

COLDEN COMMON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE
VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 11th NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.30PM

Due to the current Coronavirus pandemic, the Parish Council met virtually via Zoom

Present Cllr Maggie Hill
Cllr Richard Izard
Cllr Maggs Pearson
Cllr John Boyes
Cllr Rob Veck (Chair)
Cllr Hazel Crosthwaite
Cllr Pam Glasspool

Apologies Amanda James, CC Tennis Club

In attendance Debbie Harding (Clerk)
Sophie Thorogood (Asst Clerk)
Geoff Edwards, CC Otterbourne and Sporting Wessex Cricket Club)
Derek Conway (Colden Common Bowls Club)
1 member of the public

REC40/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No committee members were absent.

Amanda James gave her apologies due to a diary clash with the Tennis Club AGM

REC41/20 TO RECEIVE ANY COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS, IN RELATION TO ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Cllr Izard declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Cricket Club as Vice President.
Cllr Veck declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Tennis Club as a member and the Chairman of the Allotment Association

REC42/20 TO APPROVE THE ACCURACY AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 5th OCTOBER 2020

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th October 2020 were confirmed and accepted as a true record of the meeting, proposed by Cllr Pam Glasspool seconded by Cllr Izard and carried.

REC 43/20 UPDATE ON THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING AND OTHER MATTERS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

The auto closures on the gates have been fitted at Colden Common Park

Due to the new National Restrictions Macks Fitness are no longer holding indoor classes.

The Clerk is still trying to finalise a date when Scandor will commence the repairs to Car Park at Colden Common Park.

The repair to the roller door for the cricket store at Colden Common Park is still outstanding.

Despite significant savings in the Recreation Project budget (which cannot be vired elsewhere without Full Council approval), the running budget of this committee is tight for the remainder of the year, This is due to an overspent of £8,000 so far on tree works with more expenditure expected. This expense had been met by vired funds from budgeted funds for “extra contractor works”.

A trio of Volunteers, have kindly agreed to remove some brambles from the footpaths, sweep the footpaths and cut a ring of Ivy from the trees in Bluebell Wood. They have a copy of the volunteer agreement and are aware of the TPO Woodland status and restrictions.

The Play areas will be independently inspected on the 18th November and this will include the decay testing. The Parish Council handyman will be in attendance, so he is familiar with what is tested on the operational checks and understand any items which need attention.

The Lengthsmen visit is due on Wednesday 18th November.

REC 31/20 TO RECEIVE ANY COMMENTS, UPDATES AND QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, SPORTS CLUBS, CARETAKERS AND WARDENS (TO INCLUDE THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

The following sports clubs gave the following updates:-

Colden Common Bowls Club

Derek Conway on behalf of the Bowls Club circulated prior to the meeting a summary of their understanding of grants paid to other Bowls Clubs in the District, specifically Littleton where it was understood the Parish Council distributed the £10K covid grant they received from WCC to the Bowls and Tennis Club.

The Bowls Club explained that their revenue was down this summer as they have been unable to host any fundraising events, The Club normally runs at a profit with fundraising and they are fundraising to increase revenues for improved club room facilities.

Although building an additional club room has not been agreed by the Parish Council The Chairman of the Bowls Club explained that an aspiration of improved facilities, gets members interested, gives the members focus and keeps the club moving forward to a goal. Other Bowls Clubs have better facilities.

The Chairman stated that the club has approx 27 members.

After a question and answers session, Cllr Hill summed up that the Bowls Club need to be able to present a case more clearly and concisely and consistently in regard to the number of members, projections for the future on members, varified accounts, income and expenditure and a business plan on growth of the club membership.

Cllr Veck offered to help the Club prepared a buisness plan as he was the Chairman when Colden Common Tennis Club took on the full repairing lease for the tennis courts. A detailed business plan was required for the LTA loan that they applied for as part of the overall funding.

A resident of Boyes Lane spoke about his concern over security and anti social behaviour at Colden Common Park. He welcomed the agenda item later this evening to discuss security. He fedback that the caretaker locking the gates has reduced late night activity in the park out of hours. The Clerk thanked him for his support and assistance in volunteering to lock the gates when the caretaker was not available.

