



Minutes of the Land Management Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 13th July 2023 at 7pm at Cuxton Library

Present: Cllr Porter (Chair), Cllr Chamberlain, Cllr Manning, Cllr Vye & Cllr White.

In attendance: Mr. R. Bournier (CSRA & MVL), Mr Matthew Nightingale (CAA), Mr Frans Thorley (Cuxton '91) & Mr C. Jensen (Clerk).

There were no members of the public present.

19) Apologies for absence

Mr Cooksey – prior engagement, Mr Ian Gray – prior engagement.

It was resolved to accept these apologies.

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

Cllr Vye – Items 9) & 13).

21) Minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2023 - for approval

No amendments required. Cllr White proposed the minutes be accepted without amendment. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Manning. Four councillors voted in favour of the proposal and there was one abstention, Cllr Chamberlain, as she was not present at the meeting.

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

22) Matters Arising

None.

23) Signing of Terms of Reference of the Land Management Committee

As the clerk had incorporated the amendments proposed at the meeting held on 25th May, Cllr Porter, as chairman, signed the Terms of Reference.

24) Recreation Ground:

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

The clerk advised he had received responses from all six of the companies contacted and three had decided not to visit or provide a quotation. A further visit was awaited from another contractor and once this quotation was received, the clerk would provide these for councillors to consider at the next

Land Management meeting scheduled in September. If approved, the commencement of the works would be in the Spring of 2024.

b) Bike Track Surface and maintenance – update

The clerk advised Cllrs Burley and Jensen had volunteered to consider the details of the Veolia grant and complete the application form.

c) Discussion regarding quotations preventing animal activity

The clerk advised he had arranged visits from prevention companies and had received two reports to date and a third was awaited. It was agreed this matter would be discussed at the next full Council meeting. The clerk advised Cuxton 91 would be required to remove all their equipment before the initial visit was scheduled to take place.

d) Discussion regarding provision of cableway in Recreation ground

Mr Bourner advised that cableways/zip wires had been erected in Wouldham and also Capstone Park and were very popular. The clerk advised a meeting was arranged with a consultant on Monday 17th with a view to discussing the most appropriate siting of the equipment in the Recreation ground. Should the Council decide to proceed further with this proposal, the clerk advised residents in the immediate vicinity would need to be consulted for their opinions.

25) Report from Cuxton Sports and Recreation Association

Mr Bourner confirmed that clearance of the CSRA side of the roundel, the store, the outside of the pavilion and the garage had been undertaken and the current stock of equipment was now housed in one of the containers. Grant monies were still awaited from Medway Norse for the library gardens and from Ward Councillor Fearn for seating. Clerk to ascertain when the monies were expected to be received. Clerk also to contact Ward Councillor Filmer with regards to the provision of an outside tap, as the lack of a water supply was hampering the growth of plants.

26) Report from Medway Valley Line representative

Mr Bourner advised the station planters had been successful, but the lack of a water supply was hampering the growth of the plants. Mr Bourner was still trying to get agreement for the station sign to include 'for Ranscombe Reserve'. Cllr Porter thanked Mr Bourner for his efforts.

27) Report from Cuxton Allotments Association representative

The clerk had provided all attendees with a copy of the report from the CAA's representative. The Allotment Association had requested the rent review for 2023/24 be deferred until after their AGM which was scheduled for Sunday 23rd July. Following discussion, Cllr Porter proposed the allotment rent review for 2023/24 should be deferred until the next LMC meeting in September so

that the views of allotment holders could be taken into consideration. Cllr Chamberlain seconded this proposal. All councillors voted unanimously in favour of this proposal. Cllr Vye was advised to raise his issue with the Allotment Association at the forthcoming AGM. No other issues were raised.

