

**MINUTES OF THE PLAYING FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
OF EASTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL**

held on 1st February 2023 at 6pm at the Village Hall, New Rd, Easton on the Hill

Present: Councillor members Cllr J Watson (Chairman), Cllr P Bates, Cllr S Woodman

Non-Councillor members: K Cox and J Hope (see item 73)

Ian Coupe (Cricket Club representative), arrived 6.02pm

Members of public: S French-Stanton, J Ford, D Wheatley (all Cricket Club) and S Kayley (Wittering Football Club)

Clerk: J Rice

PFMC/69	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	<p>To note apologies received by the Clerk. There were no apologies sent to the Clerk as required. (Cllr Cherry sent apologies via Cllr Watson.)</p>	
PFMC/70	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	<p><i>To receive all declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. (Members should disclose any interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business).</i> There were no declarations of interest made.</p>	
PFMC/71	<p>PUBLIC TIME. Arrangements will be made for the public to join the meeting. A maximum of 15 minutes will be permitted for members of the public to address the meeting on any item on the agenda. The club members agreed to be invited to speak on their item later.</p>	
PFMC/72	<p>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING To receive and agree as correct the minutes of the PFMC meeting on 3rd November 2022, herewith. Chairman to sign the minutes. The minutes were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.</p>	
PFMC/73	<p>NEW MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE To receive nomination for new, non-Councillor member and resolve whether to co-opt. There was a proposer and seconder for Jane Hope to become a non-councillor member of the committee and she was duly voted in. J Hope signed the declaration of acceptance and joined in the meeting with agenda and papers having being sent in advance.</p>	
PFMC/74	CRICKET CLUB	
	74.1	<p>To receive and note current situation regarding the Cricket Club and hear from members about its future. Mr Ford explained that Mr Wheatley is stepping down as Chairman and that the club wants to carry on as a constituted club, doing social, friendlies cricket only this season. They wish to retain the lease on the land from the Parish Council and will work on meeting the requirements of the lease, with a new Chairman and audited accounts. They accepted it might be difficult however are grateful for the help shown in the last 2 years. They'd like to work together and hope to build up the club and maybe get grants in the future. The recent ECB grant application failed due to insufficient unaudited accounts. They stated that funds will be tight as costs are increasing and that consideration could be given to relinquishing the pavilion and have anticipated situation and reduced costs. It was explained that other grants could be applied for to improve overall sports facilities, especially if juniors involved. It was agreed that members will discuss the situation and return to the next meeting with a firm decision. It was accepted that they may need to hold an extraordinary meeting to appoint a new Chairman, treasurer etc. It was further noted that the grant for the power supply will involve working together as it will be to the pavilion and is a consideration as funds are needed. Action cricket club members to appoint new committee, get accounts finished/audited, agree contribution to the power supply project and a new member on the PFMC by the next PFMC meeting.</p>

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

	74.2	To discuss the issues regarding the current management/committee, the lease and other implications of any changes. This was discussed as part of the above, with no implications to the lease as long as the current requirements are met as discussed.
	74.3	To agree a plan of action possibly involving a joint working group. The action is agreed as at 74.1.
	74.4	To receive and note positive decision on the 10k grant application for permanent electricity supply and discuss implications, amount from clubs to fund difference in costs. It was agreed to get 3 up to date quotes for the project elements if possible and then agree contributions necessary from clubs. Also, that the relevant information will be uploaded to the Grantscape website for the agreement. Action Cllr Woodman and Clerk.
PFMC/75	PITCH HIRE	
	75.1	To receive and note request from WPFC to use the football pitch for junior matches and resolve a response. It was agreed that the Juniors will be allowed to use the pitch as requested. The hire agreement will be amended in due course.
	75.2	To receive and note request for an additional pitch to be used, from the cricket area and resolve a response. It was resolved that the cricket wicket could possibly be moved to allow for spread of wear and tear on existing pitch if more usage allowed, as long as the cricket square remains the same size. Action Cllr Woodman to measure up and feedback.
	75.3	To receive and note request for help with filling holes and running the bar, has been advertised. It was noted that an advert has gone out to the public but no offers as yet. Wittering queried whether the agreement should state that the pitch is provided in a playable condition but this was queried as it is an impossible task. A volunteer helps to fill holes at present but it was agreed that someone could be paid to do this and enquiries will be made. Action Clerk/WPFC
	75.4	To receive and note request to waive hire charge for December 2022 due to no matches and resolve response. There was a vote and a majority voted to waive the hire cost in the circumstances as a one off.
PFMC/76	MAINTENANCE	
	76.1	To receive update from Caretaker/Clerk/Cllr Woodman and K Cox on maintenance/operations and resolve any outstanding queries or issues raised and agree any new expenditure on hours and resources/parts. 1. New small goals, scrap old ones and purchase new now, Cllr Cherry to provide. It was decided that these will form part of a grant application. Action Cllr Watson 2. Car park; review worsening situation and look at options/plan of action. It was noted and accepted that the car park is worse with no prospect to improve. It was thought that the matting needs removing and road planings used instead for a hard surface. It was accepted that drainage is the issue though and that an expert opinion will be obtained before more action and money is taken, although it was recognised it will cost money to rectify and an NNC community grant application will be submitted to assist as the deadline is 6/2/23. Action Cllr Woodman/Clerk 3. Rabbit holes, alternative method to address, second quote obtained? It was noted that a second quote was not possible due to the work involved and that use of a ferret quote will be obtained. Action K Cox 4. Old swings, plan to remove frame. It was noted this will be done in the drier weather. Action K Cox/Cllr Woodman 5. New swings – make decision/plan regarding new swings in old swings area, including an inclusive swing. It was noted that it is not a priority for the overall plan for the playing fields at the moment. 6. Address corrosion on old slide – quote for £300 max. materials. It was agreed to accept this quote and do the work needed as per the ROSPA report.

