

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Bowerhill Sports Field & Pavilion Management Committee held on Monday 1st October 2012 at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Parish Council: Cllr. Richard Wood (Chairman of the Meeting); Cllrs. Alan Baines and Rolf Brindle.

AFC Melksham: Mike Rogers

Melksham United Football: Mike Rudd (Chairman); Rob Bridges (Secretary)

Bowerhill Pavilion Youth Club: Mrs Janet Jory

Apologies: Cllrs. Mike Mills; Paul Clark and Pat Nicol

- 218/12 **Minutes, 27th June 2012:** The Minutes of the last Meeting held on 27th June were noted.
- 219/12 Arising from Min. 112/12 **Maintenance Contract:** The Meeting noted that the contract with English Landscapes had been extended for one more season until 30th May 2013. The Clerk emphasised that Wiltshire Council had not asked for a return of the one year's maintenance costs given to the Council which meant this sum could be put towards the new Pavilion. The extension of contract gave the Council and Committee more time to find a new contractor. Wiltshire Council would be meeting Council representatives in the New Year to discuss the handover of the bookings and maintenance etc.
- 220/12 Arising from Min. 112/12 **Issues Arising from Current Contract:**
- 1. Line Markings* The Chairman and Clerk had arranged to meet with Wilts. Council Officer Tim Woolford on Thursday, 4th October to ask him to take up several issues re lack of proper maintenance with English Landscapes. There was discussion re the new method of line markings and concern that this may not meet F.A. Standards. It was noted that creosote had not been used and a new safer substance was being used. It was agreed to ask Tim Woolford to find out if the new line marking method had been approved by the FA. **Recommended:** *The Council ask Tim Woolford to find out if this new marking method had been approved by the F.A.*
 - 2. Payment for 2012-13 Season:* Mike Rogers expressed concern that English Landscapes was being paid twice for the same work; once by Wiltshire Council and once by the teams through the fees they paid. He had not yet received a bill but it would be about £720. He would prefer to now pay the Parish Council. It was noted that while the normal season finished at end May, the youth football season continued through June. Rob Bridges reported that some youth teams finished their games in February.
 - 3. New 9V9 goals installation:* Rob Bridges and Mike Rudd reported that the F.A. had awarded them a grant for a new set of heavy-duty vandal-proof 9V9 goals and they were waiting upon English Landscapes for a quote to install them. There was a time restraint of just two months to claim the grant which was fast running out. The new goals were for the pitch next to the Pavilion. The Meeting Chair, Cllr Richard Woods asked why some goalposts had been removed. Mike Rudd replied that the posts had been removed because this pitch flooded and was the wrong size for the 11 year olds to play on for football. The land could be used better without the posts. Mike Rogers emphasised that ideally all posts should be round.
 - 4. Cracks, holes and flooding near goal mouths:* It was agreed these problems needed to be raised with English Landscapes again.

5. *Dog-fouling*: This continued to be a real problem. The pitches were never checked for fouling by English Landscapes. Mike Rudd commented on the new signage banning loose dogs installed by the Parish Council on the Bowerhill Sports Field and asked if he could have a copy of the specification as a template for other signs elsewhere. This was agreed

6. *Pavilion – dirty toilets, sinks and urinals*: Janet Jory reported her continuing concerns re the state of the changing rooms and offered to meet Tim Woolford to show him round. This offer was accepted with appreciation.

Recommended: *The matters as detailed above be raised with Tim Woolford on 4th October.*

221/12 Arising from Min. 113/12 **Future Works Specification**: The Meeting reviewed the draft works specification drawn up by the Clerk. It was agreed to amend the specification to include the following:

- a) The dynamics of the pitches could change on a seasonal basis due to varying requirements
- b) The clips on the goalposts needed to be checked regularly and replaced as necessary
- c) Patching was required as necessary
- d) Grass to be cut to 35mm length (as mentioned in Min 113/12(b))
- e) An additional price was required for an additional one-off cut
- f) Two respect boxes may need to be marked out as required.