28) Report from Cuxton Countryside Group

The clerk had provided all attendees with a copy of the report from the CCG's representative. Following discussion, the clerk was asked to clarify with Mr Gray whether the trees which required felling in Six Acre wood were additional ones for which a quotation had not yet been provided. Cllr Chamberlain advised overgrown footpath vegetation was a problem and going forward a plan was required for its' clearance. Cllr Porter confirmed Medway Council had not had a footpath officer for some time due to a recruitment ban but this position was currently under review. Clerk to check if there is a Six Acre wood plan. Mr Bournier suggested that Cllr Chamberlain, Mr Gray and himself walk the paths in Six Acre wood to determine the issues and report back.

29) Report from Cuxton '91

Mr Thorley advised the pitch had been re-seeded but the football club was also struggling to keep the pitches watered in the current conditions. Mr Thorley confirmed that Cuxton 91 were self-funding. Mr Thorley asked if the Parish Council had any plans to reinstate the re-development of the Courts and Cllr Porter suggested the matter be added as a future agenda item for discussion.

30) Update regarding the provision of additional railing, 6 Acre Wood steps, CO2 canisters issue and discussion regarding repair/replacement of steps behind Woodhurst Close

The clerk advised the additional railing was now in place at the Six Acre wood steps leading to the church, having been completed by Medway Council. Clerk to advise the resident who raised the issue.

The clerk advised Medway Council could only assist with issues of littering of CO2 canisters during normal working hours, as possession of the canisters at present, was not a criminal offence.

Following discussion, Cllr Chamberlain advised she would arrange to take photographs of the steps behind Woodhurst Close and forward them to the clerk for onward transmission to the Ward Councillors to request their assistance with repair/replacement.

31) Further discussion: Allotment rent review for year 2023/24

As this matter had been dealt with under item 9, no further discussion occurred.

32) Events: Christmas Tree lighting event – update and discussion regarding quotations for supply of Christmas tree

The clerk had provided councillors with three quotations which had been received to supply and deliver the Christmas tree. Following discussion, Cllr Chamberlain proposed the quotation from Jean Clough (Ewart J Clough) be accepted. This proposal was seconded by Cllr White. All councillors voted unanimously in favour of the proposal. The clerk to advise Jean Clough and arrange a suitable date for delivery.

33) Review of Big Lunch 2023 and set date for Big Lunch 2024

The clerk advised not all payments had been made as some invoices were outstanding. Following discussion, the date for Big Lunch 2024 was set as Sunday 9th June 2024.

34) Discussion regarding Open Space Assessment form completion

The clerk had provided councillors with a copy of the form that had been completed with the help of Mr Bourner and Mr Gray. Cllr Chamberlain suggested with regards to Six Acre Wood, amendment was necessary to state, 'it needed professional management by the Parish Council, which was being considered'. Following discussion, the clerk was asked to amend the form to reflect this statement before submission.

35) 80th anniversary D-Day celebrations, Thursday 6th June 2024- discussion

The clerk had previously provided councillors with the details received from KALC regarding the D-Day celebrations scheduled for 6th June 2024. Cllr Porter confirmed beacons were requested to be lit that evening. The clerk advised a working group was required to consider and complete the required documentation. Cllr Manning and Mr Thorley both volunteered to be members of the working group and the clerk advised he would ask if other councillors could assist. Cllr Porter confirmed she would ask if one of the Wheel of Cuxton volunteers would light the beacon.

36) Correspondence

The clerk had provided correspondence from an allotment holder requesting the pedestrian gate access on Sundridge Hill be re-opened. Mr Nightingale stated the area was overgrown and access was an issue. Following discussion, the Allotment Association representative was asked to canvas the opinion of plot holders at their forthcoming AGM, scheduled to be held on Sunday 23rd July and to report back at the next Land Management meeting in September. The clerk was tasked to advise the correspondent.

37) Information Exchange

None.

38) Members Future Agenda Items

Teenage village painting of base & playground fence

Cableway in Recreation ground
Courts re-development
Big lunch review when costings received
Pedestrian gate access on Sundridge Hill – feedback from Allotment
Association's AGM
Christmas Tree lighting event
Steps behind Woodhurst Close - update
D-Day 80Th celebrations - update

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:50 pm.

Next Meeting 14th September 2023

Signed *Julie Porter* Chairman

On the *14th* day of *September* *2023*