



**Minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee.
Held at Michael King Pavilion, Recreation ground,
Main Road, Colden Common, SO21 1RR
Monday, 3rd June 2024 at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllr Jacqui Hadley (Chair)
Cllr John Boyes
Cllr Hazel Crosthwaite
Cllr John Pearce
Cllr Geoff Scardthomas
Cllr Maggie Hill
Cllr Brian O'Neill

Apologies: No apologies were received

In attendance Debbie Harding (Clerk)
Sophie Thorogood (Assistant Clerk)
Amanda James (Colden Common Tennis Club)
Nigel Champion (Chairman of Colden Common Cricket Club)

REC01/24 To elect a Chairman of the Committee
To receive their declaration of acceptance of office

Cllr John Boyes proposed Cllr Jacqui Hadley as Chair of the Committee, seconded by Cllr Maggie Hill and carried unanimously.

Cllr Hadley signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

REC02/24 To elect a Vice-Chairman of the Committee
To receive their declaration of acceptance of office

Cllr Brian O'Neill proposed Cllr John Boyes as Vice- Chair of the Committee, seconded by Cllr Maggie Hill and carried unanimously.

Cllr John Boyes signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

REC03/24 To receive apologies for absence

No declarations of interest were received.

REC04/24 To receive any declarations of interest related to subsequent agenda items

No declarations of interest were made.

REC05/24 To resolve to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on the 5th February 2024

The minutes of the Recreation Meeting held on 5th February 2024 having been circulated, were considered.

Some typographic errors were corrected. Subject to those changes, it was resolved the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting, proposed by Cllr Jacqui Hadley, seconded by Cllr John Boyes and carried.

REC06/24 To receive an update from the Clerk

A member of the public has raised that the developers of the Black Horse are parking in the Recreation Ground Car Park. It was agreed that the Clerk will speak with them and request that no heavy goods vehicles use the car park as this will cause damage to the surface.

The gamekeeper from Park Farm has requested the contact details for 9th Winchester Scouts. They have suggested that it might be possible for 9th Winchester Scout to use part of Bear Copse. The Clerk will put them in touch; however, Bear Copse is only accessible via Sandyfields and Stratton Copse and the Clerk is concerned that the access is poor.

The Clerk has written to 9th Winchester to ask formally how the discussions are going with the horse stables regarding the 9th Winchester Fireworks event.

Unfortunately, the gardener who was working with the Parish Council has decided they are not suited to working in a public space. This means that the work on the garden of reflection is incomplete. The clerk is seeing an alternative contractor to do the work.

The new toddler unit has been installed on The Green. An infill panel is still awaiting to be installed. The new roundabout works brilliantly, and the finger trap hazard has been rectified.

REC07/24 To receive the Annual inspection of the Parish Council play areas

The annual inspection of the Parish Council play areas was circulated prior to the meeting. Risks identified will be resolved, however, in line with play area replacement areas, some play equipment is reaching the end of life.

Colden Common Park is the priority park for investment with a replacement playarea. The Clerk needs to put up a sign explaining why the swing has not been replaced. The specification needs to be revisiting and companies approached to put forward a design. The value of the project is £120K.

The specification to include a Tall slide, opportunities for climbing, imaginative play in the form of a large multi play unit.

The Clerk to establish when CIL funding applications are open.

Recreation ground

The Clerk needs to order a new part for one of the seats on the large multi-play unit.

Skateboard Park

Foard maintenance have remedied the large bolts which had worked loose on the goal end / basketball area.

The trip hazards (holes) near the youth shelter have been filled with cold tarmac.

The screws in the skateboard park panels are checked weekly to ensure they have not worked loose.

The benches will be cut down, sanded and stained.

REC08/24 To receive any comments, updates, and questions from members of the public, sports clubs, caretakers, and wardens

Tennis

Tennis Club membership is going well, income is up year on year by £1,000 and the club is expecting the income to rise by the same amount at the end of this year.

The club has spent significant funds repainting the courts and replacing the nets.

This weekend the Club has an event and BBQ.

The Club room is used, but the uptake is not huge. It is used for meetings by the coaches regularly.

