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| MARESFIELD PARISH COUNCILREPRESENTING THE VILLAGES OF MARESFIELD, NUTLEY & FAIRWARP |

**Minutes of the Maresfield Recreation Ground Committee meeting held remotely on Tuesday 23rd June at 7.30pm via Zoom**

**Present:** Cllr Mrs L Stevens Smith (Chair), Cllr Mrs S Cumming, Mrs T Allen, Mr D Barnard, Mr R Horscroft, Mr G Prince, Mr C Radcliffe, Mr R Smith and
Mrs C Goossens (Clerk)

1. **Public session.** None**.**
2. **Apologies for absence.** Mrs Lesley Skibinska.
3. **Declarations of interest.**
4. **Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th February 2020.**The minutes as circulated with the meeting papers were **Adopted**.
5. **Matters arising from these minutes not elsewhere on the Agenda.** None.
6. **Financial reports update.**

The following points were noted in discussion:

* The bank balance on 16th June was £1264.00.
* There has been no income since receipt of 2019 subs from the Bowls Club on 20th March.
* Regular expenditure on cleaning, water, electricity has continued added to which were the servicing costs for the defibrillator.
* Neither the Cricket nor Stoolball Clubs have charged their members subs for the season thus far resulting in nil income for both. It looks unlikely either club will get any play this year due to the COVID 19 Pandemic restrictions.
* The Dynamos are hoping to recommence training at the beginning of July and had been planning to hire Hadlow Down as agreed at the last meeting. Grass Roots Football have advised what can and cannot be done. As the Cricketers are unlikely to play the hire of the field to the Dynamos could help to boost income. There would be no requirement to use the pavilion for any facilities other than the toilets which can be accessed by the side door with the remainder of the Pavilion “locked off”.

The Chairman proposed waiving subs for the current year for both the Cricket and Stoolball Club. This was seconded by Mr Smith and **Agreed** unanimously.

The Chairman proposed Dynamos commence training at MRG from 4th July subject to provision of relevant Risk Assessments. This was seconded by Cllr Cumming and **Agreed** unanimously. **ACTION**: Mr Horscroft to provide Risk Assessments.

1. **Clubs Reports:**
	1. **Football Seniors.**

The following points were noted:

* One match has been played since the last Committee meeting.
* The team finished the season mid-table.
* Next season Maresfield Seniors anticipate fielding one senior team and one veterans’ team. There has been no suggestion that Ridgewood will join forces.
* Training sessions are usually held at West Park but there have not been any to date. It is hoped that training will recommence in mid-July with matches taking place from September.
* It was noted that there have been “organised” training sessions taking place in recent weeks at MRG but it is not known by whom. **ACTION**: Mr Radcliffe to investigate.
* Match fees for both Maresfield and Ridgewood are outstanding.
**ACTION**: Mr Radcliffe to arrange payment.
	1. **Dynamos Juniors.**

The following points were noted:

* There was some concern regarding numbers for the coming season, but it transpires that there has been a good turnout after all.
* Subs for members have remained at the same level as last year.
* **ACTION**: Mr Horscroft to chase Treasurer re payment of subs to MRG.
	1. **Cricket.**
* At present there is no possibility of playing.
* One or two players have indicated that they will not return.
* There is no means of providing Cricket Tea or changing facilities for players.
	1. **Stoolball.** There has been no training or play.
	2. **Bowls.** No representative present. **ACTION**: Clerk to email Bowls Club Rep to ascertain when they expect to resume play and revert to committee to discuss appropriate subscription subsidy.
	 Also to discuss of hedge cutting at far end of Bowls Green.
1. **Trees and boundary matters.**Children have been climbing and jumping on the lower limbs of the tree adjacent to the Pavilion resulting in damage to the tree.
**ACTION**: Clerk to ask Maintenance Team to remove lower branches.
2. **Pavilion matters:**
	1. **Update – External Pavilion works.** It was noted that all exterior works have now been completed including the lock being changed on the side access door.

