

91.3 Car Parking Fees

Members considered the single response from a resident regarding the article in the Danbury Times about car parking fees.

RESOLVED that a response be sent to the resident thanking her for her comments and to advise that several options were being considered regarding the car park. The Parish Council would keep her informed of the position.

92 Hire Fees & Rents 2007- 08

The Committee considered the fees for the use of the Council's facilities. In order to support the cricket club's current financial situation, consideration was given to keeping the fees the same as those in the previous season. Cllr Berlyn proposed that Heathcote fees be raised to £2500 which was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wells. Voting on the proposal was as follows:

In Favour 6 Against 1 Abstentions 0.

The proposal was carried.

Cllr Wood proposed that the Tennis Club fees be raised to £3500. Cllr Powell proposed an amendment to increase the fees by 4% which was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wells.

Voting on the amendment was as follows:

In Favour 4 Against 3 Abstentions 0

The amendment was carried.

RESOLVED that a) The cricket fees remained the same for this season as for the previous season.

b) The following fees to be charged as shown below.

Cricket pitch per match	£70
Heathcote School	£2500
Bowling Club (Maintenance of Green. Plus the Club would now be £1000 Ground Rent in addition)	£6525.12
Tennis Club	£3380
Football pitch per match	£33
Per match, U18s on senior pitch	£24
Per match, Seniors of Pitch 3	£24
Per match, Juniors on other pitches	£11
Football training per session	£11
Football – Danbury Mission Community FC	£260
Small meeting room (RBL)	£1925

93 Football

93.1 Request from New Football Team

Members considered the request by Darron Brown, Danbury Juniors Football Club, that his team be given priority booking over non-Danbury teams for the season 2007-08.

Members discussed the impact on the existing teams.

RESOLVED that a) Mr Brown be advised that Members regret that his request cannot be accommodated at this time.

b) Mr Brown's team to be added to the waiting list for teams to play.

93.2 Request from Wickham Royals Football Team

Due to the problems on Saturday 21 January, when the goal post cross bar was missing (see Minute 100.2 ii), Wickham Royals Team requested that the Groundsman be contactable on a Saturday between 12.45 – 1.45 pm. Members considered the request and that, even had the Groundsman been available on the occasion referred to, he would not have known where the missing cross bar was.

RESOLVED that a) Wickham Royals be advised that it would not be possible to ask the Groundsman to be available at the weekends.

b) Wickham Royals to be advised of the action mentioned in Minute 100.2 ii).

94 Sports and Social Centre

94.1 CCTV

i) An inspection of the CCTV outside the S&SC had been made by a representative from Wysetech, it that the camera needed a 240v electrical supply for the infra red to work. Cllr Berlyn proposed that any funding required for the electrical supply should be the responsibility of the DCA as it had specified the requirements in the first instance, the electrical requirement should have been identified at that time. This was seconded by Cllr Telling. An amendment to the proposal was made by Cllr Powell such that the Council contribute 50% to the costs. This was seconded by Cllr Langley. Voting on the amendment was as follows:

In Favour 2 Against 5 Abstentions 0.

The amendment was lost.

The original proposal was voted on and the result was as follows:

In Favour 5 Against 2 Abstentions 0

The proposal was carried.

RESOLVED that the DCA be advised that the Council will not fund the electrical supply.

ii) The two quotations for the electrical supply at a price of £319.00 and £250.00 were not considered following the resolution in Minute 94.1 i). RESOLVED that the quotations were not discussed.

iii) The quotation supplied by Wysetech at a cost of £450.00 to replace the existing camera with a Day/Night dome camera (which would still need an electrical supply), was not considered due to the resolution in Minute 94.1 i).

RESOLVED that the quotation was not discussed.

94.2 Lighting One quotation had been acquired for replacement of existing and two additional lights at a cost of £1067.00 plus two additional movement sensors at a cost of £357.00.

RESOLVED that another quotation be obtained from a local electrician.