Cricket

The club thanked the Clerk for cleaning the cricket net surface. The nets at the top needs cable tying to resecure them.

The Club is moving the site screens regularly so the grass can be cut regularly.

It was agreed that the scoreboard can be powered by an extension lead and not install a outside socket.

The Bowls Club have not been using the Club room on the Saturday.

The rotary Mower is not starting.

REC09/24 To discuss the terms of reference

The Committee terms of reference were reviewed with no recommendations for any changes, proposed by Cllr Jacqui Hadley, seconded by Cllr John Pearce and carried.

**REC10/24 To receive an update on the Solar panel project
To receive an update on the Recreation ground accessibility project**

Cllr's Martin, Boyes, King and Loughran met with the solar panel supplier and the design and costs are being revised based on those discussions.

Roof repairs are required at Colden Common Park. Tiles are missing and cracked, at least one velux needs replacing, all velux flashings need replacing and ridge tiles needs refixing. These works must take place before the solar panels are fitted.

The veluxs need to be left slightly open to vent the changing rooms and remove the moisture. The probation service will shortly be painting the ceilings of all the changing rooms after Foard maintenance has removed the mould.

The order has been placed for the works to improve the accessibility of the Recreation Ground. The Clerk is meeting with the contractor shortly to agree an improvement in the design to the pedestrian entrance on Main Road and agree costs of installing an additional safety handrail.

REC11/24 To discuss the next steps in relation to the rising bollards at Colden Common Park

FAAC have accepted that there is a problem with the bollards, and they have a meeting with Barker and Geary at their offices on 4th June. Barker and Geary have stated that after this meeting they will have a greater understanding on what FAAC believe is the underlying issue. FAAC believe they are overheating and will be changing the valve from plastic to a metal on the afternoon of the 4th June.

It was agreed to write a formal letter to Barker and Geary drafted by Cllr Crosthwaite.

REC12/23 To discuss den building, tree swing and cycle tracks in Stratton Copse (Ancient woodland which is also a SINC1 Site) and resolve actions

Cllr Boyes has walked around the area and saw the structure that has been made by tarpaulin, also some evidence of riding motorbikes in this area. A tree swing is hanging from an Oak tree at the West entrance.

A off route footpath has been made from the start of the boardwalk walking West towards the badger set and someone has dug a large hole.

It was resolved that the hole will be filled in and the tree swing removed.

The tarpaulin structure will be left in situ.

The Clerk to check the signage on both access gates.

Some additional private property signs are required on the boundary fence.

¹ Sinc – Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)

REC13/24 To discuss Wildflower/seeded areas in the village and agree future management

The Committee reviewed the areas in and around St Vigor Way that are wilding areas.

The areas which are cultivated with flower seed are Church Lane, the Recreation Ground and the garden of reflection.

The garden of reflection will be replanted with new tulips in the Autumn. The tulips which have been removed will be planted elsewhere in the village.

It was resolved to continue with the way in which these areas are managed. Proposed by Cllr Hadley, seconded by Cllr Hill and carried.

REC14/23 To sign the Lengthsman agreement

It was resolved to delegate to the Clerk to sign the Lengthsman contract. Proposed by Cllr Hadley, seconded by Cllr Maggie Hill and carried.

REC15/23 Councillors' information and question time

Cllr Boyes raised the surface condition of footpath 9. The Clerk will add removal of the stumps to the Lengthsman work list.

It has been reported to the Clerk that Residents of Orchard Close are still frustrated with tennis club members parking in Orchard Close. The Clerk to ask Amanda James to remind members to park in the car park.

Cllr O'Neill raised that this week is volunteer week and invited members to come along to coffee morning event between 10am and noon in the Community Centre, organised by the Community Association.

A little white bench has appeared on the open space in Ash Close. The Clerk will arrange for it to be removed.

Cllr Boyes asked about the legal position with dog walkers walking many dogs. Insurance normally limits the number of dogs to a maximum of 5, but other than for insurance the Clerk is not aware of a limited to the number of dogs than can be walked, other than they should be under control.

REC16/22 Agenda items for the next meeting

No matters were raised.