



FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th November 2019 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room at The Old School House, Main Road, Danbury

Present: Cllr G Chapman (Chairman), Cllr Mrs M Hessing (vice Chairman), Cllr Mrs A Chapman (ex officio), Cllr Mrs Anstee, Cllr D Chesterman, Cllr A Keeler, Cllr P Sutton, Cllr J Thombs

In Attendance: Ms M Harper, Clerk
Mrs M Dyer, Assistant Clerk, Facilities
Plus, five Members of the Public

19/20.60 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr S Berlyn.

19/20.61 Declarations of Interest

All Members are reminded that they must disclose any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests they know they may have in items of business on the meeting's agenda and that they must do so at this point, or as soon as they become aware of the interest. They are reminded that they will need to repeat their declaration at the appropriate point in the meeting and leave the room if the interest is a pecuniary one. They are also obliged to notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the meeting if they have not previously notified the Monitoring Officer about it. Unforeseen interests must be declared similarly at the appropriate time. Members have dispensation to discuss and vote in respect of matters relating to the DCA.

There were no declarations at this point.

19/20.62 Public Question Time (Limited to 15 minutes)

The Members of Public present advised they had attended this meeting in order to speak about the playing of cricket in Danbury in the future in regards to the financial implications and the recent references to this sport on village Facebook pages. The Members of Public spoke and there were comments and questions raised by Members of the Facilities Committee. The Chairman allowed the session to exceed the 15 minute time limit.

With the agreement of the Members, the agenda item relating to cricket was brought forward.

19/20.63 Cricket

Members noted that replacement fencing and poles had now been installed to protect post season works to the cricket wicket and the copy of the article re History of Cricket in Danbury and Danbury Cricket Club in the October/November 2019 issue of Contact Magazine.

A Member of Facilities Committee had requested that 'Cricket in Danbury' be included on the agenda for discussion. The Chairman then invited each Member of

the Facilities Committee in turn to speak about cricket being played in Danbury. All Members present took up the invitation to speak; no time limit was imposed so that Members were able to fully put across their viewpoint. Topics/comments relating to cricket being played at Danbury raised by Members are summarised below and included:

- cost of wicket keeping and the fees received from the two Clubs who play here; value for money; understand financial shortfall – will never be self-financing, but shortfall reduced if more clubs played at the site
- subsidising this sport; should the PC be subsidising sport, but recognition that sport offerings in the village are provided as facilities to residents not as income generators; should not see less use of Parish facilities
- increased usage of the cricket wicket; possibility of 20/20 games (i.e. shorter games); more teams to play here
- the fact that cricket has been played in Danbury for around 150 years and is part of village life; it is traditional to have cricket on a village green; would not like to see cricket disappear from Danbury
- future involvement of younger players - opportunity to play, cricket is not currently a sport played at Sandon School; possibility of 'All Stars' in Danbury; promote inclusivity of the sport; should allow a reasonable time frame for the cricket clubs to develop their clubs and not have every new Council question the offering of cricket in Danbury
- in the recent Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire 90% of residents who responded agreed that sporting activity in the village should be increased; this official questionnaire is more representative of residents' views than straw polls on Facebook

Following this very lengthy discussion and several proposals with amendments that were not seconded, here follows the proposal that did progress. This was proposed to the Members by Cllr Mrs Hessing and was that the Parish Council supports the provision of cricket to March 2023, works with the current users of the cricket wicket to see how far the cricket offering can be extended and actively pursues new clubs to the site; this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Chapman. All Members were in agreement.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council supports the provision of cricket to March 2023, works with the current users of the cricket wicket to see how far the cricket offering can be extended and actively pursues new clubs to the site

19/20.64 Minutes of Facilities Committee Meeting held on 7th November 2019

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Meeting held on 7th November 2019 be approved and duly signed as a correct record.

19/20.65 Actions Arising

RESOLVED: that the information was noted by Members.

19/20.66 Danbury Parish Council owned Premises

Members had been supplied with a copy of the inspection undertaken on 6th November 2019.

RESOLVED: that the information was noted by Members.

Members noted that an order had been placed for a Disability Audit at the Sports Centre and that the date for audit was still to be advised.

19/20.66.1 The Old Pavilion - WIFI

Members noted that this was discussed and agreed at Facilities Budget meeting held on 7th November 2019.

19/20.66.2 Sports Centre

19/20.66.2.1 DCA/DPC Liaison Meeting

Members noted that the date for next meeting was still to be arranged.

19/20.66.2.2 WIFI Access for Youth Shelter

Members noted that this would not be progressed further as discussed and agreed at the Facilities Budget meeting held on 7th November 2019.

