

**WEST END PARISH COUNCIL  
NOTES OF THE RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024, AT 7.15 PM**

**Councillors Present:**                    **R MacDonald (Chair)**  
   **D Berry**  
   **J Haylett**  
   **R Prince-Wright**  
   **S Turl**

**In Attendance:**                        **B Bond, Deputy Parish Clerk**  
   **N Thorne, Deputy Head Groundsman**  
   **S Johnson, Admin Officer**  
  
   **3 members of the public**

**001/24/REC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Two representatives from West End FC attended the meeting to discuss an item listed under agenda point 010/24/REC. They explained that they have recently formed West End Football Club for the children of West End as there is currently no local team. The team are working closely with the Head Teacher at St James' School who has allowed them to use their artificial pitch for winter training, but their playing fields are flooded and in need of drainage work, so they do not currently have a space to train or play matches during the summer. As such, they are requesting to use an area of Parish land.

Cllr MacDonald explained that all the Parish open areas are available for anyone to use, however they cannot be booked for exclusive use. Cutbush Football Facility is only available to contracted teams and there are currently no spaces available for new teams. It was agreed to add West End FC to the waiting list and give them priority as they are based in West End.

**002/24/REC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No new declarations were made.

**003/24/REC APOLOGIES FROM COUNCILLORS**

No apologies were received.

Councillor Boulton was absent.

**004/24/REC MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024 meeting were agreed at the Full Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**005/24/REC ANIMAL LICENSING AND WELFARE POLICY & PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO) FOR THE CONTROL OF DOG FOULING CONSULTATION**

The survey is currently live on Eastleigh Borough Council's website and will close on Monday 6th May 2024.

**006/24/REC ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

**RESOLVED:** The Environmental Policy was approved unanimously subject to an addition being made to carry out energy audits on all Parish buildings as and when funding becomes available.

**007/24/REC PARISH EVENTS**

D-Day 80th Anniversary – Thursday 6th June 2024

10<sup>th</sup> Itchen North Scouts will be helping us to light the beacon. They have extended an invite out to all of their scout group and families to join us for the event.

Summer Fete – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024

- The Deputy Clerk is currently finalising the list of stall holders who will be attending. Once this is completed, the Deputy Clerk and Head Groundsman will create a site plan of where all the stall holders will be located on the day.
- St Johns Ambulance have confirmed they will be able to provide two first aiders to attend the event.

**008/24/REC GROUNDS TEAM REPORT**

- The grounds team have removed the bench at the old pond on Hatch Grange as it was in a poor condition. This bench belonged to Friends of Hatch Grange.

**RESOLVED:** The Councillors agreed for the plaque to be placed on another bench by the Hatch Grange play area.

- A large limb from the oak tree next to the Cow Field fell in the recent bad weather and damaged the metal gate. The grounds team have removed the tree limb and replaced the gate with the one previously used at the pond.

A resident has asked if the height of the hedge that neighbours their property and Moorgreen Rec can be lowered to the height of the fence.

The Deputy Clerk reported that the resident has not yet clarified exactly which section they are referring to. Councillors asked for this to be brought back to committee next month when further information has been provided.

- The Grounds team have filled a large pothole in the Old Fire Station Car Park.

The Chair congratulated the Grounds Team on how beautiful Hatch Grange is looking at the moment. The Deputy Head Groundsman confirmed that the grass had been cut for the first time due to the improved weather however areas of Megan Green were still drying out.

**009/24/REC YOUTH TEAM REPORT**

Report provided by the Youth & Community Leader:

We have just returned from the easter holidays, the lighter evenings are here, which means a lot of outside play. We have purchased walkie talkies for the staff to use in our busy sessions. We are still as busy as ever and now have 10 young people on the waiting list.

We only had 1 trip over the easter holidays, which was to Portsmouth guildhall by train to watch an easter panto. It was an eventful trip due to the train being cancelled. Alternative

transport was arranged, and we managed to get there in time for the start. The trains were running fine on the return home and since then we have managed to get a refund from National Rail. The rest of the easter holidays we opened as normal.

We have been successful in obtaining a grant from the Eastleigh Borough Council for our Townhill Farm Toddler Group. We have been awarded £700 to purchase new tables and chairs and a much-needed new shed for our outdoor equipment. This will make a big difference to the group.

#### **010/24/REC OPEN SPACES / RECREATION AREAS**

- The path has now been completed at Megan Green. The Wednesday Conservation Group next have availability in August.

The Deputy Head Groundsman requested that the group finish the path to Megan Green before moving to work on Barnsland. Councillors agreed unanimously.

- Five cows will be arriving in the SiNC area sometime in May. These cows will be registered under the grazier's name; however, the Parish would be responsible for covering any vet costs that may arise. The cows will be shared between our site in the Spring/Summer and another site in the Autumn/Winter.

The Chair requested that there is a Certificate of Wellness in place before they arrive and that we look into getting a time limited insurance policy for the duration of the cows stay.

- Email received from West End FC looking to book one of our open public spaces for football training.

This item was discussed under item 001/24/REC.

#### **011/24/REC PLAY AREAS**

- A quote has been received from Kompan to replace a piece of play equipment in the Hatch Grange Play Area. Cost £3,670.85 + VAT

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Turl proposed, and Councillor Prince-Wright seconded that the new piece of play equipment be purchased. Councillors agreed unanimously.

- The rope swing removed from the play are at Townhill Farm will be put back once the new CCTV camera has been installed on the Townhill Farm Community Centre building on Friday 26th April.

#### **012/24/REC QUOB LANE CEMETERY/ BURIAL GROUND**

The grounds team have strimmed the Old Burial Ground.

#### **013/24/REC ALLOTMENTS**

- The current waiting list stands at 30 (10 Parishioners, 20 non-Parishioners).
- The current number of vacant plots is 11.

#### **014/24/REC DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

The meeting closed at 7.52pm.