. In the current year (to -March 2011) the Sport and Recreation budget has very little flexibility beyond essential commitments.

Additional income would be required to take forward any new plans for subsequent years. Some of this increase was anticipated to come from increases in user fees but an increased contribution from the Council's precept income would also be required.

Income from user fees. A schedule of fees for 2011/12 was tabled. Following a year of no increases a compound two year inflationary increase on fees for 2010/11 had been approved last year. A further increase for 2011/12 was considered essential. The general increase is based on May 2010 CPI inflation rates of 3.2% - rounded up to the nearest appropriate pound/50p/25p increment.

Storage fees which were introduced last year will not be increased.

In looking at the three years beyond the current year the priorities for the Committee appear to be:

- Resurfacing of the MUGA which has an estimated remaining life expectancy (with maintenance) of another 3-4 years.
- Fitting out of loft space and installation of lift in Pavilion (both noted as overdue by Sport England in 2003).
- Responding to issues raised/recommendations of Disability audit.

Planning for the first two projects will be taken forward aiming at work starting on site towards the end of the four year cycle. This will mean that consultation could proceed while funds and options were being identified. In particular the replacement of the MUGA would require extensive consultation over the purpose of this court there was a known tension between demands for exclusive football use and the needs of other sports for an all weather outdoor surface.

Several other aspects of future planning will be taken forward through a small sub-group of the Committee looking at the footprint of the Recreation Ground now that the car-park fence has been installed. This group will identify where if possible additional features could be accommodated eg.

- Additional seating around play area etc
- Picnic table provision.
- Teen-age shelter
- Cricket all weather practice wicket
- Signage

User involvement in these issues was important and the Chairman hoped that a framework of realistic future goals would mean that these users meetings would be a valuable part of monitoring progress and reassessing priorities.

10/16 Comments from Users:

i. Peter Kirwan of Girton Cricket Club outlined a need to replace the artificial practice strip. The existing strip is coming to the end of its life and the club had suggested a preferred location to the Committee. The Club would be seeking external funding for this and new practice nets. The new facility would be beneficial to encouraging youth engagement with the game. Ideally the club would wish to have the old strip removed, the grass made good and new wicket installed by the next cricket season.

The Committee was receptive to this proposal but the location would need to be examined by the Footprint Working Group before the Committee could commit itself.

Peter Kirwan agreed to forward additional information regarding costs, specifications and funding to the Committee.

ii. Glenda Mee commented on faulty keys. It was agreed a review of keys and possible re-suiting was needed.

10/17 Correspondence from Girton Cricket Club in respect of fees: The Chairman would be replying to the club's letter.

The meeting ended at 9.30