

**COLDEN COMMON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14TH JUNE 2017 AT 7.30PM. IN THE
COLDEN COMMON COMMUNITY CENTRE, COLDEN COMMON**

Present Cllr Pam Glasspool (Chair) Cllr Jean Bligdon
Cllr Maggie Hill Cllr Steve Badham
Cllr Richard Izard Cllr Patrick Hunter

Apologies Cllr All Brown
Barbara Kelly (footpath warden)

In attendance

Debbie Harding (Clerk) Steve Hewlett (Groundsman)
Colin Blake (CCYFC) Adrian Kelly (CC Shed)
Geoff Edwards (CCOCC) Amanda James (CCTC)
Derek Brunger (Allotments) Steve Richards (CCYFC)
4 members of the public

REC APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

01/17

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

**REC TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND TO ELECT A CHAIR FOR THE
02/17 RECREATION COMMITTEE AND RECEIVE THEIR DECLARATION
OF OFFICE**

Cllr Bligdon nominated Cllr Glasspool as Chair of the Committee, seconded by Cllr Patrick Hunter and carried. Cllr Glasspool signed her declaration of acceptance of office.

**REC TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIR FOR
03/17 THE RECREATION COMMITTEE AND RECEIVE THEIR
DECLARATION OF OFFICE**

Cllr Patrick Hunter nominated Cllr Steve Badham as Vice-Chair of the Committee, seconded by Cllr Pam Glasspool and carried. Cllr Badham signed his declaration of acceptance of office.

REC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

04/17

Cllr Badham declared he was a Trustee of Colden Common Shed

REC 05/17 **TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 13th FEBRUARY 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th February 2017 were circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Hunter is listed both as an attendee and sending apologies. Cllr Hunter did not attend this meeting and subject to this change it was resolved that the minutes of the Recreation meeting held on 13TH February 2017 be approved an accurate record of the meeting, proposed by Cllr Maggie Hill, seconded by Cllr Glasspool and carried. Cllr Hunter abstained.

REC 06/17 **UPDATE ON MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING AND OTHER MATTERS**

A request has been made by the Manager of CCYC under 9's to train on the Recreation ground. A decision was made by the Committee at a previous meeting of the Committee to stop training at the Recreation ground as training up to 4 nights a week, plus weekend matches became too dominate. It was felt that this decision should remain as facilities are available at Boyes Lane which is where all the equipment is now stored.

One of The Closes off St Vigor Way which is not cut in the summer to develop wild flowers has produced Orchids. Three common Orchids and three bee Orchids have grown this year. The Clerk has informed WCC, and the area will continue to not be cut until any wild flowers have seeded.

The Clerk and the groundsman will be producing a "specification document" of open spaces in the village. It will detail the cutting regime with photographs for Clerk consistency.

A member of the public has approach the Parish Council with a view to purchasing Clerk two memorial benches. She would like the benches on The Green, St Vigor Way. The location of these benches on The Green is important to not encourage any further anti-social behaviour. After discussion, the Clerk is to offer three options. A picnic bench for the play area, seats on the footpath to Brambridge garden centre or seats on the sensory garden on The Green.

An independent play area check has taken place today.

The Gas service has taken place for the Recreation ground pavilion. The report has suggested a timer is installed to bring the hot water to temperature to reduce risk of Clerk legionella.

Woodpeckers have been in contact with the Environment agency who are unable to help reduce the fish stocks in Church Pond. Woodpeckers have since contacted a local fishery who have offered some assistance.

Residents in and around Bluebell Wood have expressed an interest in helping to manage the area, which the Clerk will accept with grateful thanks. Clerk

The outside painting of the CCP pavilion will take place in due course. Clerk

The Guides have requested permission to use an area of Boyes Lane for fire lighting.

Joss Legal solutions have written the letter before action to Shenton Solicitors regarding the error in the conveyance of land adjacent to 14 Whitebeam Close.

Steve Hewlett reported that a tonne of top soil has been distributed on the goal mouths at Boyes Lane as part of pitch renovations.

Boyes Lane and Recreation ground have been treated with weed and feed and areas are patchy where the weeds have died.

The Cricket nets are being well used with positive comments.

The new lengthsman has visited the village once and the feedback is very positive.

Equipment failure continues to be a problem with 5 mowers than cannot be used and engines for the strimmer/pole saw not fit for purpose. Clerk

The Bowls Club water pump has failed. The Bowls Club are researching solutions.

The small claims court has informed the Council that the person who hit the gate as submitted a defence to the claim and offered a £60 settlement which the Council has declined. This matter will now go to court. Clerk

REC 07/17 **THE MEETING TO ADJOURN FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION WHICH TAKES PLACE IN AGENDA ITEM 06/17 AND 09/17 ONLY**

REC 08/17 **TO RECEIVE ANY COMMENTS, UPDATES AND QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, SPORTS CLUBS, CARETAKERS AND WARDENS. (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**
TO RECEIVE ANY COMMENTS OR POINTS FROM USERS ON ANY MATTERS ON THE AGENDA PRIOR TO THE COMMITTEE MAKING ANY DECISIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS BELOW

Jenny Gray spoke in relation to matter of the Recreation Ground pavilion. Mrs Gray spoke as an individual and not on behalf of any village organisation. Mrs Gray felt that the Parish Council needed to be brave and build a building which is future proof for the changing needs and future expansion of the village.

