

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Grounds Committee Meeting held on 23 November 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present: David Cumberland (Chairman) Chris Bere
 Alan Berry Kristian Berggreen
 Phil Mead Murray Thomson
 Bill Hatton

Clerk: Linda Baker

Also present were six members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** None. The Chairman welcomed Murray Thomson to his first meeting of the committee as the Chairman of the Hassocks Allotment Holders Association.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** Chris Bere declared an interest in item 4 (b) as he sponsored the Adastra Bowling Club.
3. **Minutes of the Grounds Committee Meeting held on 21 September 2011.** The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. Phil Mead reported that the oak tree had been planted in Talbot Field (minute 6 (i) refers)
4. **Adastra Park.**
 - a) **Football Goal, North Field.** The committee considered the complaints from residents of Orchard Lane regarding footballs being kicked over the hedge behind the football goal. It was agreed that the level of nuisance this was causing was unacceptable, and different in degree from the impact other activities in the park had on the surrounding area. MSDC did not have a suitable location for the equipment, but it was agreed that if possible the equipment should be relocated in Adastra Park as it had proved very popular. RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND that the football goal should be removed from its present location. The committee members would examine the feasibility of re-siting it parallel to the skatepark in the south field.
 - b) **Adastra Bowling Club Fees.** The letters dated 2 and 17 November 2011 from the Adastra Bowling Club, and advice from Hedleys Solicitors and previous correspondence were considered. It was agreed that the Adastra Bowling Club had been invoiced in accordance with the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding, and with the current sports club fees. RESOLVED that the Adastra

C
All

Bowling Club would be asked to settle the invoice dated 28 October 2011 as this was now overdue. If there were other issues the club wished to discuss, a meeting would be arranged with David Cumberland, Bill Hatton and Alan Berry.

- c) **Chipman Unit, Children's Play Area.** The estimate for a new unit was considered. RESOLVED that the unit would be repaired.
- d) **Croquet Club.** The letter dated 6 November 2011 from the Hassocks Croquet Club was considered. The committee were pleased that the Croquet Club was flourishing, and that the Club were planning to improve the playing surface. RESOLVED that a response would be sent confirming that the area used for croquet was not used for organised football games, the Club would have use of the area for the foreseeable future, provided that the normal hire conditions were observed, (the hire fees were reviewed annually), and the club could put up a notice board, provided the details of the board and location were cleared with the council in advance.
- e) **Adult Fitness Equipment.** It was noted that the outcome of the grant funding application from MSDC was awaited.
- f) **Fencing.** The fencing near Villa Adastra had collapsed, and needed replacing for security, and the fencing to the north of the tennis courts had been damaged by footballs being kicked against it. Three quotations had been obtained for repairing the fencing. RESOLVED that the quotation from Allen Tyler Fencing would be accepted, the cost to be taken from contingencies.
- g) **Manhole Cover, Mens Club.** The manhole cover outside the Mens Club has been shattered, and required replacing. The manhole cover was broken and replaced at the council's expense in December 2009 at a cost of £250. It is thought that the cover may have been broken as a result of a heavy object being dropped on it, and the Mens Club have been asked to advise their beer suppliers not to drop beer barrels onto the car park while making deliveries. The committee ENDORSED the replacement of the cover with a road heavy use manhole cover, at a cost of £325, plus VAT, the cost to be taken from contingencies. A bollard would be placed in front of the cover to prevent vehicles backing over it.
- h) **Memorial Tree.** A request that a golden yew be planted in the Memorial Garden in memory of Pauline O'Riley was considered. Concern was expressed that the Memorial Garden had been designed as a memorial area for the fallen in World War 1, and that trees in memory of more recent local residents might be better sited in the park or the Hassocks Burial Ground. It was also pointed out that the foliage of this species was toxic. After discussion, it was RESOLVED to grant permission for a golden

C

C

C

C

yew to be planted in the Adastra Park Memorial Garden, to the south east of the pergola, at the family's expense.

5. Adastra Park Community Pavilion.

A report on the pavilion was considered.