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

		<p>Action Caretaker</p> <p>7. Freestyle/runway – install new, longer chains and get greased? It was agreed to ask for longer chains and lubrication by the manufacturer. Action Clerk</p> <p>8. Replace corroded gate post at the Close, quote £150. This was accepted and agreed. Action K Cox</p> <p>9. Remove old bin at PF. It was decided to leave this until necessary to remove. Action Caretaker</p>
	76.2	<p>To note the self-employed status resolved with insurance and contract for services. This was noted in respect of the caretaker role.</p>
	76.3	<p>To note work not covered by Caretaker, rabbit holes, removing foliage. This was noted and a request to communicate a plan of work in advance to get help with removal of foliage if needed. Action Caretaker</p>
PFMC/77	FUNDRAISING/MUGA AND PUMP TRACK	
	77.1	<p>To receive and note costs of a MUGA and pump track circulated and plan a public consultation meeting to hear views on installing and receive feedback on a PWLB loan or otherwise. To receive and note draft letter to residents, K Cox, circulated. Costs circulated were received and noted. A date for a public meeting was set as 22nd March at 7pm in the village hall. The letter to residents was agreed and K Cox will print on headed paper to include approx. increases in precept for public works loans. Action K Cox/Clerk</p>
	77.2	<p>To agree a plan of action. A plan of action was agreed for the public meeting as above and the feedback will be used to plan future objectives. It was recognized that any large loan would need to have a majority of further resident consultation and support.</p>
	77.3	<p>To receive update on FCC grant and any other opportunities. Cllr Watson reported on conversations with the Northants grant providers and a new pavilion and car park could be applied for. Crowdfunding would be needed as 75% of costs are given. It was agreed that an overall plan to maintain and improve facilities is needed and it is dependent on the cricket club too and what the residents say they want.</p>
	77.4	<p>To receive and note NNC Community funding opportunity and decide if an application can be made and for what. See 76.1 (2)</p>
PFMC/78	<p>WOODLAND AREA To receive update on Woodland area and grant, agree next actions and grant expenditure, including information board (£260) and welcome board (£375), plus new path costs £650 max. See breakdown of costs/grant attached, £1037 left. Fix benches, boards and planting still to do. An update on actions was given by Cllr Woodman and noted – the new path is being laid on weekend 24/25 Feb. The outstanding items will be addressed in due course and by end of March 2023 for the grant agreement. Action Cllr Woodman</p>	
PFMC/79	<p>FINANCE To note finance report and current budget situation and resolve any queries, herewith. To note budget for 23/24 for playing fields is £5500 project amount. The report was received and noted and there were no queries.</p>	
PFMC/80	ORDERS FOR PAYMENT; To note/agree payments to be agreed; These were noted.	
	80.1	Woodland area path materials/labour £650 max. from grant.
	80.2	Quote to replace gate post at The Close £150
	80.3	Quote to repaint slides/corrosion on play equipment £350 max.
	80.4	Invoice from Caretaker for work in January £90
PFMC/81	Receipts	Payment for hire received from Wittering Premiair for November 2022, January 2023
PFMC/82	<p>To agree the date and time of the next PFMC meeting. The date of the next meeting was agreed as Tuesday 18/4/23 at 6pm.</p>	

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____