



Titchmarsh Parish Council Playing Field Committee

www.titchmarsh.info e-mail: playingfield@titchmarsh.info



Minutes of Committee Meeting 5th July 2007

Those present: Mel Chapman Ian Curtis Shirley Curtis Derek Ellis
Rob Jones Paul Milner Richard Roe Caroline Thompson
Dave Walpole
Apologies: Gina Gaskin
Cc: Emma Meen Sylvia Prestwich Phil Garnham
Stephen Brown Mark Noakes

In the absence of the chairman, RJ took the chair

ACTION

1 Minutes of previous meeting

1.1 Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. Proposed RJ; seconded DR

2 Matters arising

- 2.1 **Road race:** RR reported that he still has the timing device for the road race but nothing has been heard from the owner about the offer for its purchase.
- 2.2 **Drainage:** Because of the poor weather, the contractor has yet to return to complete the work [MC].
- 2.3 **Fete:** The fete raised approximately £4500, of which £700 is to be paid to the Playing Field Committee.

3 Finances

RR reported

- 3.1 • The current balance sheet shows that, since the last report, outgoings exceeded income by £200.
- 3.2 • The major expenditure in the period has been LandTech £7625.99; solicitor's fees £734.38 and returfing costs £220 [all include VAT].
- 3.3 • Profits from the Midsummer Music event are provisionally about £690.
- 3.4 • A letter has been sent to the Parish Council for the refund of £866 VAT.

4 Correspondence

4.1 The spring edition of The Playing Field is being circulated.

5 Health & Safety

- 5.1 RR has carried out this month's review and had no concerns to report.
- 5.2 Mark Noakes to be invited to the next meeting.

DW

6 Fundraising

6.1 **Midsummer Music: 23 June.**

The event was generally agreed to have been a great success. The acting chairman thanked and congratulated all members of the committee for their various contributions to the evening. He proposed a vote of thanks to Gina for her key role in getting the event organised. Everyone in agreement.

Key points from the discussion:

- The Committee should seriously consider acceding to requests to make it an annual event.
- There needs to be a clearer identification of tasks and roles so that the burden does not fall excessively on individuals.
- As most people brought their own drinks and food, the sales of drinks, Pimms and strawberries were disappointing. It was decided that at any future event the only item to be sold would be real ale, and that this information would be communicated in the pre-event publicity.
- Although the venue was suitable in many respects, the next event should be at the playing field where there is ample space and there will be adequate toilets.
- Given that no money was made on the additional items such as food and drink, the ticket price next time should be £10.
- The combination of disco and live music was deemed to be a success and represented good value for money, but more thought needs to be given to the programming.
- The provision of a dance floor greatly enhanced the evening. DW indicated that Pauline Pridmore had agreed for the cost of the floor to be met from the funds raised in John's memory. Her generosity was much appreciated by the committee and a letter is to be sent to thank her. DW is to arrange for the floor to be sealed and varnished. IC
DW
- The tickets and posters looked very professional and were a clear incentive to purchase, especially for those previously unfamiliar with the work of the committee.
- There is a need to review the arrangements for the barbecue as most people seemed to want to use it at the same time.
- In arranging a similar event in future we need to look at what else is going on locally to avoid clashes such as that with the Clopton Pig Roast.
- Although it would appear that a useful profit was made, it was a lot of hard work and there were a number of hidden costs including those of tickets and publicity.
- There is no need for a raffle at such events.

6.2 **Street Quiz: September 15th**

The following arrangements were agreed:

- For safety reasons, the maximum number must not exceed 80.
- The event is to follow the same format as last year with teams representing each street in the village. Various people are to take responsibility for organising teams for their streets viz. Church Street - DE; Chapel Street - Val Sorrell; High Street - RR; Tofts/St

Various

Andrews – CT; Manor Farm Court – Michael Alderman; Park Farm Court – MC; Polopit/Abbott's Close – RJ.

- The event is to be advertised in the Titchmarsh Times giving other members of the village an opportunity to take part. Contact to be identified as IC who will then pass the names onto street co-ordinators. IC
- Raffle to be by sealed envelope again as last year.
- PM to ensure that the arrangements for licensing the bar are in place and to co-ordinate this with DE. PM/DE
- Lasagne plus trimmings is to be offered. All

6.3 Future events.

DW suggested that thought be given to an official 'switching on the lights' ceremony, particularly in the light of the donation from the John Pridmore Fund. Agenda

7 Developments

7.1 IC reported that:

- Planning permission has been granted.
- The application to the Big Lottery Community Buildings Fund has been withdrawn because an organisation cannot apply to two funds for the same project.
- There will be a telephone appraisal of the project by the Big Lottery on 16 July.
- We are still awaiting building regulations consent. DE to contact architect to check. DE
- The solicitor is still awaiting the landlord's agreement to the redrafted lease.

8 Hire charges

- The hire charges proposed by DE at the last meeting were discussed and received general assent.
- The charges are to be reviewed again at the next AGM. In preparation for the discussion, DE will gather information on the charges being made by other clubs or associations with similar facilities to those we expect to have. AGM agenda
DE

9 Pitches: condition and proposals for improvement

The following points arose from the discussion:

- There is an urgent need to improve the state of the top pitch.
- P. Dorrington to be asked to quote for levelling the pitch. DW emphasised the need to have a proper survey of levels across the pitch. MC
- J. Bibby to be asked for an estimate of the cost of treating, stripping and relaying the turf on the pitch. MC
- Action urgently required to tackle the problems caused by moles and rabbits. RJ to consult a friend. RJ
- Although the surface remains uneven, a junior-sized pitch is to be marked out in the area next to the lower pitch. MC/DE

- Consideration should be given to providing junior-sized goals for the junior pitch. This should deflect from the excessive wear on the main pitch. Agenda
- The footpath on the eastern side of the field is overgrown and is encouraging walkers to take a short cut across the field. Agenda

8 **AOB**

- 8.1 We should ensure that the minutes are copied to Mark Noakes from now on [DW]. IC

Next meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 6 September at the Clubroom