

COLDEN COMMON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28TH JANUARY 2015 AT 7.30PM. IN THE
COLDEN COMMON COMMUNITY CENTRE, COLDEN COMMON

Present Cllr Pam Glasspool (Chair)
Cllr Viv Stevens
Cllr Richard Izard

Cllr Maggie Hill
Cllr Jean Bligdon

Apologies Steve Hewlett
Patrick Hunter (Working)

Vanessa Kitt

In attendance Debbie Harding (Clerk)
4 members of the public

REC45/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received apologies as listed above.

REC45/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Izard declared a personal but no prejudicial interest as he is on the Scouts Executive Committee and member of the Bowls Club.

REC47/14 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH NOVEMBER 2014

A typographical error was highlight. Cllr Bligdon is listed as attending twice. Subject to that change, the minutes were then agreed as an accurate record of the meeting, proposed by Cllr Hill, seconded by Cllr Glasspool and carried. Cllr Izard and Stevens abstained.

REC48/14 TO REVIEW THE CURRENT RECREATION FACILITIES HIRE CHARGES AND AGREE CHARGES FROM 1ST APRIL 2015

The list of pitch and cricket pitch hiring charges were discussed. It was resolved for the charges to be frozen again for the second year. Proposed by Cllr Pam Glasspool, seconded by Cllr Bligdon and carried.

REC49/14 UPDATE ON MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

TREE WORKS

The tree works on Valley Close have been completed with the exception of the poisoning of the Ash Stumps. No complaints have been received directly to the Council.

The tree works on the Recreation Ground have been completed.

Areas to identify tree work for 2015-16 include

- The area of land between Hazel Close and St Vigor.
- The area of land opposite the entrance to Hawthorn Close
- Management plan for North Pond.

BOWLING GREEN FOOTPATH AND APRON

Paul Budden had given a provisional start date for Thursday.

FIREWORKS 2015

Cllrs Izard, Glasspool and the Clerk had a meeting with Derek Conway regarding the 2015 Scout event. Next year it will take place on 7th November. A meeting will take place between the Scouts and the Parish Council to run through the risk assessment and final arrangements which will include running through key requirements, bad weather provisions etc. The football clubs have been informed.

PLAY AREA INSTALLATIONS/REPAIRS

The Green - The goal end should be installed very shortly on the green as the installation at Otterbourne is now complete.

The hedge which separates Ash Close and the Allotments has been trimmed. Some work is still required to prepare for the replanting. Thanks to Maureen Rees who successfully applied for three bundles of native whip hedging via the Woodland Trust for this area and Bluebell Wood.

Boyes Lane - Gary Maltby is working at Boyes Lane on the play areas as all the parts are now in. He aims to finish next week weather dependant. Kieran has the two new toddler seats to install and has done a fantastic job of cutting back the brambles and shrubs around the play area to open the whole area up.

The Recreation ground – New toddler swing seat has arrived to be installed. We are still waiting for an installation date for the new piece of equipment we have ordered.

BOYES LANE

The hard standing area in front of the Container has been completed.

ARTIFICIAL LAWN IN THE PRE-SCHOOL GARDEN AT BOYES LANE

We have received two quotes as follows

Lazy Lawn - £4,120 and £4,440 depending on product (10 year guarantee)
Additional drainage £2,413

Trulawn Luxury £4,495 , Continental £3,995 (8 year guarantee)
No quote for drainage.

Lazy Lawn installed the artificial surface at the school and Trulawn at the Community Centre. The Clerk has started the grant application process.

We are still waiting the insurers of 5 Kiln Green confirmation of acceptance of any liability to other properties if the Oak tree is removed.

The cricket practice nets have been removed on safety grounds.

The Parish website will soon be updated with a sporting theme to promote the level of sports clubs and opportunities we have in the village.

The unofficial dog bin has been removed from Boyes Lane

ANTI- SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR BOYES LANE

Panda fencing are moving the green gate which used to be locked near Kisatorari stables (see picture below)

We can paint it / clean it up. Installation is £220 and should be completed this week. The signage already states the opening hours

Locked at 6pm – October to April
9pm – May to September

Opened at 8.00 approx.



