

## WEST END PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020 AT THE PARISH CENTRE, CHAPEL ROAD, WEST END COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM

**PRESENT:**                      **Councillors: C Boulton**                      **Chair**  
   **R MacDonald**  
   **A Price**  
   **J Asman**  
   **B Coles**  
   **S Turl**

**In attendance:**              **Mr L Cooke**                      **Clerk**  
   **Ms E Davies**                      **Admin Assistant**  
   **Mr S Adams**                      **Head Groundsman**

**2 members of the public**

#### **147/20/REC APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from Councillors Collett,

#### **148/20/REC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Members were invited to declare interests in relation to items of business on the agenda.**

Councillor Asman's husband is an allotment holder.

#### **149/20/REC MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 had been previously agreed by Full Council on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020, were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **Environmental Policy**

This was discussed during the previous January meeting of this Committee. As agreed, Councillors were asked to bring any further comments to this meeting.

Cllr Price felt that the draft policy was more like an action plan than a strategic policy and that separate Action Plan and Strategic Policy documents would be more appropriate. In this way, the Strategic Policy document would be used to communicate the Parishes broader environmental goals, with the Action Plan listing the actions needed to achieve those goals. Councillors discussed this at length but felt that two separate documents would be over complicated.

Councillors agreed to redraft the Policy to include strategic statements describing the Parish's goals with a table format listing the actions needed to achieve the goals. A redrafted Environmental Policy and Action Plan document will be discussed at the next meeting.

### Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC) Greening Campaign

An email was previously circulated to all Councillors and this was also discussed during last month's meeting. EBC have agreed to cover the £300 fee for all Parish councils who wish to support the rollout of the first phase. Phase 1 is Engagement & Behaviour Change. Using a specialist pack, this phase aims to enable everyone in the community to join together and make 5 significant changes to their lifestyle. EBC have also organised a Greening Campaign training session on March 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6.30pm in the Eastleigh House building. An email invitation will be sent out separately. Councillors agreed to support the first phase of this campaign.

### **150/20/REC MATTERS ARISING**

All other Matters Arising will be dealt with under agenda headings:

### **151/20/REC CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Telephone call from resident of Ullswater Avenue - reporting a fallen tree in the copse adjacent to their property. Head Groundsman checked the site and reported that the tree is owned by EBC.
2. Email received from resident of Hilldene Way - appealing Committee's previous decision to refuse tree maintenance to the pine tree to the rear of their property. An arboriculturalist is due to visit the site on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February as part of planned inspections of this site. Councillors agreed to maintain their stance on this. Following receipt of the arboriculturalists report the Clerk will write to the resident.
3. Email sent to EBC requesting replacement dog waste bins. EBC Local Area Manager replied advising that, due to funding constraints, EBC will no longer replace damaged bins like for like but will, funds permitting, replace them with multi-use bins. Head Groundsman has carried out a dog bin audit to log damaged bins will now prioritise replacement. Clerk will get back to EBC Local Area Manager with list for potential replacement bins. This prompted a lengthy discussion on waste and provision generally of bins.

### Public Art

Still awaiting communication from Highways England giving permission for the site. The designer and fabricator are ready to go.

## **152/20/REC EVENTS FOR 2020**

At Full Parish on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020, Councillors unanimously agreed to the planned events, expenditure and ticket prices for 2020. Discussion are ongoing with the Youth Leader regarding the possibility of the Youth Team organising a Barn Dance in September.

### Easter Egg Hunt

This will be held during the Easter School Holidays.

VE Day 75 – this will cover the weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2020, we will be holding an evening event in the Parish Centre main hall, to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day. A live band, ploughman's and a glass of fizz for a toast. 'Bourne Valley Jemz' have confirmed attendance. £375 deposit paid. Total cost of band: £675. The format will be similar to last years' celebrations to commemorate 100 years since WWI. Tickets £10. BYOB.

### West End Carnival

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. Theme of Great Britons. On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, West End Youth Club will be organising a traditional sports day event to be held on Cutbush football fields. All ages welcome.

### Senior Citizens Summer Tea Dance

Suggested date Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2020. Proposed ticket price of £3pp. Proposed to be for West End residents only.

### Community Games

Organised by the Youth Team. To be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August.

### Halloween Trail

This will take place during the During October school half term.

### Remembrance Sunday

This will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

### Turning on the Christmas Lights

Typically held on the last Friday in November. Suggested date Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

### Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Typically held on a Monday afternoon in December. Suggested date Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Proposed ticket price of £3 pp. Proposed to be for West End residents only. Last years' Christmas party a sell-out.

### Children's Christmas Event

Proposal for this year is to have a 2 hour children's disco with an Entertainer/magician. Deputy Clerk has had a telephone conversation with

‘Silly Scott’ a professional Children’s entertainer. A 2 hour show will cost £350 to include disco, games and magic show. Suggested date Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 4:30 – 6:30pm. Proposed ticket price of £3. Have informed St James School of the date so that it doesn’t clash with their school fair.

