

**MINUTES OF PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING 22nd MAY 2017
IN RUNWELL VILLAGE HALL, COMMITTEE ROOM AT 8.15PM**

IN ATTENDANCE: - Messrs: Clark & Sloane; Mesdames: Evans and Wolf

Minute 19 Election of Chairman – Mr P Clark was proposed; seconded and appointed.

Minute 20 Apologies: - Messrs. Rogers & McKechnie; Mrs L Payne & Mrs E Young

Minute 21 Declarations of Interest – None

Minute 22 Park Funding & Grants

The Chairman reported that “The Big Lottery” application to fund the outdoor gym equipment had been refused. In light of this and following a review of the costs to run and maintain the park, the chairman further reported on a conversation with Roy Whitehead Leader of CCC who referred RPC to speak to CCC Officers Paul Van Damme (Parks) and David Green (Planning) in respect of funding. Pressure to be placed on CCC to assist with financing of Runwell Park, the possibility of returning the park to CCC was discussed. Alternative funding options also discussed.

Minute 23 Outdoor Gym Equipment

The committee discussed whether this project could be funded by CIL money currently held £3255.86 plus a further £5105.54 just received totalling £8361.40. The Clerk had also chased for outstanding S106 funds of around £2500. The committee recommend to the Full Council that this project goes ahead for the summer of 2017. Position for the installation still to be finalised.

Minute 24 Children’s Play Area

The committee reviewed two estimates to completely update the play facilities in the children’s play area for sums of £70k - £75k. This is completely beyond our current budget and will take a while to save for. We are expecting in the region of £38k over a period from a separate development at St. Luke’s but need to press CCC (see Minute 22 above) for extra help. Other grant funding opportunities to be explored.

Minute 25 Football Pitches

The Chairman reported he had spoken to Essex FA about letting the pitches at Runwell as the take up from Essex Royals has dropped considerably over the last few years. Clerk to advise Larry McKechnie (Essex Royals) we will be advertising and to confirm usage for 2017/18 season by end of June also to offer them sole unlimited use of one pitch either Top or Middle for Saturday and Sunday games between September 2017 – April 2018 (extension either side by arrangement) for the sum of £3000 which includes use of the changing rooms and pavilion.

CE to see if Rugby could be an alternative use for the unused pitches.

Minute 26 Maintenance:

- (i) Kissing Gate/ Security Fence – this has been damaged at the point where the park intersects with Meadow Lane. Quotation to repair the fence to be obtained.
- (ii) Concrete Blocks - The committee recommend to the Full Council the purchase of two further concrete blocks to secure the area, cost will be in the region of £800 plus VAT for blocks
- (iii) Pigeon Spikes – 4inch Pipe Spikes are needed for the swings to stop bird excrement on the seats, PC has ordered.
- (iv) Pavilion: CCTV & Doors – The committee reviewed the quotations to upgrade the CCTV, this to be deferred until funding established, quotes also reviewed to replace current doors with steel doors but again very expensive defer decision.
- (v) 1.8 Acres - The young trees or “whips” have mostly taken and are growing well. Care must be taken when topping the field later in the year so they are not cut down.

- (vi) Hedges/Ditches – LV has cleared the long ditch along the east boundary. Local farmer to cut hedges in the autumn. CE reported she had finished walking the “Runwell Ditches” for the “Where Does all the Water Go?” project with ECC

Minute 27 Meadow Lane

The Chairman reported on recent incidents with illegal fly-grazing of a traveller pony, quad bikes and motor bikes using the park without permission. These issues can be overcome by arranging for the Kissing Gate repairs and installation of further concrete blocks – See Minute 26 (i) & (ii) above.

Minute 28 Questions

- (i) JW reported on the quality of the hard play surface, it was agreed this should be replaced when funds available. Quotations to be obtained for alternative surfaces.
- (ii) No Golfing Signs – 3 more to be purchased.
- (iii) Replacement swing chains – fitting seems to be incorrect, PC to check with Wickstead.
- (iv) Car Park light vandalised; Clerk to arrange electricians to replace with toughened glass and cage.

Meeting closed 9.55pm