 **ACTION**: Clerk to get one key cut for each user. Users to arrange cutting of additional keys as required and to send numbered list of key holders to Clerk.

* 1. **Update – Internal Pavilion works – to consider and agree recommendation to the Trustee for approval.** The following points were noted in discussion:
* The shed to the rear once cleared should be large enough to also accommodate the Stoolball equipment too. All sports equipment from within the Pavilion needs clearing.
* This shed would benefit from an additional door in the centre.
* The aspiration is that whilst predominantly making improvements to the Pavilion for the benefit of the sports teams who currently make use of the facilities, it may be possible to attract other users from the village once the building has been upgraded e.g. Bridge Club/Table Tennis etc.
* The Parish Council has in principle agreed to commit funds of between £20,000 and £30,000 for refurbishment works. If quotations come in over this amount, it may be that additional funds will have to be raised by other means, or the plans scaled down.
* The Trust Deed may need to be reviewed if the facilities are to be used by other groups in the village.
* Gratitude was expressed to Graham Parr who has kindly drawn up plans (both existing and proposed) free of charge.
* The plans as provided by Graham Parr were discussed and it was noted, that if as proposed the kitchen and bar are combined there may be insufficient space. The bar size could be increased, and a storage cupboard included in the main pavilion area by “stealing” some space from changing room number 4. Whilst four changing rooms are occasionally required, there is no need for this little used facility to be as large as it is.
* The Cricketers are the License holders for the bar and are subject to annual renewals. There are minimal restrictions other than stipulations that the facility must be used only as a “Club Bar” and no alcohol may be served before 10am.
* It was noted that the side access door needs to be wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair or motorised mobility scooter.
* Any ramp for wheelchair/mobility scooter access should be adequate to serve both front and side doors. **ACTION**: Working group to check this.
* Several builders have been approached but many are too busy to even provide a quotation for the job.
**ACTION**: Cllr Cumming to ask Graham Parr for recommendations.

The Chairman proposed **Approval** of the proposed plan subject to the minor revision i.e. “stealing” space from changing room 4 to increase the size of the bar and to provide a storage cupboard for tables and chairs. This was seconded by Mr Horscroft and **Agreed** unanimously.

**ACTION**: Cllr Cumming to get proposed drawing amended.

**ACTION**: Clerk to send amended drawing to all committee members.

1. **Ground matters:**
	1. **To agree use of Recreation Ground for Remembrance Service on Sunday 8th November.**

It was unanimously **Agreed**.

* 1. **Grass cutting / Pitch improvement scheme.**

**ACTION:** Clerk/Football Juniors/Football Seniors to liaise re FA Pitch Improvement scheme.

**ACTION:** Cricketers to investigate purchase of plastic netting to surround cricket square.

**ACTION:** Cricketers to consider long term maintenance within cricket enclosure.

**ACTION:** Clerk to ask Maintenance Team to seed goal mouths near Bowls Club and cricket square.

**ACTION:** Clerk to liaise with Barcombe re cutting schedule – grass will need cutting w/c 24th August and then regularly during the autumn.

 Special thanks were given to Stuart Chappell for all his efforts maintaining the ground.

1. **Play area matters.** It is anticipated that the Government will allow play areas to be re-opened from 4th July. The necessary Risk Assessments will be carried out. Depending on guidance/requirements, the Parish Council will act accordingly. **ACTION**: Clerk.
2. **Policies and Risk Assessment.**

**ACTION**: Mr Horscroft to provide Risk Assessment for Dynamos training postCOVID 19.

**ACTION**: Clerk to provide Risk Assessment for Pavilion and Recreation Ground post COVID 19.

1. **Communications and website.** The Clerk reported the Parish Council’s new fully accessible website will go live in September and includes a dedicated page for local clubs, groups and societies. **ACTION**: Clerk to email sports clubs requesting content and permission to use links for website.
2. **PFLSC.** Nothing to report – no recent meeting.
3. **Date of next meeting – Thursday 23rd July 2020.**

*There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.10.*