

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Grounds Committee Meeting held on 12 November 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present: Steven Ecroyd (Chairman) Leslie Campbell
 Bill Hatton Murray Thomson.
 Chris Bere

Clerk: Linda Baker

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Apologies for absence were received from David Cumberland, Darryl Sinclair, Paul King and Sue Hatton.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** Chris Bere declared an interest in item 4 (c) as he sponsored the Adastra Bowling Club.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 September 2014.** The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
4. **Adastra Park.**
 - (a) **Relocation of the Children’s Play Area Entrance: Update.** The contractors had advised that because of the wet weather conditions the work would be delayed for a while to avoid damaging the park.
 - (b) **Drainage North Field.** Two quotations for ongoing drainage works were considered and it was RESOLVED that the quotation from Barcombe Landscapes would be accepted as they already carried out vertidrainage as part of their general maintenance work, and had submitted the lowest quotation for sand top dressing.
 - (c) **Adastra Bowling Club.** The Grounds Committee, at its meeting on 24 September 2014 (minute 4 (f) refers), resolved that the parish council would fund:
 - The cost of replacing the eastern path to the bowling green in the sum of £1,820
 - Materials for a sand and seed injection treatment in the sum of £808
 - A contribution towards a new mower in the sum of £1550.

Following a meeting with representatives of the Adastra Bowling Club on 13 October 2014, when the Club requested the council to pay the full cost of the above, the committee reconsidered the decision, and agreed to recommend that the council meet the full cost of the above. As the fees from the Adastra Bowling Club were not sufficient to meet these costs it was RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND that the council fund the cost of the path, in the sum of £1,820, the cost of the seed and sand injection treatment in full, in the sum of £2,745, and the cost of a new mower in the sum of £3,100, the total cost of £7,665 to be met £4,440 from fees received from the Club, and £3,225 to be taken from the council’s free reserves.

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(d) **Adastra Park Memorial Garden.**

- (i) The council had approved a quotation from Rooted Garden Services in the sum of £6,000 to carry out a refurbishment and replanting of the memorial garden in Adastra Park in the autumn/winter 2014. Rooted Garden Services had now advised that as the nature of the business had changed, they were no longer able to carry out this work. The committee were disappointed by the late notice of this development. It was RESOLVED that three new quotations should be obtained to carry out the work.
 - (ii) Steven Ecroyd had met Penny Worth to explain the council's plans to create a new memorial to the war dead in the memorial gardens. Penny Worth wanted the remaining memorial preserved or restored, and thought that more views from the local community should be obtained. Steven Ecroyd was willing to talk to groups such as the Royal British Legion if this would be helpful.
 - (iii) Steven Ecroyd had met the Headteacher at Downlands Community School to discuss involving Downlands pupils in creating a new memorial. The school were very receptive to including local history in WW1 studies, and further discussions would be held with the Acting Head of History. The school could also be involved in designing a new memorial as they had a number of creative pupils who could produce illustrations. The timing of this involvement would depend on how the work would fit into the school curriculum. The committee noted the progress which had been made.
- (e) **Meeting with the Junior Football Club.** It was noted that the Grounds Committee would be meeting representatives of the club on 20 November 2014.
- (f) **Charging for Junior Football Training.** The Grounds Committee, at its meeting on 4 June 2014 (minute 5 (a) refers) had agreed that the Junior Football Club would be charged the normal fee for use of the pitches for each training session. Reviewing the charges MSDC made for football training, it was RESOLVED that for training only, the cost for 2014/15 would be £7.70 per session, or £120 for 16 sessions, payable and booked in advance. For tournaments, the pitches would be charged at the normal rate for pitch hire. The club would be advised of these charges at the meeting on 20 November 2014.
- (g) **Community Pavilion.** It was noted that the pavilion lock had malfunctioned again, and that the Green Building Store were being very tardy in dealing with the problem. RESOLVED that a new door should be installed, and that the Chairman should be asked to approve the expenditure as this was a matter of urgency.

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(h) **PIR Sensor Lighting.** A letter dated 22 October 2014 from the Hassocks Community Association Adastral Hall Management Committee requesting a PIR sensor light in the north east corner of the car park was considered. After discussion the idea was not supported as it would be costly to install and it was thought that the current lighting levels were sufficient.

5. Allotments. Report from the Hassocks Allotment Holders Association. Murray Thomson reported that a Clear Up Day had been held on 8 November 2014. A number of new tenants had taken up the vacant plots and there were two plots yet to fill. The arrangement for the parish council contributing £5 per half plot per year to the Haha would continue. Proposals for a mechanism to establish the allotment rents each year would be put to the next meeting for consideration. Murray Thomson and the Haha were thanked again for the work they do in connection with the allotments.

6. Meeting Dates. The following meeting dates for 2015 were agreed:
Wednesday 18 February
Wednesday 8 April
Wednesday 8 July
Wednesday 16 September
Wednesday 25 November

7. Date of Next Meeting. 18 February 2015 at 7.30 pm.

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There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....