

**REDBOURN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Commons and Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 at 7.30pm, in the Conference Room at Redbourn Parish Centre.**

Present: Cllrs C O'Donovan, T Finnigan (V Chair), D Bigham, S Vegro, D Mitchell, V Mead

In Attendance: C Kenny (Clerk) Cllr D Smith

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr M Maynard (health)  
Cllr D Mitchell  
Cllr I Caldwell

**2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr Caldwell – Friends of Nickey Line (M), Active in Redbourn (M)  
Cllr Bigham – Care Group (CM), Village Hall (M)  
Cllr Maynard – Redbourn in Bloom (CM) and the Museum (T)  
Cllr Mead – The Museum (CM), District Councillor, Active in Redbourn (M)  
Cllr Mitchell – District Councillor, Community Group (M)  
Cllr Finnigan – Classics on the Common (CM)  
Cllr Vegro – Active in Redbourn (CM)

**3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Representatives of Cricket Club

Item 8.4 was brought forward

**To consider a request from Cricket Club regarding external improvements to the Pavilion**

Representatives from the Cricket Club addressed the meeting to explain reasons why they are seeking to extend the current patio area. The ECB are encouraging cricket clubs to make their pavilions more enticing to encourage all demographics to join. As such, the Club has been successful in their application for a grant. The size of the proposed patio extension is less than the original request – it will be 1.5mtrs bigger – and they plan to install a removeable picket fence which will only be in place during the cricket season. The Club was asked to consider the type of material used to ensure it is eco-friendly.

It was proposed, seconded and resolved that:

***RPC grant permission for the Cricket Club to extend the patio an additional 1.5 metres and to allow the installation of a picket fence around the patio area during the cricket season***

**4 MATTERS FOR REPORT**

Clerk – Tree works  
Clerk – Conkerthon  
Clerk – Leafing Programme  
Clerk – Registering the Common

## 5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

***The minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 are adopted as a true record of the meeting***

## 6 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA

**Item 9** – the Clerk reported that the work to renew the leases for Scouts, Tennis Club and the Allotments has been passed to the solicitors. Under delegated powers, the Chair and Vice Chair agreed the cost of £2,150

**Item 12** – The last three memorial benches are being installed this week. There are now no new locations available.

**Item 8.3** – the clerk reported that water is flowing through the drain that HCC uncovered. There have been no major flooding in this area.

## 7 FINANCE

### 7.1 To receive the finance report on Commons expenditure

The Clerk present the finance report for July. Items to note were that the yellow highlighted area showed mis codings hence the overspends. This will be readjusted for the next meeting.

480-4809 – the cost for the new festive lights have been transferred from EMR.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

***The Commons Income and Expenditure reported dated 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 for the month of July 2021 be received***

## 8 REDBOURN COMMON

### 8.1 To receive an updated on Common repairs

The wooden bollards have now been delivered.

**ACTION:** Clerk and Cllr O'Donovan to meet with resident at affected areas

The Clerk confirmed that the area used as an overflow car park will be closed on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Cllr O'Donovan voiced his concern about the state of the ground in this area and felt that careful consideration should be given to what arrangements we make next year. JHP will start remedial work on the grass at end of September.

### 8.2 To receive a request from a resident for a memorial bench

Cllrs considered a request to install a memorial bench for Mr J T Bower. The application fits the points criteria as per the Memorial Policy. However, there are no new locations available.

The options are:

- Remove the single plank bench currently outside East Common Play area and replace with a memorial bench for Mr Bower.
- Accept the application and ask if they want to be put on the waiting list when space becomes available.

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- Offer a plaque to be located on a tree by Methodist Church (as this was the area the family had requested).

**ACTION:** Clerk to contact applicant and inform as per above

**8.3 To consider a use of land request from Redbourn Porsche Club**  
Cllrs considered a request to use the overflow car park for an event.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

***RPC grant permission for Redbourn Porsche Club to hold a family event on the Common (overflow car park) on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September***

**8.4 To consider a request from Cricket Club regarding external improvements to the Pavilion**  
This item moved fwd

**9 PLAY AREAS**

**To receive an update on play areas**

The proposed date for installing the new piece of play equipment at East Common has been delayed due to supply issues. We await a new date. We will ensure we display details of the new equipment at the Parish Council Stall at Classics.

The beesnest swing at Long Cutt play area has been decommissioned awhile ago due to parts of the ropes being cut. This piece of equipment is regularly vandalised and tampered with and along with this, the wooden frame is starting to show signs of wear. The Clerk asked if Cllrs would agree to her sourcing a more suitable piece of equipment to replace this.

**ACTION:** Clerk to research and bring to the next meeting.

**10 CUMBERLAND GARDENS**

There has been some anti-social behaviour in the Garden with youths letting off fireworks. The Police are aware and suggest that the gates are closed at night. The issue is that we do not have the volunteers to manage this. With the nights getting shorter, the situation will be monitored.

**ACTION:** Facilities Officer to organise repairs to the top of the wall where the bricks have been dislodged.

**11 MATTERS TO REPORT**

**Trees** – the Chair and Vice Chair agreed under delegated powers to tree works being completed

In following areas:

- Remove dead silver birch tree outside of Jolly Gardener
- Raise the canopy of trees outside of Beesnest Cottage
- Raise the canopy of yew trees in Cumberland Garden as resting on the wall

The cost of this was £800.00

**Conkerthon** – Active in Redbourn have requested use of the Common on 25<sup>th</sup> September to run the Conkerthon event again this year. The request came in too late to add to the agenda.

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Cllrs were happy for this event to run and recommend to Full Council that permission be granted.

**Leafing Programme** – District Councillor Mitchell has been asked to review the areas currently included in the leafing programme. It was agreed the following should be included:

- Bettespol Meadow
- Lybury Lane/Nichols Close opposite the shop
- Crouch Hall Lane at junction with Long Cutt

**Registration of the Common** – Clerk updated the members. Solicitors have confirmed that the application is waiting to be processed and that we have been allocated a provisional title number.

**12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting date is Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7.30pm, in the Conference Room at Redbourn Parish Centre.

The meeting closed at 20.43

*Chair* ..... *Date* .....