The resident asked that the Council continued to promote consideration to residents who live in Boyes Lane. It was not only park users who drive carelessly in the lane, but business owners as well.

Colden Common, Otterbourne and Sporting Wessex Cricket Club

Geoff spoke on behalf of the Cricket Club. They have completed their clean up of the cricket store. The new club website will be on a the platform cricket.com.

A councillor asked about the cricket nets. The cricket club do not plan to remove the nets in the winter.

The Clerk has instructed Winchester Clty Council pest control to lay some bait at Colden Common Park, due to the rats nest found in the cricket club store.

Colden Common Tennis Club

The Tennis Club were not present at the meeting, but wanted to report that the courts have been cleaned (£1200 plus VAT) and treated with an algae remover. There is a noticeable improvement so it was worth doing.

The Tennis Club reported 171 households are members. If you consider all members of that household, membership is 468 potential users.

The 171 memberships is split into 57 advanced members and 114 basic members.

Allotments

Almost all tenancy agreements have been returned and most rents are paid. The Allotment waiting list still remains at 25.

Plot holders whose cultivation needs attention have been contacted by the Clerk. The Trustees will be asked to consider a policy for regular plot inspections and non cultivation termination of tenancy.

REC 47/20 TO REVIEW THE QUOTATIONS RECEIVED SO FAR FOR ILLEGAL ENCAMPMENT PREVENTION WORKS, AND SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS TO COLDEN COMMON PARK AND THE RECREATION GROUND.

TO RESOLVE TO RECOMMEND TO THE PARISH COUNCIL TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS AND PLACE AN ORDER WITH COMPANY 5 FOR TWO BARRIER GATES TO THE PLAYING FIELDS AT COLDEN COMMON PARK AND THE RECREATION GROUND, FUNDED BY SAVINGS MADE FROM OTHER PROJECTS IN THE RECREATION COMMITTEE PROJECT BUDGET FOR 20-21

TO CONTINUE RESEARCH INTO THE COSTS OF TIMER-CONTROLLED BARRIER GATE AT THE ENTRANCE TO COLDEN COMMON CAR PARK WITH COMPANY 5 AND COMPANY 2 FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2021-22 RECREATION COMMITTEE PROJECT BUDGET.

The Clerk contacted 5 companies to quote for new security gates to be installed at the playing field entrances at Colden Common Park and the Recreation ground.

It was resolved to recommend to the Parish Council to place an order with quote 5, MJ Ellis manufacturing for two vehicle barriers with shrouded combinations locks, fully welded hinges and concrete filled bars, fully installed at a cost of £2750 each plus VAT. It is proposed to fund these works through the Recreation Committee project budget, by using savings from other budgeted projects.

Proposed by Cllr Rob Veck, seconded by Cllr Maggie Hill and carried.

It was agreed for the Clerk to arrange a site visit with MJ Ellis to finalise the size of the barrier. Cllr Veck and Boyes offered to be attendance to ask our questions on the security of the specification.

A discussion took place on the security of Colden Common Park Car park, the risk of illegal encampments and the anti-social behaviour due to its remoteness.

It was resolved that the Clerk will instruct quote 2 to conduct a site visit and survey to formalise a written quotation for installation of automated vehicle bollards at a cost of £200 plus Vat which will be fully refundable in the event of placing an order. Proposed by Cllr Rob Veck, seconded by Cllr Maggie Hill and carried.

REC 48/20 TO UPDATE ON THE INSURANCE CLAIM FOR THE STOLEN ARTIFICIAL GRASS AT COLDEN COMMON PARK

The Clerk has no update on this item and is chasing a response from the insurer.

REC 49/20 TO UPDATE ON THE TREE PLANTING PROJECT FOR THE VILLAGE THIS AUTUMN

The quotation has been received from Hillier's, and Cllr Glasspool will liaise with them directly on finalising the order.

Cllr Glasspool and Pearson will produce the planting schedule and the number the trees and locations.

Once a delivery date is known, Cllr Glasspool and Pearson will produce the planting schedule and the numbering scheme so that the Parish Office can start to organise the campaign to get volunteers to plant the trees.