95 Allotments

The metered water charges for December 2005 – December 2006 were £128.00 based on actual readings. The Tenancy Agreement states that *“Tenants will also be liable to reimburse the Council an appropriate proportion of the annual metered costs of providing water to the allotment site by way of water charge.”* The water charges would work out at £14.22 each. Members had agreed, Minute 64.1, to increase the rent for 2008-09 from £10.00 to £12.00. This would mean the tenants would see their charges more than doubled. Cllr Telling proposed that the full water costs be recharged to the tenants. This was seconded by Cllr Allen. Cllr Powell proposed an amendment to charge 50% of the water costs for the first year and the full amount from the second year onwards. This was seconded by Cllr Wood.

Voting on the amendment was as follows:

In Favour 2 Against 3 Abstentions 2.

The amendment was lost.

The original proposal was voted on and the result was as follows:

In Favour 5 Against 1 Abstentions 1

RESOLVED that the tenants to be advised that the full water costs for the allotment would be divided amongst the tenants as from the year 2008-09.

96 Danbury Scouts. Play Area for 11-18 Year Olds

These two items were taken together. Members considered the request from Danbury Scouts for assistance to partner a project for teenagers in the Village to celebrate Scouting in its Centenary Year. The Scouts have volunteers but no funding. Members were positive about supporting the Scouts but were unsure of a project.

RESOLVED that a representation from the Scouts to be invited to present to the next meeting of this Committee their ideas on possible projects.

97 Trees

97.1 Surveys. The survey summaries for Dawson Memorial Field and Lingwood Common were received, the full reports are at the Parish Office.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

97.2 Schedule of Costs of Works. The schedule was considered.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

97.3 Pedlars Path. Item 12 e) was taken at this stage.

The Clerk had received a response from the Council's current insurance company. If the two offending oak trees to the rear of 6 Landisdale were removed by the end of March.

The Council's Public Liability Insurance would cover the £5,000 for the cost of superstructure repairs. The sum of £5,000 would come from the Council's current insurers although 70% would be passed to the previous insurance company. If this work was not completed, the Parish Council would be liable for approximately £30,000 for underpinning which the insurance company was not prepared to pay. The Council may have to pay £1000 which is the excess on the policy. A price from D F Clark for the removal of the two oak trees was reported to the Members at a cost of £450.00.

Cllr Berlyn proposed that the two trees be removed which was seconded by Cllr Allen. Voting on the proposal was held and the proposal was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that the removal of the two oak trees at £450.00 go ahead as soon as possible.

97.4 There is approximately £900.00 left in the 2006-07 budget for tree works.

Quotations from D F Clark had been received as follows:

97.4 i) Urgent requirement to fell two Ash trees, one at Lingwood Common and one at Runsell Green at a total cost of £500.00.

97.4 ii) Works to trees on Dawson Memorial Field at a cost of £528.75.

Cllr Berlyn proposed that the removal of the two Ash trees be agreed and that a decision on the other work to be deferred until the April meeting of Facilities Committee, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wells. Voting on the proposal was held and the proposal was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that a) The work for the felling of the two Ash trees be booked.

b) A decision on the remaining work to be deferred to Facilities in April.

97.5 A local resident had offered £20.00 to the Parish Council or a local charity to take away the wood from the trees the Council had had felled in the area of Pedlars Path. The logs had been left there deliberately by the tree surgeon to form part of the natural habitat.

RESOLVED that the resident be advised that the logs would remain as recommended by our tree surgeon.

98 Ponds

The National Trust had been approached regarding the matter of a sign for the pond at Eves Corner.

The National Trust was asked if there was a required specification for signage on Trust land. The following is the response:

"What is the definition of "deep water"? This pond is only 3ft at the most and this is not at the edge - where it is considerably shallower.

Is there any precedent set by other PC's you could follow?

