

Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council General Purpose Committee held at 20.00 on the 24th June 2015, Parish Room (adjacent the Village Hall), Doddinghurst Road, Doddinghurst.

Present: Cllrs: Alan Farrow, Julia Le Page, and Cllr D Dicker.

1. Apologies for absence. Cllrs: David Potter, Graham W Bateson, Phil Arnell, Colin Enderby, Gerry Smith and Diane Rogers Harrison.

2. Declaration of Interests relating to items on the agenda - None declared.

3. 🖐️Resolved: Approved the minutes of the prior GP meeting (15th April 2015).

4. Information: Update on actions from prior meeting:

- External Audit for 2014/5 submitted
- NAT schedule of work for June submitted
- Risk Assessments in progress
- CPA RoSPA assessment received
- CPA seating ordered - completion by mid-August 2015.
- New traveller incursion on land off Days Lane (15th June) - prior one 20th to 24th May 2015 in main CPA recreational field).

5. Information: Parish Council Field Security. With two incursions onto Parish Council land of caravans in the past 6 months, and a new visit onto private land this month, the options for the security of the recreational land was reviewed as Essex Police were standing back and taking no action on behalf of the community that fund their services. A twin approach to security, which would not severely inconvenience legitimate users of the fields, was discussed. The entrance to Peartree Field, the Scout Path and the Village hall field (off the VH car park) were all recommended for additional security and height restrictors.

6. Resolution: Agreed (a) to uprate the existing combination locks and ground anchors with shielded padlocks and (b) to install height restrictors with opening top arms at 2m above ground, also fitted with shielded locks to prevent shackle cropping. The Clerk is to discuss the proposal with the Village Hall chairman. **In addition it was further agreed** that a bollard (or two) is to be installed at the rear of Peartree Field to limit access to pedestrians from Dagwood Lane from the rear left corner of the field. A budget in the region of £6k was considered necessary.

7. Information: CPA Stage 2 Grant Funding progress. A table reviewing the nine grant applications being considered was discussed. The CIF expression of interest had been accepted and the Council invited to put in a full application. The awards for all cap of £25,000 per playground project had been confirmed and a way of phasing the project discussed but no clear solution identified.

8. Information: CPA Stage 2 project matters for resolution. An ITT setting out the implementation requirements to convert the play chip area into a more modern play surface at the lowest cost (Plan A) was tabled. This approach required some 200 square meters of turf to be laid on new soil and the time needed to allow this to root, future unknown weather conditions, and the need to keep people off the new turf were all problematical. The committee took the view that Plan B (to convert the whole of the existing wood chip "pits" to modern safer surfacing) was a more controllable but more expensive. Based on the quotes received to date it was estimated that Plan B would cost approximately £60,000, or £15,000 more than Plan A, using bonded mulch as opposed to wet-pour. The committee had also considered a RoSPA paper on the pros and cons of wet pour and felt that wet pour carried its own complications and risks over bonded mulch.

9. Resolution: To agree Stage 2 specification of contract works. Not agreed, the paper is to be revised to reflect a Plan B approach.

10. Any Other Urgent Business strictly for information only.

The Clerk is to discuss Parish Council football facility (and use of the container) with Gary Waplinton.

The meeting was attended by no members of the public

The meeting closed at 22.00

Signed:

Dated: 21st Sept 2015