#### Memorial Bench

Cllrs were shown a collection of brochures featuring some prospective benches for consideration. Clerk has put in a request to Hampshire County Councillor Craig for a contribution to the bench, the outcome of which will be communicated in the next two weeks. The bench will be located in Hatch Grange. For a new memorial bench to be in place before VE day an order would need to be placed soon.

After perusing the brochures, Councillors unanimously agreed on the Combined Armed Forces Bench.

Proposed: Cllr MacDonald  
Seconded: Cllr Asman  
In favour: Unanimous

Clerk will look into delivery dates.

#### PLAY AREA REVIEW

The Groundstaff are currently reviewing each site for repairs.

As part of the review it was agreed to look into mapping where the sites are. We have also received an email from the Ops Manager at Hedge End Town Council regarding the electronic mapping software they use to plot land ownership, assets – trees, bins, property and play areas to cemetery and allotment plots. The software and licencing is free but Hedge End did pay approx. £450 for someone to help set up the system and go through basic training. Hedge End have invited staff/Cllrs to visit their office to show how the system works. Cllr Price has some previous experience with this software and would like to get involved with this project. Cllr Price also agreed to look into alternative options for this software.

#### **153/20/REC BARNSLAND/HATCH FARM**

##### Hatch Farm

First meeting of the Hatch Farm Working Group took place on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 when Cllr MacDonald was appointed as Chair. The next meeting will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> March. EBC were asked to prepare an appraisal of the open space, for consideration at the next meeting.

##### Barnsland

Charity commission annual return has been submitted.

#### **154/20/REC HATCH GRANGE / MEGAN GREEN/QUOB GREEN/WEST END COPSE**

## HATCH GRANGE

Head Groundsman has ordered ‘Osmo Oil’ for the sculpted tree on Hatch Grange. It has been 2 years since it was last treated and will be applied once the weather has improved. Cllr Macdonald will ask FoHG to make a contribution to this.

### Hatch Grange Management Plan

Meeting scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> February with the consultant, Cllr MacDonald, Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Head Groundsman.

Email received from St James School Association requesting permission for their annual Easter Hunt on Hatch Grange on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April from 10:00 – 12.30pm. Cllrs agreed that they are happy for this to go ahead.

Fallen Trees in Hatch Grange due to recent high winds have been tidied up by the Grounds team.

### SINC Area

As previously discussed, a letter was received from the Rural Payments Agency advising they have made an error with the ‘revenue claim payment’ and over paid us by £900. Deputy Clerk has spoken to the Grazier – our agreement with natural England is a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) scheme, which is submitted via a paper application not online. The agreement ends on 30/06/2023. Will continue to chase the reasons for the alleged overpayment. No further updates.

### Staff car park to the rear of workshop

Meeting with EBC Small Works Department next week.

### FOHG

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January saw a group of local Geocachers come along for a work morning, helping to clear saplings behind Chapel Close.

### Megan Green

Replacement metal barrier to be installed by the Grounds team w/c 24<sup>th</sup> February. A few trees again have had to be tidied up due to recent high winds.

### West End Copse

As previously reported – insurance claim is still ongoing for damage to property due to fallen tree in Ullswater Avenue. No further updates.

A few reports of fallen trees due to the recent high winds, including a large Oak tree adjacent in Welland Gardens. Arboriculturalist was called in, due to the size of the tree. Groundstaff have removed the majority of the tree.

### FoWEC

Received a list of jobs that need doing, including a request for replacement dog bins on Ullswater/Old Ivy Lane; repair of steps leading from boardwalk up to Pine walk; timber edging to retain path leading to Duddon Close; uneven timbers on boardwalk. FoWEC will install signs soon and will buying extra gravel for the paths in March.

**155/20/REC MOORGREEN RECREATION GROUND**

Clerk reported on discussions with the enforcement officer regarding replacement of hedges in Moorgreen Road. Enforcement Officer has been assured by the developer that this will be undertaken within the next couple of weeks.

**156/20/REC TOWNHILL FARM RECREATION AREAS**

Nothing new to report.

Play area review of bins carried out as reported.

**157/20/REC WEST END FOOTBALL FACILITY**

1. Grounds team to install the DDA kissing gate w/c 24<sup>th</sup> February.
2. Two new goal posts have had to be ordered due to damage and safety issues with the existing posts. Since ordering Deputy Clerk has applied for a grant from the Football Foundation to replace the two other goals. They will contribute up to a maximum of £1,200 towards the new goals.
3. Funding can also be secured to refurbish the changing rooms. The Football Foundation will offer a grant of 75% towards the total refurb cost.

**158/20/REC WEST END CEMETERY/BURIAL GROUND**

Burial Ground

Strimming and clearing of the site is ongoing.

Cemetery

Wobble testing on cemetery headstones was recently carried out, with 16 headstones highlighted as needing attention. Letters will be sent to the owners. A notice will be attached to each headstone.

Garden of Reflection

Nothing new to report.

**159/20/REC ALLOTMENTS**

- Healthy waiting list.
- An allotment holder had to be rescued by the Grounds team as his vehicle was stuck in mud on one of the access roads. Email of thanks received.
- Head Groundsman now has the replacement padlocks. These will need to be welded on to the gate posts.
- Report from WEGAA of a damaged entrance gate post. This has now been repaired.



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