



Minutes of the Land Management Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 25th May 2023 at 7pm at Cuxton Library

Present: Cllr Porter (Chair), Cllr Manning, Cllr Vye & Cllr White. Cllr Thorley (attended as a Parish Councillor not as a committee member).

In attendance: Mr Ian Gray (CCG & CAA), Mr Matthew Nightingale (CAA), Mr Frans Thorley (Cuxton '91), Mr Lee Cooksey & Mr C. Jensen (Clerk).

There was one member of the public present.

1) Apologies for absence

Cllr Chamberlain – prior engagement, Mr Robin Bourner – prior engagement.
It was resolved to accept these apologies.

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

Cllr Porter – Items 5b), 8) & 13). Cllr Vye – Items 8) & 13).

3) Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2023 - for approval

No amendments required. Cllr Manning proposed the minutes be accepted without amendment. This proposal was seconded by Cllr White. All councillors voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.
It was resolved to accept these minutes a true record of the meeting.

4) Matters Arising

None.

5) Recreation Ground:

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

The clerk advised he was awaiting a response from the social club regarding the Parish Council's request for the workmen's vehicle to be parked in their car park whilst the painting was being undertaken in the recreation ground. Dates for the painting could then be finalised, although this was now likely to be commenced later this year.

b) Bike Track Surface and maintenance – update

The clerk had provided all attendees with a copy of the maintenance report from Cuxton Gardens Ltd following their recent visit on 28th April 2023. No queries were raised. Councillors decided to await the next maintenance report

before consideration could be given to the recommendation regarding the supply and planting of bulbs around the track area. Cllr Porter advised that Cllr Burley was making enquiries of Veolia with regards to obtaining a grant for the resurfacing of the bike track. She confirmed this was an agenda item at the recent main Parish Council meeting.

6) Report from Cuxton Sports and Recreation Association

The clerk provided all attendees with a copy of the report from Mr Bourner regarding the CSRA's recent activities. Cllr Porter confirmed a response was awaited from Medway Council planning as to whether planning permission was required for the storage containers in the Recreation ground. No other comments were raised.

7) Report from Medway Valley Line representative

The clerk provided all attendees with a copy of the report from Mr Bourner regarding the Medway Valley Line's recent activities. No comments were raised. It was decided the issues of watering the station planters should be considered at the next meeting.

8) Report from Cuxton Allotments Association representative

The clerk had provided all attendees with a copy of the report from the CAA's representative. In addition, Mr Gray advised further discussion regarding a loose car park surface, which had been approved by the leaseholder, would be undertaken at their next committee meeting. No comments were raised.

9) Report from Cuxton Countryside Group

The clerk had provided all attendees with a copy of the report from the CCG's representative. Mr Gray also advised additional planking had been undertaken behind Woodhurst Close over the past weekend, following an email from a resident, received by the clerk. No comments were raised.

10) Report from Cuxton '91

The clerk had provided all attendees with a copy of the report from Cuxton 91FC's representative. In addition, Mr Cooksey advised that although the seeding had been completed, the weed and feed had not been undertaken due to the weather conditions.

Mr Cooksey advised Cuxton 91 was working with residents in dealing with an issue raised to the clerk whereby the dugouts situated in the Recreation ground had been used as goalposts which had caused inconvenience to residents. Following discussion, an increase in anti-social behaviour, drug and CO2 canister use had been noted in the village. Mr Thorley suggested the Ward Councillors should be asked for assistance in dealing with these issues. Cllr Porter asked the clerk to explain the issues to the Ward Councillors and request their assistance and ask them to provide feedback at future meetings.

Mr Cooksey suggested photographs of the CO2 canisters, which had been found, were publicised in the next edition of the newsletter.

11) Review of Terms of Reference of the Land Management Committee

Cllr Porter proposed the following alterations to the Terms of Reference: Item 3.1 to read 'A minimum of five' members; Item 3.2 to be removed as ex-officio was considered an outdated term and to Item 3.5 the following was added – 'One member of the Cuxton Sports and Recreation Association (CSRA), one member of the Cuxton Countryside Group (CCG) and one member of Cuxton 91FC will be co-opted to the Committee, to address recreation ground, countryside and football issues and act as liaisons with the CSRA, CCG and Cuxton 91FC. Following discussion, the proposal was seconded by Cllr White. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

It was resolved to accept these amendments to the Terms of Reference as proposed. The clerk to provide a copy for signature of the chairman at the next Land Management meeting.

12) Discussion regarding provision of additional railing 6 Acre Wood steps

Following discussion, the clerk was requested to ask the Ward Councillors to intervene urgently on the Parish Council's behalf to assist, in conjunction with Medway Council, in providing additional railing support at the bottom of the steps leading to the church. Mr Gray advised he was to contact Medway Greenspaces to request their help.

13) Preliminary discussion Allotment rent review for years 2023/4 & 2024/5

Mr Gray provided the background to the rent review undertaken three years ago and confirmed the Parish Council decided not to levy the agreed increase for 2022/23, due to the national cost of living crisis. The charges had remained at £5.50 per rod with an additional water charge of £1.00 per rod, whereas they should have risen to £6.50 per rod. Following discussion, Cllr Manning proposed the rental for 2023/24 be increased to £6.50 per rod and the water charge to remain at £1.00 per rod. This proposal was seconded by Cllr White. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

It was resolved to accept this proposal and the clerk to arrange to refer the decision to full council for agreement.

14) Discussion to set date for Christmas tree lighting event

Following discussion, Saturday 2nd December was set as the date for this years' Christmas Tree lighting event. The clerk to advise residents of the date in the next edition of the newsletter.

15) Events: Big Lunch

The clerk advised the completed event management plan, risk assessment and overlaid google map had been sent to Medway Council for approval and would be discussed by the events committee today and they would then

advise of any further requirements. Cllr Porter confirmed the event planning had proceeded well.

16) Correspondence

The clerk confirmed that ongoing correspondence with regards to dugout issues in the recreation ground had been discussed previously under agenda item 10 and ongoing correspondence with regards to additional planking behind Woodhurst Close had been discussed under agenda item 9.

17) Information Exchange

None.

18) Members Future Agenda Items

Ward Councillors – update regarding railing at church steps and CO2 canisters issue
Big Lunch review
Teenage village and fence painting - update

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:22 pm.

Next Meeting 13th July 2023

Signed *Julie Porter* **Chairman**

On the *13th* **day of** *July* **2023**