

**WEST END PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2023, AT 7.15 PM**

Councillors Present: **R MacDonald (Chair)**
 D Berry
 C Boulton
 B Du-Crow
 J Haylett
 R Prince-Wright
 S Turl

In Attendance: **B Bond, Deputy Parish Clerk**
 S Adams, Head Groundsman
 S Johnson, Admin Officer

 2 Members of the public

054/23/REC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair invited questions from members of the public as explained in the document ref. Public Participation at West End Parish Council meetings.

A member of the public wanted to highlight an issue at Cutbush. The Chair advised Councillors will discuss this under the Cutbush item later in the agenda.

055/23/REC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

056/23/REC APOLOGIES FROM COUNCILLORS

No apologies were received from Councillors.

057/23/REC MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the 19th July 2023 meeting were agreed at the Full Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 13th September 2023.

058/23/REC PROJECTS FOR 2024 / 2025

Councillors were asked whether they had any ideas or suggestions for projects in 2024/2025.

No projects were suggested.

059/23/REC PARISH EVENTS 2023

Senior's Bingo Event - Wednesday 25th October 2023 – 1.00pm – 3.00pm

Councillors discussed the setup of the event and decided that:

- Tickets would be £5 per person with a limit of 80 attendees
- We would hold 6 games of bingo with cash prizes in each.
- Cllr MacDonald has volunteered to be the bingo caller
- Cllr Haylett will be supplying the bingo machine.
- Refreshments will be made available at 25p per cup and served by volunteer Councillors.

Remembrance Day - Sunday 12th November 2023 - 10.30am – 11.15am

- The Road Closure application has been submitted to Eastleigh Borough Council.
- Hilldene have 5 volunteers available to help with refreshments after the service so no café staff will be required.
- Parish staff have volunteered to marshal and Cllrs Berry & Prince-Wright also volunteered.

Christmas Lights – Friday 24th November 2023 – 6.30pm – 7.30pm

- St James Church choir to sing carols.

Children's Christmas Event - Friday 15th December 2023 - 4.00pm – 5.30pm

Nothing new to report.

Senior's Christmas Party - Monday 18th December 2023 - 1.00pm – 3.30pm

Nothing new to report.

060/23/REC HATCH GRANGE PLAY AREA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

No response has been received, as yet, on the submitted grant application.

061/23/REC BARNSLAND / HATCH FARM / UPMILL

- The new path at Barnsland is almost finished, just a few final touches needed. A walk around the site will be arranged once it is all complete.
- The steering group met up with the successful artists for the Hatch Farm Public Art Project on Wednesday 6th September. The Parish Office is currently liaising with the Public Art Officer to arrange a suitable date for a cyanotype workshop which they hope to hold with a local school.
- An email has been received from a resident regarding trees and brambles at the rear of her property which backs onto Barnsland. She is asking that the tree and brambles be removed as they are damaging her fence.

After a short discussion Councillors agreed that the Grounds team would not be asked to remove the brambles as it would set a precedent and be very costly to the Parish. Councillors were happy for the resident to clear the brambles themselves.

062/23/REC HATCH GRANGE / MEGAN GREEN / QUOB GREEN / WEST END COPSE

Hatch Grange

- An Open Space Risk Assessment was completed with Peninsular on Hatch Grange.
- A new location is needed for the Hatch Grange WI Bench. This was originally positioned outside the Parish Centre but had to be removed due to Antisocial Behaviour.

The Councillors discussed agreed that the bench should be kept on Hatch Grange but deferred to the Parish Office to decide on a suitable location.

- **RESOLVED: Councillors approved the quote of £5520.00 + VAT from our arborist to complete the pollarding of the Lime trees.**
- Correspondence has been received from the Environment Agency regarding a culvert in Larch Close where a resident was querying the ownership. Following investigations undertaken by the Clerk, we have discovered that this parcel of land is unregistered.

- A resident of Hatch Mead has asked for some arborist advice regarding the Parish owned trees at the back of her property.

Sinc Area

- **RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to the fee of £600.00 for 3 cows from a newly sourced grazier. The cattle will be in place from May-September 2024.**

Megan Green

- The Wednesday Conservation Group have approximately 60m of path left to complete at Megan Green, which will be completed in 2024. For the remainder of 2023 their work will concentrate on clearing trees and brambles.

Quob Green

Nothing new to report.

West End Copse

- Friends of West End Copse held an action morning on Saturday 9th September where their main jobs were installing several bird boxes, litter picking and controlling the brambles and nettles along the footpaths.

063/23/REC MOORGREEN RECREATION GROUND

- **RESOLVED: Councillor Du-Crow proposed, and Councillors MacDonald seconded to approve the quote of £4025.89 + VAT from Kompan for a replacement piece of equipment for the play area. Councillors agreed unanimously.**
- The Grounds team have trimmed back the hedges along the roadside. The tops of the hedges will be taken back by the arborist next year

064/23/REC TOWNHILL FARM RECREATION AREAS

Chartwell Green

Nothing new to report.

Townhill Farm & Carpathia Play Areas

- The basket swings at both Townhill and Carpathia, having been damaged, were removed, repaired, and reinstalled by the Grounds team.
- Continuing damage has been reported to the wet pour at Carpathia play area. This is being repaired by the Grounds Team when it occurs.

Following a short discussion, Councillors agreed that the Parish Office should arrange for a letter drop to residents explaining the damage that is occurring on a regular basis and that, should this continue, the Parish may have no option left but to close the play area.

Townhill Farm Community Centre

Nothing new to report.

065/23/REC CUTBUSH LANE FOOTBALL FACILITY

- Football has now re-commenced for the 2023/2024 season.
- A resident advised of persistent issues with the weekend football attendees not accessing Cutbush correctly.