The Clerk has been contacted by a local resident who took part in a TV programme for a garden make over. 5 Beech and 2 Hawthorn trees were left over, and she has kindly donated them to the Parish Council to be included in the tree planting this autumn. They are approx. 150CM high.

REC 50/19 TO RECEIVE A QUOTE FROM THE GREAT OUTDOOR GYM COMPANY

TO RESOLVE TO AGREE THE SPECIFICATION OF THE EQUIPMENT AND THE SURFACING

TO RESOLVE TO AGREE THE INSTALLATION LOCATION

TO RESOLVE TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS AND RECOMMEND TO THE FULL COUNCIL TO PLACE AN ORDER, WITH A MAXIMUM OVERSPEND ON THIS PROJECT BUDGET OF £3,856 BE FUNDED BY SAVINGS ACHIEVED ON OTHER RECREATION COMMITTEE PROJECTS IN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

This project commenced in December 2018, has been discussed at many meetings and a vary of different suppliers and equipment has been researched and tested over the years.

The Council previously resolved the Great Outdoor Gym Company as the preferred supplier, chosen for quality. A community questionnaire placed The Green as the preferred location for the equipment.

The Committee had the benefit of a question and answer session from a representation of The Outdoor Gym Company prior to the meeting. The equipment is not designed for an intensive gym user, but to get more people active that perhaps would not join a gym. The equipment does not have variable resistance, but on some items, it works on pushing your own body weight. Overall, the equipment is focused on use by a varied demographic from the young to the elderly, different ages and abilities.

The Committee discussed the fact the outdoor gyms are closed by order of the government during the national restrictions currently in place. However, outdoor gyms are one of the first items to reopen when restrictions are lifted. The equipment is laid out a minimum of 1.5 metres apart. It was agreed that the Clerk to ask if the area can be slightly extended to allow for a 2 metre gaps between equipment, which is the current recommended distance to be Covid safe. The Clerk to ask for a requote on this basis for final decision on this matter at Full Council.

It was resolved to recommend that the Parish Council suspends standing orders and places an order with for a medium community gym with black wet pour base with The Great Outdoor Gym Company. The final costs to be determined prior to the Full Council meeting, the shortfall of funding required be funded using savings made from savings made in other budgeted recreation projects in this financial year.

The gym to be installed on The Green in area A as shown in appendix 1 to these minutes. Proposed by Cllr Izard, seconded by Cllr Glasspool and carried.

REC 51/19 TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021-22, AGREE WHICH PROJECTS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2021-22 BUDGET AND THE VALUE TO MAKE A PROVISION FOR

- REPLACEMENT OF LIGHTING ON THE RECREATION GROUND FOOTPATH FROM THE PAVILION TO THE TENNIS COURTS FROM COLUMNS TO LOW-LEVEL LIGHTING
- REVIEW OF ALLOTMENTS PLOTS AVAILABLE IN THE VILLAGE
- BOWLS CLUB WATER TANK
- RECREATION GROUND PAVILION
- TENNIS CLUB FLOODLIGHTING
- REPLACEMENT PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT - THE TRIANGLE
- REPLACEMENT PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT - COLDEN COMMON PARK
- ART TRAIL

A list of potential projects was circulated prior to the meeting with recommendations from the Clerk. A copy of which is attached to these minutes. It was felt that the tennis club aspirations for new LED floodlighting, could be considered under a grant funding application, under the Finance Committee budget and would considered with other competing village projects for 2021-22.

It was resolved to put forward the following recommendations for the Recreation Committee budget for 2021-22. Proposed by Cllr Rob Veck and carried.

Project	£'s
Bowls Water tank	£6,000
Replacement item on Triangle	£1,000
Multi play unit at CCP **	£25,000
Illegal Encampment landscaping	£7,000
Bench with arms on the Recreation Ground	£1,000
Security gate CCP	£15,000
Total	£55,000

** Multiplay unit at Colden Common is being tested for decay on the 18th and an opinion on its remaining life will be clear after that inspection.