Recommended: *The Specification be amended as detailed above.*

222/12 Arising from Min. 113/12 **Pavilion Cleaning Specification**: Mike Rudd offered to go through this and let the Clerk have any recommended changes. The Clerk reported Cllr. Clark's concerns re cover during bank holidays. It was agreed that in weeks where there was a bank holiday, the cleaner would be required to work on Tuesday the following day.

223/12 Arising from Min. 117/12 **Meeting with Wiltshire Council, 17th September** A report of discussion about the proposed new link road and Pavilion construction was circulated and noted. Cllr. Baines reported that further to the Meeting he understood from attending a CATG Meeting that the grant to build the new link road had now been approved. This meant the new Pavilion could be built in 2013. Officers had stated they would be meeting Council representatives in the new year, to discuss how this would be managed in greater detail. Wiltshire Council officers had agreed to review the draft design for the Pavilion and get back to the Council with comments. Mike Rudd emphasised that the teams needed as much notice as possible of the start of construction works.

224/12 Arising from Min. 118/12 **Sports Field Revenue – Grant Application for Lighting**: Mike Rogers reported that the Bowerhill Sports Field had been added to the list of sites for the FA application for lighting. The sites were being accessed and hopefully it would be one of the sites in Wiltshire to be selected. If successful floodlights would be installed with two years free maintenance and there would be income revenue from extra lettings. All that was required was an electricity supply and one of the additional benefits would be free internet and Wi-Fi for the youth club. The lights could be fitted within four weeks and he would forward the link to an online video which gave more information of the Lighting Scheme.

- 225/12 Arising from Min. 120/12 **Jubilee Field Opening and Fields In Trust Event 6th July**. This was deemed a great success. The very attractive plaque given by Fields in Trust had been unveiled jointly by the Lord Lieutenant Mrs Sarah Troughton and Colin Chapman from Fields in Trust. Despite the weather a lot of the local community had attended including teams from Bowerhill School. The event had attracted good publicity and Asda's £100 donation for food ensured there was a good spread for everyone to enjoy.
- 226/12 **New Pavilion Design:** The Clerk reported she had asked WALC (Wiltshire Association of Local Councils) to invite other local councils to share experiences of building a new Pavilion through an item in the WALC newsletter. As a result several comments had been received. Box Council was happy to invite councillors to see their new Pavilion. One council had emphasised the importance of building in storage space as this had been forgotten on their plans, resulting in the community having to purchase at least 3 large containers which were not cheap and took up site space. The Council's design did not as yet include storage space. There was discussion as to how this could be incorporated into the Plan. Cllr. Baines suggested a shared kitchen space for the Youth Club and teams to free up space or possibly utilising the loft space. Mike Rogers suggested adding outside bunkers to the present design which would not be too expensive. He agreed to send through photos of this being done elsewhere. Cllr. Wood suggested making the building a bit longer and having a storage room inside. Cllr. Brindle suggested the Council review plans of other new pavilions to see how storage had been arranged. Mike Rogers emphasised storage would need to comply with FA rules. He was cautious of providing too much storage and agreed to look at the regulations.
Recommended: 1. *The Council take up the offer to visit the new Pavilion at Box*
2. *The existing Plan be amended to include storage space.*
- 227/12 **Shortage of football pitches for under 10s:** Mike Rudd expressed concern that, when the new Pavilion was built, adjacent to Westinghouse Way one junior pitch would be lost. He emphasised that he now had 20 teams, 6 x under 6s teams and it was difficult to find enough pitches locally for them all. The winter training programme now cost thousands of pounds. Mike Rogers emphasised that English Landscapes should not be charging any more funds for booking pitches.
Recommended: *It was agreed to find out if it was possible to fit in junior pitch on Shaw Field.*
- 228/12 **Football Team for disabled players:** Mike Rogers reported that he had applied for a grant to set up a Melksham Disabled Football Team. According to the last Census, about 19% population in Melksham was disabled. If the grant was successful and a team could be set up for Melksham, his colleagues in Trowbridge might set up a Trowbridge Team as well. Once the work was in place for a team, coaching would be available.
- 229/12 **Date of Next Meeting:** It was agreed another meeting would be called as soon as the Council had heard back from Wiltshire Council, hopefully early in December.

Meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Chairman, 15th October 2012