



Minutes of the Land Management Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 13th October 2022 at 7pm at Cuxton Library

Present: Cllr Porter (Chair), Cllr Hutchfield, Cllr Reynolds & Cllr Savage

In attendance: Mr Ian Gray (CCG & CAA), Mr Robin Bourner (CSRA & MVL), Mr Lee Cooksey & Mr Frans Thorley (Cuxton '91 FC)

The clerk was on annual leave and was not in attendance. In his absence, Cllr Reynolds took the minutes of the meeting.

There were no members of the public present.

18) Apologies for absence

Cllr Thorley – prior commitment.

It was resolved to accept these apologies.

19) Declarations of Interest (DPI, conflict of interest and personal interests) and alterations to the Register

Cllrs Porter & Reynolds – Item 8.

20) Minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2022 - for approval

No amendments required.

It was resolved to accept these minutes a true record of the meeting.

21) Matters Arising

None.

22) Recreation Ground:

a) Teenage Village – Painting of base & Playground fence – update

Clerk to ascertain and obtain a breakdown to itemise costs.

b) Playground Inspection – update

No update available as inspection due October/November.

c) Bike Track surface – update

A visit was awaited from contractors who were preparing the new bike track in Snodland and the update, once received, to be brought back to Council.

23) Report from Cuxton Sports and Recreation Association

Mr Bourner read his report which included updates on the Memorial and Library Gardens. The contents of which were noted. Mr Bourner confirmed a board had been replaced in the hard courts area. A discussion ensued concerning funding for the regeneration of the hard courts and what grants might be available.

24) Report from Medway Valley Line representative

Mr Bourner advised a walk had been arranged on the 8th of November, to attempt to get more people to use trains. The walk would commence at Halling Station and end at Cuxton Station. Mr Bourner was asked if the station car park at Cuxton would be re-opened and he confirmed this course of action was not recommended. It had previously been suggested it might be used for a housing development.

25) Report from Allotments representative

Mr Gray advised that fires and barbecues were banned on the allotments but requested on volunteer days whether barbecues could be used. It was agreed this request would be passed to Council for a decision to be made. In view of the current economic climate, Mr Gray requested the Parish Council consider not imposing the rent increase proposed for the year 2022/23 and that water costs be charged at £1 per rod not £5 per plot. Mr Gray suggested the current system of water charges was possibly unfair in relation to the sizes of plots. Following discussion, it was decided to refer these requests to the next full Council meeting for consideration. As the allotment accounts were quite cumbersome, it was suggested the yearly invoices could be dealt with more cost effectively using a Rialtas accounting package. Mr Gray advised according to the contractor, Medway Norse, the rat activity was currently of a low level.

26) Report from Cuxton Countryside Group

Mr Gray advised trees would be felled in Six Acre Wood during the half-term break with access being gained to the site from the Junior School drive. Mr Gray confirmed the 'Beating of the Bounds' would take place on Sunday 16th October, starting at 9.30am from the 'White Hart' Public House.

27) Report from Cuxton '91

Mr Cooksey advised that maintenance of pitches had been undertaken. In total £8,000 had been spent on this work and Cuxton '91 had additionally contributed £2,800 towards the work. Further investment in equipment had been made to assist with future maintenance so minor remedial work could be undertaken without employing external contractors. A discussion regarding future provision of disability football took place as Cuxton '91 are interested in expanding into this sector.

28) Discussion regarding the provision of a flagpole in the village

Mr Bourner suggested, following recent events, the village should consider erecting a flagpole, to mark national ceremonial events, near the bottom of James Road where a tree had fallen previously. Mr Thorley suggested that money raised at next year's 'Big Lunch' event could be used to purchase the flagpole. The clerk was asked to contact MHS Homes to determine if they would consider the erection of a flagpole at the suggested site and then to obtain quotations for its' cost.

29) Events:

a) Update on Firework display Saturday 5th November

It was advised that documentation was still awaited from 'The Wheel of Cuxton' with regards to the Firework display. It was suggested stallholders should charge the same prices as each other for the same food products.

b) Update on Christmas Tree Lighting event Saturday 3rd December

It was confirmed the Christmas Tree was being delivered and installed week commencing 21st November and the lights would be added on Sunday 27th. It was noted the lights were very often not working last year due to a misunderstanding over switches in the library. The clerk to check with the library to ensure the lights work properly this year.

30) Correspondence

None.

31) Information Exchange

Cllr Reynolds advised she had spoken to a local window cleaner regarding the possibility of cleaning the CCTV cameras at a date and time to be arranged.

32) Members Future Agenda Items

None.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Next Meeting 9th February 2023

Signed ***Julie Porter*** **Chairman**

On the ***9th*** **day of** ***February*** **2023**