- a) **Snagging.** A number of snagging items had not yet been dealt with, including the cracking in the walls, the damp in the store rooms, condensation on the pipe work in the east store, water collection on the paving slabs outside the main door, and the north store door. RESOLVED that a meeting would be arranged with Ecotecture, Farnrise and Accel as soon as possible to agree a timetable for these items to be dealt with before the end of the snagging period.
- b) **Repairs.** The master clock had now been installed. The sliding glass panels had been repaired, and were useable, but a part was still awaited. The power points in the bar had been relocated to the store room. Keymer and Hassocks Cricket Club (KHCC) had been invoiced for the repairs to the panels and the cost of moving the power points, but KHCC had sent a response dated 15 November 2011 declining to pay. It was RESOLVED that a response would be sent to KHCC indicating that, as a gesture of goodwill, the council would pay half the cost of repairing the panels, but that KHCC should meet half the cost and the cost of moving the power points, as this had been necessitated by KHCC replacing the sink in the bar without authorisation. With regard to other outstanding items, KHCC would be asked to confirm their requirements for internal signage and to contact Ecotecture regarding fixing the scoreboard.
- c) **Electricity Supply Costs.** It was noted that the cost of electricity for the building, mainly for running the air source heat pump and the ventilation system, was likely to be approximately three times the cost of electricity used in the old pavilion. The budget for 2012/13 had been adjusted to take account of this increase. It was noted that the increased cost reflected a better level of space and water heating than had been available in the old pavilion.
- d) **Heat Pump Maintenance.** Two quotations for maintenance of the heat pump were considered. RESOLVED that the quotation from Heat Pump Installations Ltd for heat pump maintenance, for a three year contract, in the sum of £432, should be accepted.
- e) **Operating and Maintenance Manuals.** ASA had signed off the maintenance manuals, and a final invoice for £250, plus VAT had been received from ASA. Routine and preventative maintenance should be carried out in accordance with the manuals by a competent person. RESOLVED that SMS (Southern) Limited would be asked to quote for carrying out the work on a regular basis.
- f) **Other Items.** Farnrise had not yet boxed in the pipework in the store rooms, although the council had approved the work in September

C

C

C

C

2011. Ecotecture had not yet responded to the request for guidance on attaching items to the interior walls. The croquet Club had raised a number of issues regarding use of the pavilion, which would be looked at outside the meeting.

6. Parklands Road Allotments.

a) **Renewals 2011.** All but one existing tenant had renewed their tenancies. The council had planning permission for 20 sheds on the site. Twelve tenants had sought permission to erect sheds, which had been granted, but seven sheds had been erected without permission, as required under the Tenancy Agreement, and these tenants would be written to reminding them that permission was required.

b) **Report from the HAHA.**

(i) **Perimeter Fence.** A section of the perimeter fence had been damaged. RESOLVED that Allen Tyler Fencing would be asked to replace the damaged section when they did the fencing in Adastra Park.

(ii) **Request that the HPC contribution is paid in November 2011.** The council had agreed a contribution of £5 per plot to the HAHA, paid annually in January. The HAHA requested that the payment is brought forward to November each year. RESOLVED that the annual payment would be made in November, commencing in 2011.

(iii) **Starter Plot.** RESOLVED that plot 19A should be let to the HAHA as a starter plot, to be let in four sections to people at the top of the waiting list at £6 or £7 per plot per plot holder.

(iv) **Earth Closet.** It was agreed that the HAHA could erect an earth closet at the edge of the car park, at the Associations expense, provided there were no health and safety implications.

7. Parish Centre Water Supply. South East Water had confirmed that there was a leak between the mains and the building, which was the responsibility of the Parish Council. Two quotations had been received for the work, and it was RESOLVED that the quotation from D M Chivers to replace the pipe should be accepted, the cost to be met from contingencies.

8. Date of Next Meeting. 18 January 2011 at 7.30 pm.

	C
	C
	MT
	MT
	C

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50 pm.

Chairman..... Date.....