



## RECREATION COMMITTEE

**Minutes** of an ordinary meeting of the Parish Council Recreation Committee on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2012 commencing at 19:00 in The Lindos Centre Conference Room Saddlemakers Lane Melton IP12 1PP.

**Present:**

Cllr Mrs BK Abbott

Cllr Mr M Kennedy

Cllr Mrs J. Eckersley[Chairman]

Cllr Mr A Porter

Cllr Miss KS Martin

**In Attendance**

Mrs Diane Linsley Assistant Clerk to Melton Parish Council

Mrs Gaby Ridgeway [until 20:10]

Mr David Kemp [until 20:30]

Residents regarding the proposed BMX track

**12.01 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR AND CONSENT TO ABSENCE**

There were no apologies received.

**12.02 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST WITH REGARD TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND ADDITIONS TO THE REGISTER**

There were no declarations or additions to the register.

**12.03 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

**12.03.01 To receive representations from Councillors who have declared a prejudicial interest**

There were no representations received from Councillors.

**12.03.02 To receive representations from members of the public in respect of items on the agenda only**

There were no representations received from members of the public.

**It was RESOLVED** to lift standing orders.

**12.04 OPEN FORUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO TALK TO COUNCILLORS**

The opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of their councillors about items within the remit of the Recreation Committee

A number of local residents attended the meeting to ask questions regarding the proposed BMX track and to voice their concerns about the project. Two members from Just 42, Mr Rhodri Tucker-Harvey and Mr Mike Simpson attended the open forum and explained the reasons behind the need for a BMX track at Melton Playing Fields and answered some of the questions asked by local residents.

The Chairman, Cllr Jenny Eckersley, informed those present of the process the Parish Council had undertaken over this project. This had involved consulting local people over the proposal through the Melton Messenger newsletter, parish meetings and through E-news. The project had received support from parents of children at Melton Primary School among others.

Objections to the BMX track being situated on the Playing Field include the fear that the site would attract non-BMX users who would congregate on the site causing a

disturbance to local residents, that the site would look unsightly and that its location was too close to the adjacent Hutchinson's Meadow, a wildlife reserve.

Members from Just 42 reminded those at the meeting that BMXing is an Olympic sport, that a previous local BMX site had been in operation for twelve years without complaint and that those participating in BMXing are interested in fitness and were highly unlikely to mix BMXing with drugs or alcohol. The track on the Playing Field would be a managed site and leased by Melton Parish Council who would have the ability to take away the lease and restore the ground.

Cllr. Eckersley thanked everyone for attending the meeting and urged people to send their views to Suffolk Coastal District Council by the 2nd February, the end of the consultation period concerning the planning permission for the BMX track. She also encouraged people to report anti-social behaviour and criminal acts on the Playing Field to the police and to bring these to the attention of Melton Parish Council and the local SNT group as these were matters that could be and are dealt with as and when they occur.

**It was RESOLVED** to reinstate standing orders.

**12.05 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011**

**It was RESOLVED** that, the minutes REC(11)M10 previously circulated, be received and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

**Proposed by:** Cllr Martin **Seconded by:** Cllr Abbott

**12.06 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE ASSISTANT CLERK ON PROGRESS MADE ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES AFFECTING THE RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Paper REC(12)P01 previously circulated was received and noted.

**12.07 TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION OF A FLORAL SURVEY FOR BURKES WOOD FROM GABY RIDGEWAY, VOLUNTEER**

Mrs Gaby Ridgeway presented Melton Parish Council with a list of all the species of trees, shrubs and ground flora that she had observed in Burkes Wood and the pond in 2011 on disc. She hopes to undertake further surveys this spring. The survey data will provide a very useful foundation to the future management of the wood and could be used on any future interpretation boards for the site. The lists will be placed on the Parish Councils web site. Cllr Eckersley will include an article on the floral survey in the Melton Messenger in the spring. The Committee thanked her for all her efforts in producing such a useful survey for Melton.

**12.08 TO CONSIDER A CYCLE PATH ON THE PLAYING FIELD AND CREATION OF A RIGHT OF WAY ALONG JENNERS CLOSE FROM LOCAL RESIDENT DAVID KEMP**

Mr David Kemp presented his proposal to establish a public right of way on foot to link Turnpike Road to Melton Road via Melton Playing Field to the Committee.