The parish staff reassured the resident that a further reminder and detailed map of how to get to Cutbush has been sent out to all of our teams and they have also been asked to inform any away teams of this information as well.

066/23/REC QUOB LANE CEMETERY/ BURIAL GROUND

Burial Ground

- **RESOLVED: Councillor MacDonald proposed, and Councillor Prince-Wright seconded to approve the quote of £500.00 from our arborist to remove a group of conifer trees within the Old Burial Ground. Councillors agreed unanimously.**
- A request has been received from Reverend Maunder of St James Church asking for the Grounds Team to trim the church border hedges on a yearly basis and also to remove a large amount of bramble in the far corner of the main church grounds.

Following a short discussion with the Head Groundsman, councillors agreed for the grounds team to add this to their schedule of work, however, it would be considered a low priority.

- Several calls have been received from residents regarding the poor condition of the path in the Old Burial Ground.

Councillors asked the Parish Office to obtain quotes for the proposed works.

- It has been agreed that the tap at the Old Burial Ground will be removed and three water butts will be purchased. Faculty approval is required.

Cemetery

- Following a couple of requests for more than two ashes to be placed in an ashes plot, the office staff and grounds team discussed the viability of this and determined that the limit of two ashes per plot should remain in place.

Councillors asked that advice be sort from the Institute for Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM).

- The exhumation of Mui Yip is ongoing. The faculty has been received from the Diocese and no further paperwork is required. A specialist exhumation agency is now dealing with the repatriation. The charges from West End Parish Council for the exhumation are £580.00.

Garden of Reflection

Nothing new to report.

067/23/REC ALLOTMENTS

- A number of plots had their greenhouses vandalised on Monday 11th September. This was reported to the police and is being investigated.
- Rent renewals are in the process of being paid by all plot holders.
- The number of people on the waitlist for an allotment plot currently stands at 43.

068/23/REC GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT

- A resident has contacted us regarding an overgrown Laurel in Harbourne Gardens.

After a short discussion, Councillors agreed that the laurel should be removed.

- Three quotes have been obtained to purchase a new ride on mower. Details of the quotes can be found in **Appendix 1**.

RESOLVED: Councillor Turl proposed, and Councillor Haylett seconded that a recommendation be made to the Policy & Resources Committee to proceed with quote 2. Councillors agreed unanimously.

- A quote of £4000 +VAT has been received to sell the existing mower.

069/23/REC THE YOUTHHOUSE

An update was provided by the Youth Leader.

We have had a busy summer holidays with many trips organised including:

- Taking 12 young people to Woodmill for canoeing.
- 15 young people came away for a weekend residential to Osmington Bay in Weymouth. This was the first one since covid and the young people really enjoyed it.
- We enjoyed another trip to Romsey rapids with 18 young people.
- We had a trip to the Mayflower theatre to see Charlie and the Chocolate Factory with 10 young people.
- Our final trip for the summer holidays was a Hamble River boat cruise with fish and chip lunch for 15 young people.

It was the 10 Year Anniversary of our Community Games this year. The event was held on 16th August at Hatch Grange. Luckily, we had great weather on the day and the event was another great success. Thanks to everyone that helped and supported us. We are already planning next year's event and would love to hold the event at Hatch Grange again.

We have already planned activities for the autumn term and have a trip booked to Thorpe Park for fright night on a teacher training day in October, for 25 young people.

The numbers at Chartwell youth club have been very low since reopening this spring, some of the reason is that we invited the young people up to the YoutHouse and they prefer it there and have stayed. We are planning to close again in October as the area is so dark and therefore unsafe for young people. We were thinking about not reopening in the spring, but instead using the team to do more detached work in the area.

Again, this year, we have used the youth club car park for cricket parking, so far, we have raised £1,900.00. We have also had a donation of £80.00 from St James school for running the end of year celebration for the year 6 leavers.

This money has helped subsidise the PGL residential and it also helped to fund the community games. We would like to use the rest to purchase some outside car parking lights, as the car park is very dark in the evening. These lights would only be used when the car park and building are being used.

Councillors raised concerns regarding the lighting and the possible impact on residents. They also commended the Youth Leader for her idea for doing more detached work due to decreasing numbers of attendees at Chartwell Youth Club.

070/23/REC DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 18th October 2023.

The meeting closed at 8.34 pm.

Appendix 1 – Ride on Mower Quotes

| Leasing Company | Vehicle | Additional Payment | Maintenance Included? | Monthly Payment |
|-----------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Quote 1 | <p>Kubota F391 (39hp)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trimax Flail - Road Kit | N/A | Yes | <p>5 Year Contract 60 monthly payments of £668.00 + VAT</p> |
| Quote 2 | <p>Kubota F391 (39hp)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 cylinder, liquid cooled, diesel engine - 61 litre fuel tank capacity - Hydrostatic Transmission - Power steering - 2WD/4WD operation - LED Road Lighting Kit (inc Flashing Beacon) - FX155 Trimax Flail Mower - F90 Accumulator Kit (for use with Trimax Flail) - 2 Year manufacturer's Warranty | N/A | Yes | <p>5 Year Contract 60 monthly payments of £663.99 + VAT</p> |
| Quote 3 | <p>Kubota F251 (24.5hp)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 cylinder, liquid cooled, diesel engine - 61 litre fuel tank capacity - Hydrostatic Transmission with high/low gear shift - Hydrostatic Power steering - Hydraulic independent PTO Clutch - Reclining Suspension Seat - Dual-acting Overrunning 4WD - Kubota Accumulator/Bounce Kit - LED Road Lighting & Beacon Kit - Road Registration - Trimax FX135 Flaildek - 2 Year manufacturer's Warranty | Documentation fee £100.00 | No | <p>5 Year Contract 60 monthly payments of £522.57 + VAT</p> |