

**Wootton Park Association – Committee Meeting
Tuesday 26th January 2016, South Wootton Parish Office**

MINUTES

1. Present: Will Border, Bridget Nurse, Sarah Crome, John Marshall-Grint, David Price, Tracey Cornwell, Moira Kirby, Roy Williamson, Elizabeth Nockolds, Diana Gotts, Wendy Border, Matt Sturgeon, Mike Farley
In attendance: Mrs R Curtis (Clerk)

2. Apologies – Audrey Steven

3. Voting in a new Chairperson

Mike Narbrough has resigned at Chair of the Association. David Price proposed Will Border as Chair and seconded by Diana Gotts and everyone voted unanimously in favour.

4. Confirmation of last minutes

David Price proposed that the minutes be accepted, this was seconded by Will Border and the committee agreed the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 22nd September 2015.

5. Matters Arising

- i) Bridget Nurse wished it to be noted that she was upset by the remarks made by Mike Narborough regarding the request that September's meeting date was changed. David Price said he thought there had been misunderstandings. Everyone agreed that it is time to draw a line under the issue and make a fresh start for the new year and move forward.
- ii) The grant funding for the football posts has not been received, Tracey Cornwell to follow up.

6. Questions from the Public

None

7. Correspondence

- A resident of The Pingles wrote to ask if anything could be done with the tree which overhangs her garden.
- Will Border has been to look at the tree and it is very large and there is concern that cutting any overhanging branches could make the tree unsafe.
- A resident of Blackthorn Road has cut back trees and brambles at the bottom of his garden and has requested that brambles are cut down along the South Wootton strip. SWPC to respond to explain that WPA will not carry out the work.

8. Finance

Tracey Cornwell presented the accounts, the Wootton Park running costs total £12,997.76 to January 2016, these costs being met by 63% from SWPC and 37% from NWPC. The 2016/17 proposed budget is £13,490. The budget for tree surgery has been reduced to try and encourage people to pay for their own work, but may need to be increased again when the tree survey is completed. The Wootton Park Association Accounts has a balance of £2,611.71, the Ashley Fountaine Soccer School continues to use the park generating more income. The invoice for the Wootton's Football Club share of the utility bills has been raised, equating to £347.26.

Tracey said that the position of minute secretary had been a paid post in the past at £12 per hour. Will Border proposed this is paid to Rachel Curtis and seconded by Bridget Nurse, committee agreed.

9. Football Club Report

- Matt Sturgeon thanked Mike Narborough for his work in the past to bring the football club and the WPA closer together and thanks to Tracey for organising the grant for the goal posts and both SWPC and NWPC for funding.

- Upcoming events are the presentation day on 14th May and the football tournament on 18/19 June.
- There is a boggy area near the car park which means the entrance to the park is wet and muddy, the football club will get a quote for laying mesh over the area for grass to grow through to alleviate the problem.
- A cricket club has shown an interest in using the Park, there are some reservations relating to safety issues if a cricket ball hits someone, however in principle it is an interesting idea and Matt was asked to find out if a representative from the club could attend a meeting to give more details.
- Mick Farley attended the meeting to outline plans for the pavilion. It is proposed to move the kitchen area to the front of the building incorporating a hatch to outside to enable refreshments to be served, and make some internal modifications to the changing areas. It is planned to cover costs internally by fundraising at tournaments and help from Picnic in the Park. Volunteers have also come forward to offer their trade services.
- Picnic in the Park are looking at purchasing a defibrillator from their fundraising events.

10. Access to the fields

There was an incident on the park recently where an ambulance could not gain access to the field to attend to a casualty. The access from Bede Close has a combination lock. Rachel Curtis to look into whether the emergency services can be made aware of this number if a 999 call was made to attend the park.

11. Management of the larger trees on the Park

The committee agreed to a tree survey being carried out as some of the trees are getting very tall. Will Border to liaise with Tracey and Peter Boruner to organise this.

12. Events in the Park – progress and assistance required

Matt said that volunteers to help on 14th May at the presentation day would be appreciated. Rachel said she would add this to the NWPC newsletter.

13. Ryan's workload

Will Border and Bridget Nurse put forward the idea that NWPC would employ their own handyman to look after NW Parish and Wootton Park areas. SWPC said this seemed a good idea as Ryan's time is often stretched to fit all the jobs in to his hours.

14. Association Trustees

Mr Stephen Scales a councillor for SWPC has volunteered for a trustee position.

15. Frequency of meetings – schedule for 2016

Will suggested more frequent meetings, possibly every 2 months. Some committee members said it may be difficult to attend more meetings due to other commitments. It was agreed that if issues arise discussions and some decisions could be made via email and this would be trialled until the next meeting.

16. Any other business

Diana Gotts said that the pond project had involved around 100 children from NW school helping with planting and it was a very interactive experience for them. Despite the incident of plants being lifted and thrown around shortly after being planted, the project had been successful.

17. Date of Next Meeting

26th April 2016 - AGM

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.20pm

..... Chairman Date