The objectives of the proposal would be:

- To secure the future access on this well used route
- The Continuation of the Public Right of Way created along Turnpike Road a few years ago
- Undertake minimal ground works to create a dry path, without negative impact on the landscape

Problems identified include:

- The field is waterlogged in places on the route
- The crossing of Jenner's Close would need to be defined as a legal right of way requiring a 'claim' to be put forward to Suffolk County Council's Rights of Way department.

The route continues to be well used by many walkers for recreation and as a daily commute by school children to and from Woodbridge Primary, Melton Primary and Farlingaye schools. The route follows the line of the original main road from Melton Hill to The Coach and Horses Pub. A number of grants could be investigated to cover the costs of the 'green causeway' proposed.

**It was RESOLVED that**, the Recreation Committee would put forward the proposal to create a raised path across the playing Field and for Melton Parish Council to submit a

claim to SCC to legally establish the route across Turnpike Lane as a definitive right of way to the Full Council.

**Proposed by:** Cllr K Martin

**Seconded by:** Cllr J Eckersley

- 12.09 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE BUDGET OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
The report was tabled and noted.
- 12.10 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE PARK WARDEN ABOUT HIS DAILY ACTIVITIES**  
Reports for September, October, November and December were tabled and noted.
- 12.11 TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL OUTDOOR PLAYING SPACE FACILITIES**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Recreation Committee due to time constraints.
- 12.12 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PAVILION REFURBISHMENTS FROM THE PAVILION WORKING GROUP**  
The Chairman of the pavilion working group, Cllr Martin, explained that there were just a few items left to be completed on the refurbishments.
- 12.13 TO CONSIDER THE PAINTING OF THE PAVILION**  
Quotations to undertake the painting of the pavilion had not yet been received. The Assistant Clerk to gather the quotes and report back to the Committee.
- 12.14 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS MADE WITH THE BMX TRAIL**  
The site notice from SCDC regarding the planning permission was erected on the day of the meeting, Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January. The public consultation period will end on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.
- 12.15 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE PLAY EQUIPMENT PLAY SPACE MONIES**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Recreation Committee due to time constraints.
- 12.16 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE FRIENDS OF MELTON WOODS**  
Cllr Eckersley reported that the first meeting of the Friends of Melton Woods last December had been very successful. The group had managed to remove most of the redundant tree guards.  
Subsequent to the meeting Cllr Eckersley and the Assistant Clerk met with Anne Westover to discuss what to do with the old tree guards. It was agreed that another Friends' working group would be organised to sort through the guards and their stakes. Reusable ones would be used by Melton Parish Council and SCDC's Tree Wardens scheme.  
Damaged tree guards have been taken to the local refuse site by Suffolk Coastal Services at no cost.
- 12.17 TO CONSIDER THE RISK ASSESSMENTS FOR VOLUNTEERS WORKING IN BURKES WOOD**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Recreation Committee due to time constraints.
- 12.18 TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF TREE SURVEY EQUIPMENT AND PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Recreation Committee due to time constraints.
- 12.19 TO CONSIDER SCDC UNDERTAKING AN ANNUAL TREE HEALTH AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT.**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Recreation Committee due to time constraints.
- 12.20 TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING A BURKES WOOD WORKING GROUP.**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Recreation Committee due to time constraints.

- 12.21 TO CONSIDER APPOINTING A TREE WARDEN FOR THE PARISH**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Recreation Committee due to time constraints.
- 12.22 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE GRIT BINS**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Recreation Committee due to time constraints.
- 12.23 TO CONSIDER THE PARISH'S FOOTPATH NETWORK**  
This item was deferred until the next meeting of the Recreation Committee due to time constraints.
- 12.24 TO CONSIDER THE FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**  
It was agreed that due to the increased number of issues to be considered by the Recreation Committee that more meetings would be needed. These would be extra ordinary meetings to be fitted around those already scheduled for the year.  
**It was RESOLVED that,** the Recreation Committee would hold an extraordinary meeting in February.  
**Proposed by:** Cllr Abbott **Seconded by:** Cllr Porter
- 12.25 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS**  
There was no urgent business.
- 12.26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at 18:00 in the Lindos Centre Conference Room
- There being no further business the meeting was closed at 22:00

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_