19/20.66.2.3 Maintenance items to lower roof

Members noted that all works had been completed.

19/20.66.2.4 Snooker Hall Roof

Members noted that a replacement roof is needed and that quotes were being obtained.

19/20.66.2.5 Concrete Bollard by Sports Centre Staff Parking Area

Members noted that a bollard had been knocked over, that the DCA had advised that a replacement would be required and that quotes would be obtained.

19/20.67 Dawson Memorial Fields

19/20.67.1 Football Pitch 3

Members noted that an inspection had been undertaken by an Essex FA/ Regional Pitch Advisor East Grounds & Natural Turf Improvement Programme/IOG (Institute of Groundsmanship), who had confirmed that remedial works would be required before the pitch would be suitable for use.

19/20.67.2 Damage to Memorial Bench

Members had been supplied with a quote to repair this bench. Cllr Keeler proposed that Shaun Chapman be appointed to carry out remedial works to this bench at a cost of £310.00 ex VAT; Cllr Sutton seconded the proposal; all Members were in agreement.

RESOLVED: that Shaun Chapman be appointed to carry out remedial works to this bench at a cost of £310.00 ex VAT.

19/20.67.3 Damage to a cradle swing

Members noted that one of the cradle swings had been vandalised and removed from site and that the other 3 cradle swings were showing signs of deterioration. Members had been supplied with quotes for replacement(s). Cllr Chesterman proposed that all four seats be replaced with seats from HAGS at a cost of £320.00 including delivery, ex VAT and installation; Cllr Keeler seconded the proposal; all Members were in agreement.

RESOLVED: that 4 new cradle seats be purchased from HAGS at a cost of £320.00 inc. delivery, ex VAT and installation.

19/20.67.4 5 Bar Gate (by basketball court)

Members noted that a new metal gate had now been installed.

19/20.67.5 Bench by Basketball Court

Members noted that quotes were being obtained for a replacement bench.

19/20.67.6 Play in the Park 2019

Members noted the attendance figures report.

19/20.67.7 Play in the Park 2020

Members had been supplied with details of participation, options for additional activities and costs. Following discussion, it was agreed to have four sessions in the school summer holiday period with additional activities of: 2 x inflatable assault course sessions, 1 x Parkour/Free Running with Team Kinetix session and 1 x Skateboard/Scooter Lessons with Team Rubicon session at a total cost of £1,160.00 ex VAT.

RESOLVED: that four Play in the Park sessions be booked in the school summer holiday period through CCC with additional activities of: 2 x inflatable assault course sessions, 1 x Parkour/Free Running with Team Kinetix and 1 x Skateboard/Scooter Lessons with Team Rubicon at a total cost of £1,160.00 ex VAT.

19/20.68 Bus Shelters Repairs

Members noted that an order had been placed for repair works to two shelters and that works were in hand.

19/20.69 Danbury Village Sign at Eves Corner

Members noted that works were in hand.

19/20.70 Bench at Eves Corner Pond

Members noted that works had been completed.

19/20.71 Dog Waste Bins

Members noted the report from District Cllr Ambor and requested that research be undertaken re a private dog waste bin emptying service.

RESOLVED: that research be undertaken re a private dog waste bin emptying service.

19/20.72 Winter Salt

Members noted that 1 x tonne of salt had been delivered from ECC, that paperwork was in hand and that delivery of salt to 'team' members was scheduled for 15th November 2019 by a local contractor.

19/20.73 Danbury Times

Members were advised that printing was in hand and magazines would be delivered to Cllr Mrs Chapman on Monday 18th November 2020. Members noted that the next issue would be the 'APM' issue containing reports from all committees; one article being considered for this issue is 'United in Kind'/'Health and Wellbeing'.

19/20.74 Matters to Report

The following matters were reported:

19/20.74.1 Evidence of drug activity visible in Mayes Lane Car Park

19/20.74.2 The Scouts Firework event had been successful, but that the small number of DPC volunteers had struggled putting up the Heras Fencing;

19/20.74.3 Cllrs Mrs Hessing and Mrs Anstee had attended the Remembrance Day Service and advised that in 2020 that the Scouts Firework Event and the Remembrance Day Service would all fall on the same weekend and therefore fencing on Elm Green would need to be removed prior to the Remembrance Service; a meeting will be convened in Spring 2020 to discuss the logistics for that weekend.

19/20.75 First Meeting for 2020

Members were advised that this is provisionally scheduled for Wednesday 15th January, subject to ratification of the timetable of all meetings for 2020 at the Parish Council meeting scheduled for 27th November 2019.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30pm

Chairman

Signed Date