



Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council Sports Ground Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Loughton Sports Ground Committee held on Thursday 06/09/18 at 7.30pm at the Pavilion, 9 Lincelslade Grove, Loughton MK5 8DJ

Present: Councillors Howe (Chair), Boland and Gray

Staff present: Bev Field (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public: None

The Parish Clerk advised the meeting that the outgoing Chairperson should remain as Chair for the following item, until a new Chairperson elected. In the absence of Councillor Todd, the Parish Clerk chaired the next item.

LSG01/18a) Elect a Chair: Councillor Boland proposed Councillor Todd, seconded by Councillor Gray

Resolved: Councillor Todd was elected as the Chairman of the Loughton Sports Ground Committee for 2018/19

b) Chairperson for the meeting: Councillor Boland proposed Councillor Howe, seconded by Councillor Gray.

Resolved: Councillor Howe was elected to Chair the meeting.

LSG02/18 Elect a Vice-Chair:

Resolved: Not to appoint a Vice-Chairperson. If the Chairperson of the Committee is not in attendance the meeting shall appoint a Chairperson for that meeting.

LSG03/18 Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Todd

LSG04/18 Minutes of previous meetings: The minutes of the meeting held on 12/04/18 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

LSG05/18 Matters arising - none

LSG06/18 Declarations of interest: Councillor Howe declared a personal interest in item LSG13/18 as he is the Chair of a cricket team. He did not vote on this item.

LSG07/18 Public participation: None

LSG08/18 Terms of Reference:

a) Recommended: to recommend to full Council the revised terms of reference for the committee

b) Noted: Councillor Howe was appointed to the Committee by the full Council on 06/08/18

c) Resolved: The premises will be referred to as "The Pavilion" to differentiate it from Loughton Sports and Social Club Ltd

LSG09/18 Use of the Sports Ground. Football team use has been negotiated as follows:

Tattenhoe Youth FC - have signed an agreement with the Parish Council. They asked to be consulted about the other teams but have been happy to share the facilities and maintain a high standard. They will use the pitch for 2 teams on Saturday mornings. They will manage the bookings and pitch condition and agreed to share their goalposts with other teams by agreement. Tattenhoe Youth FC have paid the fees and had 2 matches on the pitch this season.

Roman Rangers – were offered a limited opportunity to play on Saturday afternoons, all day Sunday plus a training night midweek, which they were initially keen to take up. However, they have since declined any use of the pitches as they prefer to have sole control of a pitch. They also had got another pitch cheaper and needed to play on Saturday mornings. They intend to make a proposal for future use and would like to work with the Parish Council.

Santander FC – As a result of Roman Rangers declining to use the pitches, and in consultation with Tattenhoe Youth FC and SGS, Santander FC were offered use of the pitches on Saturday afternoon. These discussions are still underway.

Resolved: That the arrangements being made are approved and the fees agreed for the 2018/19 season

LSG10/18 Security: The locks and padlocks have all been changed. The field gate had panels missing and the lock was wrongly placed on top of the gate and was ineffectual to the point that no-one used the padlock since they could push the gate apart. This was at risk of attracting attention from unwanted visitors. This has been repaired by Todd and Sons who sub-contract the field grass cutting and do repairs for SGS. A reference from SGS was obtained before agreeing the work.

One phase of the security system was provided by Expert Security, who refused the work because of a debt with LSSC Ltd. Recommendations were sought, and Tickford Security have installed the intruder alarm system and monitoring, and also activated the fire alarm. A further quote is underway for smoke detectors to be monitored. MK Group Security are the responder service if the alarm is activated. If necessary, they contact the police.

Resolved: a) That the security arrangements are approved

b) That the quote to repair the gate and lock is agreed at £80.00+VAT

c) To obtain a quote for CCTV for the outside of the building

LSG11/18 Finance: The Council business tax and water supply have been registered. A comparison service for community halls and centres has been used for the utilities. It has been difficult to obtain an account because of the credit check. Since the Parish Council has no loans and pays its bills, it does not have a good credit rating. Many Parish Councils are therefore with N-Power and SSP who do not do a credit check. The previous bill for electricity was traced and for the last 12 months was £6645.51 and an account is being set up with SSP.

Fees have been received from Tattenhoe Youth FC.

The Parish Clerk has been contacted by EDF, who are a creditor of LSSC Ltd, and there is post for LSSC Ltd including from Companies House arriving at the Pavilion. These will be returned to the senders.

Noted: The financial arrangements were approved

LSG12/18 Legal documentation

Resolved: To appoint Geoffrey Leaver Solicitors to notify the land registry and remove reference to the Loughton Sports and Social Club Ltd from the registered title.

Councillor Howe did not vote on the following item:

LSG13/18 Cricket Square: the quotes and advice were considered for restoring a cricket square. Artificial grass has limited value, as league matches are not played on it, but it is good for recreational play, practices and friendly matches. Further information would be needed regarding the "spike tolerance" of the artificial grass. If a square was restored with natural grass, the work would need to be planned around the sporting seasons and fixtures and would take considerable time to settle and be established. Feedback from SGS Grounds Maintenance is that some cricket squares in the area are underused, although poor facilities can be a contributing factor.

Resolved:

- a) To obtain further information about "spike tolerance"
- b) To defer the decision and consider restoring the cricket square as part of the overall future plan for the Pavilion and sports grounds.

LGS14/18 Future use of the Pavilion: The long-term use of the Pavilion should take into account different user groups at different times of day and weekend use. It could include a Parish Office and there is a wide range of possibilities for community use. Financing any refurbishment, maintenance and staff needs to be part of a business plan. Whether a community service approach or a business approach is taken will affect what the building is used for, and how it is funded. The Parish Council has been approached by several football clubs and also residents with ideas for the future use of the Pavilion. These will all be considered and a vision for the use of the Pavilion developed.

Resolved:

- a) To seek advice from the Parish Clerks at Shenley Church End, Oxley Park and Great Linford regarding the implementation and financing of a Community Centre with sports facilities.
- b) To inform interested parties via the Parish Council website, Mailchimp, social media and noticeboards that they are invited to submit ideas for the use of the Pavilion in writing.
- c) Groups who wish to make a proposal will be asked to submit a summary in writing and given the opportunity to present their proposals verbally on Thursday 11/10/18
- d) The next meeting of the Committee will then consider the information that has been gathered, consider if further information is required and seek to develop either a short list or single recommendation to the full Council.

Any other issues: None

Date and time of next meeting: To be arranged

The meeting closed at 9.49pm

Signed by Chair



Date 19.11.18