Steve Richards from CCYFC spoke regarding any loss of changing facilities on the Recreation ground and felt that CCYFC would not be prepared to agree.

It was not clear if CCYFC use changing facilities at either Boyes Lane or the Recreation ground. The Council's view was that the Youth Team did not use the changing facilities.

Adrian Kelly – Colden Common Shed spoke about the current proposal put forward and the desire for the Shed to refurbish the pavilion for the Shed and other Community groups use.

Amanda James spoke on behalf of the Tennis Club whose interest lies in a club house for the Tennis Club being built near the courts. The club has no funds to pursue feasibility or permission for such as project at the moment. They continue to need access to the pavilion toilets.

The public comments received are noted below

Comment 1 - Could both schemes not be amalgamated-neither need 24/7 usage.

Comment 2 - I believe both these proposals to be awful and suits only the needs of each proposer.

I think the building should be replaced with a community minded facility - large spaces/ open plan. Bar area, games maybe, veranda / large glass windows/ doors (ie modern and smart) +/- coffee shop even if in for Priv/public partnership/ lease etc. There is parking for it.

Should be available for hire/ meetings/ parties and have back office for Council.

I don't believe either a glorified changing room or a large garden shed meet the inclusivity criteria for all village to enjoy in such a central location with potentially nice setting. No reason why a shed/ workspace couldn't be added to back if building were large enough though.

Also no point replicating facilities that already exist at Boyes Lane with current budget.

Comment 3 - I have no preference as to who develops the pavilion as I am not involved in either group.

I would note, however, that the football club suggestions do not seem to provide any disabled facilities. The shed is including disabled access and a disabled toilet.

It would be, I think, essential that whoever does the refurbishment take into account the needs of others who use the recreation ground and tennis courts and make access to the toilet facilities one of their priorities.

Comment 4 - I read the proposals regarding the above and would comment that I was very surprised to see only two proposals, are the Tennis Club not interested in developing this facility as a shared clubroom / changing facility with the football users?

I believe that the building should be retained as a sports facility with more use of the meeting room being made by the PC for committee meetings rather than the Community Centre to save some costs. The football club has a long association with the Recreation Ground and do regard it as its "spiritual home", I wholeheartedly support this view.

The football club proposal would benefit other users of the park, Rising Sun FC, schoolboy / girls football and the Tennis Club and hopefully bring an increase in revenue to the PC.

The Men in Sheds proposal appears to be only for their own benefit and would therefore offer little or no added value to the community. I don't believe that the PC should be considering a proposal that renders the facility to a single use only, a view that well could be shared by the Charity Commissioners.

Comment 5 - Just wanted to say that I won't be sending in a proposal for the recreation ground club house.

What I will say though is that it will be a great shame if the village lose the grounds as a sports facility.

I think the club house could be a fantastic hub for Colden Common Sport and every management team for whatever sport they run could run their operation from it.

Otterbourne and Colden Common Cricket club are concerned about damage to the cricket nets. The Secretary will be writing to the Parish Council with the Clubs concerns in due course.

Children are using the nets to stop the ball when they are practising goal scoring. The Cricket Club would like some planting or solution to protect the nets. The Parish to look at possible solutions.

Ray Bawden spoke as member of the Colden Common shed and spoke about the Shed offering "Recreation" for a demographic in the village which is not currently catered for. This demographic will be increasing as the population ages and the Shed is a great community asset. They are offering facilities for other community groups.

REC
09/17

**TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FROM THE COLDEN COMMON
SHED TO LEASE THE PAVILION ON THE RECREATION GROUND**

**TO RECEIVE ANY OTHER WRITTEN / SKETCHED IDEAS FROM
RESIDENTS / ORGANISATIONS IN THE PARISH FOR THE
FUTURE USE OF THE PAVILION, FOR THE BENEFIT OF
RESIDENTS IN COLDEN COMMON.**

The land the pavilion is situated on is owned by the Recreation ground charity. When the charity meets to review options for this land, it will be required to consider if proposals are in the best interest of the Charity aims and objectives which may differ from the Parish Council's wishes. These notes are the thoughts of the Parish Council Recreation Committee.

The Council needs to consider the best use of all its assets. The Council should consider the best use of assets for all parishioners.

It was felt by Cllr Glasspool that a facility should remain under the control of the Council / Charity. The pavilion should be available for village organisations to book it for charity events when kitchen facilities and toilets are required.

Cllr Bligdon believes the pavilion should remain available for sports but multi sports use.