Appendix 1

Map showing area proposed for installation of the Outdoor Gym Equipment



PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	SUGGESTED ACTIVITY / PROVISION
Lighting down footpath from Pavilion to Orchard Close	Replacement of lighting on the Recreation Ground footpath from the Pavilion to the Tennis courts from columns to low-level lighting	Suggest this item is included in the Recreation ground pavilion refurbishment specification
Review of allotments provision in the village	Large waiting list currently, high demand which could be driven by the pandemic, furlough etc	Review land already available in the Parish ownership for possible conversion to Allotments, debate, discuss and consult. Identify any suitable land which could potentially be available to lease or purchase. Make tentative enquiries into availability. Discussion possible landshare scheme (those with large gardens sharing space with others). Recommendation No financial provision this financial year Research as detailed above and wait to see if "Covid" demand continues Consider Allotment space (and other competing village needs) in any master plan for policy CC2 in the Colden Common Local Plan
Bowls Club water tank	Installation of a free-standing water tank for the Bowls Green water sprinkler system	Recommendation It is strongly recommended that the water tanks in the loft are isolated due to a slow leak which could threaten the building Make a provision in the budget for approx. £6,000 to install an external water tank.
Recreation Ground Pavilion	Conversion of the garage to a tennis club room Internal changes and refurbishment of the pavilion	This project is not yet out to tender, so costs are not yet known. Funds available to the Recreation ground charity stand currently at £90k Recommendation That no financial provision is made in the budget, but it is flagged to the Parish Council that the Recreation Charity may potentially be looking for an additional £20k towards these works. The Parish Hall Trust will be approached, as may the Parish Council at a later date. Work to the pavilion is strongly recommended to prevent further deterioration of the building.
Tennis Club floodlighting	Replacement of the floodlighting on tennis courts	Project costs estimated at £40k Planning permission is required Columns will be relocated and replaced Timescale of this project is not yet defined. The Tennis Club has indicated that this project is the priority for the Committee. A greater priority than a club room. The tennis club have indicated that they have the potential sources of income which they will be approaching in due course A grant from the Parish Hall Trust Injection of funds from CCTC (possibly backed by a matching loan from LTA) Any grant forthcoming from PC Community Support Crowdfunding grant From Winchester DC

		<p>A grant from Sport England (although the Club has been advised that the project would be considered to be a low priority). Further fundraising activities to be determined (Covid impact)</p> <p><u>Recommendation</u> Recommend to the Finance Committee to ear mark in the grant budget £10k towards this project, pending planning permission and an grant application being approved by Full Council.</p>
Replacement play area equipment - The Triangle	Replacement of Rocker	<p>Decision needed on long term strategy for this area / play area Trim trail has limited play value Missing a rocker See pictures on Appendix 1</p> <p><u>Recommendation</u> Replace the missing item at estimated cost of £1,0000</p>
Replacement play area equipment - Colden Common Park	Awaiting condition report on the wooden	<p>Play area inspector is testing the integrity of the wooden structure shortly</p> <p><u>Recommendation</u> Provision of £25K in the budget, more information should be received prior to January budget approval. If the ROSPA inspection indicates a longer life, commence repairs under running budget and remove provision in the 21-22 budget</p>
Art trial	Art installation around a walking trail in the village	<p><u>Recommendation</u> Ask residents if they would like to contribute Maps can be produced at virtually no cost via Parish Online No budget provision for 2021-22 Possibility if a walking route, a Planning Committee project</p>
Bowling Green Fence	Condition a concern	<p>Limited life</p> <p><u>Recommendation</u> Agree to replace within 2-3 years, No financial provision for 21-22 budget Agree specification in consultation with Bowls Club in the financial year 2021-22 Should the material to be used not be wood but a tennis club type fencing (with access gate for machinery) so that the green can be viewed from the Park. Make provision in 21-22 to install new signage to promote the club to Park users and use of the public rink Work with the Bowls Club on a written plan to grow membership and adhoc public use of the rink Including written public costs and procedures.</p>
Illegal Encampment Work	Landscapes works at the Recreation Ground	<p><u>Recommendation</u> £7k for landscaping and new dragons' teeth</p>