It is the Trust's wish to minimise signs in the countryside to prevent "urbanisation" Signs are an obvious target for vandalism. If a sign is erected, I believe the burden of responsibility is increased as a danger has been "accepted". If the sign then goes missing the responsibility/liability is further increased as there has been an acknowledgement of the danger but no sign!"

Cllr Berlyn proposed that no signs should be erected at the ponds, this was seconded by Cllr Telling. Voting on the proposal was held and the proposal was carried unanimously. RESOLVED that no signs to be erected at the ponds.

99 War Memorial

It was reported that there is a grant available for cleaning of and repair to war memorials up to 50% of the eligible costs or £10,000, whichever is the smaller amount. Grants are awarded in April and October and one of the conditions is that a five year maintenance programme is committed to. Members considered whether to pursue the grant funded by The Wolfson Foundation and English Heritage.

RESOLVED that research into the grant go ahead.

100 Matters to Note

100.1 At the beginning of this item the Clerk reported that a series of vandalism to the houses along Mayes Lane, near to the play area, had been reported to the police. The police had apprehended the culprits. The police requested local shops not to sell eggs and fruit to customers who they thought may be mis-using them. Following this a local resident had requested that the bench from which the culprits had thrown the missiles be removed. Members considered that once the hedges were trimmed this would act as a deterrent as the culprits would be seen if they stood on the bench and agreed that the bench remain in situ.

It was agreed that Minute 100.2 iii) should show that all users of the football pitches be advised of the pitch closures for 2007.

RESOLVED that information for all the other Matters was noted.

100.2 Football

100.2 i) The new posts have been installed. The old ones were disposed of, along with the post on Beacon Field. Costs for removal were £30.00.

100.2 ii) One of the new posts from Pitch 1 was removed from the void and left in a ditch on Pitch 3. The Groundsman has now added additional steel rods to the void gate for further protection.

100.2 iii) The Groundsman had advised the pitch closures for 2007 will be:

Pitch 1 from 1 May 2007;

Pitches 2, 3, 4 from 4 June 2007.

All the pitches will be re-opened on 1 September 2007.

All users of the football pitches to be advised of the pitch closures for 2007.

100.3 Post at Eves Corner. A post had gone missing at the path from the car parking area to the green. This was the second time in a few months. The Groundsman will install another post when he can.

100.4 Danbury Village Sign. This was repaired and re-erected in time for Christmas. A letter of thanks was sent to Bakers of Danbury for doing such a good job.

100.5 Dawson Memorial Field. Outdoor Activities Hire Form. This was now available in hard copy, via email and via the Parish Council website.

100.6 Groundsman Area of Work

i) Essex Playing Field Association. The Groundsman had requested that the £500.00 prize money be used for the planting of trees. Some would replace those removed after the tree survey work, others as new trees. An appointment will be made with the organisation to visit the site in the Spring.

ii) Work on the concrete floor of the compound was now finished

iii) The electrical work for the compound was scheduled to be done on Thursday 8 February. The cost had increased from £404.00 to £440.00 due to the length of time elapsed from the quotation in July 2006.

100.7 Eves Corner Parking

The following is an extract from Environment Committee 10 January 2007 Minute 81. *'A member of the public had written to the council regarding the condition of the car parking area at Eves Corner.*

The clerk reported verbally that she had received that day written confirmation that a Traffic Road Order was in existence for this area and that limited parking was imposed. Regarding the responsibility for the road surface this will have to be taken up with the Essex County Highways and National Trust. The Clerk had already written to Essex County Highways.

RESOLVED: that this item be placed on the next Facilities Agenda 7th February, 2007. ' There has not been response from Highways as of today's date.

101 Matters for Report

Further to Minute 117.1, Parish Council 31 January 2007, a letter had now been received by Danbury Bowling Club seeking permission to refurbish the kitchen at the Club. No structural works were involved and therefore permission had been given to the Club to refurbish the kitchen.

102 Dates of Meetings in 2007 - 14 March 25 April

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

Chairman

Signed

Date