Cllr Izard feels that the football has been largely moved to Boyes Lane and the Council has moved on from the Recreation ground being predominately a football ground. The majority of football facilities are at Colden Common Park. Training on the recreation ground was restricted as a number of neighbours complained about the noise and parking. The original gift of the Charity land specifically gifted the ground for sports other than football. Suitable pavilion facilities at Colden Common park were already available which met the step 7 football league requirements.

Cllr Izard added that WCC look after 9 pitches and not all of the user's book changing facilities. It may be possible to provide pitches on the Recreation ground for CCYFC, without the needs for changing room, but provide toilet facilities, this would allow the pavilion to be developed for a community rooms for multi-use.

Any decision made should not be a financial burden on a future Parish Council.

It was noted that if the pavilion was refurbished to provide changing room facilities, a provision for storage would need to be added, as most storage for football teams is within the containers at Boyes Lane.

Consideration needs to be given to the fact that the location of the Parish Office is still not resolved and the recreation ground could be a consideration for Parish Council use.

It needs to be clarified whether CCYFC use changing rooms. Perhaps Boyes Lane could accommodate two adult pitches and the Recreation ground be used prominently for Youth football.

The Youth league rules on facilities needs to be to be researched. Do the FA youth rules require a referee room?

The Parish Hall Trust have funds to renovate or rebuild the building, the criteria being to provide youth facilities.

A member of the Colden Common shed added that the Shed put the proposal forward when the Parish Council asked for ideas on what could be done. As a Charity, the Shed has the option of applying for money in way of grants to fund any refurbishment works. The shed does not necessarily want to own the building, but is likely to require a secure tenure for grant qualification. The shed would need rental to be considered on a quid pro quo basis for the refurbishment costs. The works would be largely completed by the shed members, with professional support where required (or example electrical certification). The Shed plans include more than 1/3 of the available floor space for use by other groups. The plans provide multipurpose use, with the prime user being the shed. The ability to meet and chat is an important social aspect of the facility. It would provide a space for members of the community that aren't the youngest. The village currently offers little for this demographic.

Negotiations between the Shed and the Church Room Trustees are currently on hold. Expense is the sole reason. The shed highlighted that any decisions need to careful analyse the changing needs of the community. The population is aging, facilities need to be considered for this demographic. This option could also meet the needs of the Parish Council.

Cllr Izard believes that as the step 7 facilities are available at Boyes Lane, football requiring that standard should remain to be played in the location.

Colden Common Shed made the point that they have made this proposal, but it can be tweaked and changed.

It was resolved that the Council are unable to make a recommendation until after the CCCA EGM on the 30th June. The Council cannot commit the building unless Parish Council office space is not required outside of the CCCC.

It was also resolved that the Council need to investigate what pitches can be provided on each recreation area before consulting with users and making any final decisions.

It was therefore resolved that the Colden Common Football Club proposal is declined. Any decision on the Colden Common Shed proposal is deferred for another month, proposed by Cllr Maggie Hill, seconded by Cllr Hunter a carried.

Cllr Badham abstained.

REC 10/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO COME TO AN END

REC11/17 TO RECEIVE THREE QUOTATIONS FOR POLLARDING THE WILLOWS WHICH SEPARATE ST VIGOR WAY AND THE GREEN AND AWARD THE WORK TO A CONTRACTOR

The Willows which separate St Vigor Way and the Green have grown very tall, the height has made some of them unstable and it is felt they would benefit by being reduced in height by at least half.

Three quotes were obtained as follows

Quote 1 - £ 3250.00

Quote 2 - £ 6400.00

Quote 3 - £11750.00

Quotes 1 & 2 have provided references. Quote 1 has many good comments on check a trade.

It was resolved to accept the quote 1 for the works, Jack Tosdevine Tree Surgeon. Proposed by Cllr Steve Badham and carried unanimously.

REC12/17 TO CONSIDER THE CONDITION OF PLAY AREAS IN THE VILLAGE AND CONSIDER PRODUCING A 1-10-YEAR PLAN FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT OF ASSETS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL

It was resolved that Cllr Hunter and Cllr Glasspool would use the independent report on the condition of the playgrounds to review the facilities with an aim of producing a 1-10-year plan for maintenance, replacement and refurbishment, proposed by Cllr Steve Badham, seconded by Cllr Patrick Hunter and carried.

REC13/17 TO CONSIDER COLDEN COMMON TENNIS CLUB REQUEST FOR SIGNAGE ON MAIN ROAD

It was resolved that a sign would be procured which is similar to the one at the entrance of Colden Common Park. The sign would be for the Recreation Ground and not specific to Colden Common Tennis Club. Proposed by Cllr Glasspool seconded by Cllr Bligdon and carried.

WCC have confirmed in writing such a sign is permissible under permitted development for Parish Councils.

The Clerk to source a suitable design and inform the Tennis Club of this decision

REC14/17 TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

No matters were raised other than the plans for the Recreation ground pavilion. The meeting closed.