



Maresfield Parish Council

REPRESENTING THE VILLAGES OF MARESFIELD, NUTLEY & FAIRWARP

DRAFT Minutes of the Maresfield Recreation Ground Committee meeting held remotely on Tuesday 24th November 2020 via Zoom

Present: Cllr Mrs L Stevens Smith (Chair), Cllr Mrs S Cumming, Mrs T Allen, Mr N Beesley, Mr M Budgen, Mr A Russell, Mr C Sherwood, Mr R Smith and Mrs C Goossens (Clerk)

1. **Public session.** None.
2. **To approve apologies for absence and to note other non-attendance.** Mr D Barnard.
3. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
4. **Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th September 2020.**
The minutes as previously circulated were **Agreed** as a true and accurate record.
5. **Matters arising from these minutes not elsewhere on the Agenda.**
Parking on School Hill/High Street has been exacerbated by The Chequers having temporarily closed their car park.
6. **Financial Reports.** The Clerk reported that as of 16th November, there was £553.26 in the bank account. We are currently challenging Corona Energy for a rebate of £692.03 which was debited from the account due to having failed to submit a closing reading before the changeover from EDF and subsequent bills having been estimated.
Mrs Allen confirmed the new Treasurer of the Stoolball Club is awaiting confirmation of the MRG Account name to enable payment of outstanding fees for two games.
ACTION: Clerk to provide Nicky Rummy with requisite information.
It was noted that there are currently numerous funding opportunities available for organisations such as MRG e.g., Sport England.
ACTION: Mr Budgen to forward list of relevant funding opportunities to Clerk.
7. **Club Reports:**
 - 7.1. **Football Seniors.**
The following points were noted:
 - Matches are due to recommence on Saturday 28th November the first being an Away game.
 - No home games have been scheduled at present.
 - The bar area has now been cleared aside from a few items belonging to the cricket club. **ACTION:** Mr Beesley to arrange for Cricketers to remove remaining bottles. It was noted that anything remaining would be thrown away.
 - 7.2. **Dynamos Juniors.**
The following points were noted:
 - Training will recommence on Saturday 5th December.
 - There is a backlog of games.**ACTION:** MB and CS to liaise to avoid diary clashes when arranging fixtures.
 - There have been no recent complaints regarding match day/training parking. MDJFC have been placing traffic cones on the road and match day packs inform away teams where they can and cannot park.
 - The tea hut is working well with and takings have increased with the use of an electronic payment system.**ACTION:** MB to investigate small “lean-to” shed to rear of pavilion housing line painting equipment. Neither Senior FC nor MDJC have knowledge of ownership. The shed is in a very bad state of repair and ideally needs removing.
All MDJFC Coaches have been instructed to ensure that no children participating in training sessions use the play area or climb trees on the Recreation Ground.
 - 7.3 **Cricket.**
The following points were noted:
 - There will be a team next year provided there are competitive fixtures.
 - The League has voted not to provide “Teas” next season, just drinks for players and officials.



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- It is anticipated that the season will run as usual from the first weekend in May through to the beginning of September.

7.3.1 Cricket Enclosure Fencing

This is still damaged but shouldn't require too much effort to fix. A new run of mesh fencing is required from the edge of the shipping container to the corner of the enclosure. **ACTION:** NB to ask Steve to have a look at making necessary repairs.

7.4 Stoolball

The following points were noted:

- The Treasurer will pay outstanding match fees once she has received requisite bank information.
- MCC have agreed to the Stoolball team using the cricket nets and they will need a key. **ACTION:** Clerk to investigate possibility of a code key store.
- The Fete Committee have asked that the Stoolball club label all equipment before storing it in the Fete Committee Shed. **ACTION:** Mrs Allen/Cllr Mrs Stevens-Smith.

7.5 Bowls.

The following points were noted:

- The Forest Row Maintenance Team have the hedge cutting on their schedule of works but the recent wet weather has held them up.
- The internal gates into the green have been vandalised.
- The weather has been too wet of late to treat the green.

8. Pavilion Matters.

8.1 Refurbishment update

Scheduled for end January/beginning of February. Approved by Council at its meeting in September. G Parr, Cllr Mrs Cumming and P Penfold to meet again prior to commencement of works.

It was noted that the door lock is extremely temperamental and needs attention. When open the lock works so it may be an issue with the way the door is hung.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange necessary repair.

8.2 Drainage of path and patio

ACTION: Mr Budgen to investigate and revert with recommendations.

8.3 Users responsibilities

The Clerk asked all users to ensure they leave the Pavilion facilities tidy and clean after use. If there are multiple users using the facility during a weekend, it may be necessary to empty paper towel bins in the cloakrooms for example. The floors should be swept before departure. If additional cleaning is regularly required, it may be considered appropriate to introduce an additional cleaning surcharge.

8.4 Electricity

As reported under item 6.

9. Ground matters.

9.1 Benches

Cllr Mrs Cummings has carried out a recent survey of the benches and their respective memorial plaques. **ACTION:** Cllr Mrs Cummings to send report to Clerk.

9.2 Boot Scrapers

It was **Agreed** that once the Pavilion refurbishment has taken place, one boot scraper should be situated in front of the existing serving hatch (concreted into the grass) and another should be positioned close to the planter and signage at the entrance to the Recreation Ground (concreted into the grass).

9.3 Tree Survey

The Clerk has received a quotation of £280+VAT for a survey of the trees running along the boundary of School Hill/High Street. It was noted that eucalyptus trees behind the play area should also potentially be included in the survey.

ACTION: Clerk to contact local homeowners to ascertain ownership of eucalyptus trees.



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It was **Agreed** to recommend to Council a tree survey be carried out on the trees adjacent to the High Street and also those on the boundary behind the play area if these are indeed on Recreation Ground land.

10. Play area matters.

It was noted that the Play Area has been very busy recently with many children and parents within the confines of the fencing with little regard for social distancing. There is signage explaining the protocol for the safe use of Play Area together with signs advising users of the need to maintain social distancing. **ACTION:** Clerk to send "Social Distancing" signage to Mr Budgen who will replace any missing signs. Add item to Environment Agenda for discussion at next meeting.

11. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 23rd February 2020.

It was noted that the start date for Pavilion refurbishment works will need to be communicated to all users in the intervening period.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.26.