Opening

During the week except half term – Little Wizards will open up earlier at approx 7am – otherwise opened Monday to Friday by Grounds staff at approx 8am

Locking

Andy will lock up Monday to Wednesday at 9pm, Thursday / Friday it will be 6.30ish (Little Wizards)

Issues to be discussed

- Early morning dog walkers who drive (some as early as 5am)
- What happens if cars are in the car park – suggest leave unlocked and text Clerk
- Weekends – CCYFC have raised a concern over away team turning up first and a traffic jam
- Do we employ a security company for weekend opening/closing
- 101 must be dialled if suspicious activity taken place

It was resolved to refer the final decisions on process to the Full Parish Council meeting.

REC50/14 TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INCLUDING ANY UPDATES FROM

- **The grounds team**
No members of the grounds team were present
- **Footpath warden** – Brian Reeder announced his retirement as footpath warden. He has held the position for over 25 years and Cllr Glasspool led the thanks on behalf of the parish Council for his contribution.
- **Colden Common Bowls Club**
The sprinkler system has a small leak which will be dealt with during decommissioning. The water is currently turned off.
- **CCYFC** – The old goal post sockets on the 9 v 9 pitch on the Recreation ground have now been removed. A sign at the entrance of Boyes Lane was suggested to indicate the car parks closure hours.
- **Colden Common Cricket Club**
Fundraising is under way for new cricket practice nets. Quotes have been sought which range between £11,500 - £24,000. Some potential sources of grant were discussed.
- **Recreation Ground Charity** - The Clerk gave a brief update on a recent meeting between representatives from the Recreation ground charity and the owner of Yew Tree Cottage.

REC51/14 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS OF THE FORMATION OF COLDEN COMMON TENNIS CLUB

The inaugural meeting is being held next Wednesday and has been advertised.

REC
52/14

TO DISCUSS THE RECENT EXPERIMENTAL METHOD OF HAND CUTTING THE ST VIGOR WAY HEDGES AND AGREE FORMALLY THE STANDARD AND METHOD OF CUTTING FOR THE GROUNDS TEAM.

A draft policy was discussed as below and it was resolved to ask the Parish Council to consider ratifying this policy at the next meeting.

The Parish Council Recreation Committee has taken the decision this year to cut by hand the hedges which run alongside St Vigor Way. It is felt that the quality of the finish is preferable.

We will be reducing the height to remove last year's growth. In some areas the height and thickness is so great we cannot reach over the entire width of the hedge either by hand or by using a tractor and flail. An example of this is shown below



Bordering householders have different preferences how they wish us to manage the hedging. We have therefore developed a policy which will be adhered to. This is to avoid any misunderstanding and clarify expectations for both adjacent properties and our grounds team.

- The policy of the Parish Council will be to cut a width of no more than approx. 3 metres from the road side to a height of approx. 2 metres
- All hedge cutting will be completed from Parish Council or public land.
- No hedge cutting will take place from private car parks, drives or gardens
- Hedge cutting will normally take place in January and February and will not take place during the bird nesting season.

The boundary between the householder and Parish Council land is defined by either a brick wall or as shown in the picture below by a low wooden fence.



If you require the Parish Council to reduce the height over the entire width of the hedge the Parish Council will create an access path between the householder boundary and the hedge in order to provide safe access to maintain both sides of the hedge from council land. This will only be completed on annual request in writing to the Parish Office no later than 6th February 2015, or 31st December each year thereafter.

So long as at all times no less than 2m width x 2m height of roadside hedging remains intact, if you wish to lower or cut back any council hedging adjoining your property yourself the Parish Council is happy to permit this.

REC 53/14 TO RECEIVE THE RECENT RAMBLERS RIGHTS OF WAY SURVEY AND AGREE THE RIGHTS OF WAY VEGETATION PRIORITY CUTTING LISTS FOR YOUR PARISH – 2015

It was resolved for the Clerk and Cllr Glasspool to meet with Alan Marlow from the Ramblers association to discuss the recent surveys and potential improvement to the rights of way from Colden Common Park onto existing rights of way.

REC 54/14 TO AGREE MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 8.45pm