

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 12th July 2021

Present Jim Gillett (Chair), Pat Sutcliffe, Hilary Jones, Neil Jackson and Jane Hartley.
Apologies
Absent

21/563 OPEN FORUM - There were no residents present.

21/564 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CLERK -There were no interests declared.

21/565 The Minutes of the Meeting on 12th April 2021 were approved.

21/566 Consider Park Inspection Weekly Reports
These have been received and no new items to report/note.

Other items for consideration

21/567 Decide whether to lift all Covid related restrictions at the Village Hall and Pavilion when the move to Step 4 of the Government Roadmap takes place or if a staggered approach should be taken.

Although restrictions have been lifted by the Government, the Committee agreed that a staggered approach be taken when opening the buildings to protect the local community and regular users. With the relaxing of rules and parties now permitted, it was decided that such events (parties / casual bookings) could take place in the village hall but the maximum capacity number for social distancing be retained throughout the summer (i.e. 30 people – any under 5's do not count toward this number), all parties must finish by 8pm and a full risk assessment must be undertaken by the hirer and submitted to the Assistant Clerk prior to the event. These restrictions will be reviewed again at the Amenities Meeting on Monday 13th September 2021.

21/568 Decide whether the timing of the gate closure at the East Park Farm car park on days where clubs are using the pavilion in the evenings can be adjusted if the relevant group is willing to take ownership of the locking of the gates.

The Committee agreed that the closure of the gates at the car park was never intended to affect the groups that use the pavilion building. Therefore, if the evening clubs are willing to take responsibility of closing and securing the gates when they have finished their session, then rather than Council closure on those evenings the groups will assume responsibility – if for any reason they are not in the building they must notify the Assistant Clerk or Village Warden in advance so that particular evening can be covered on the normal rota. There will be a trial period to ensure there are no problems and the topic will be reviewed again in the October Amenities Meeting.

21/569 To hear from the Assistant Clerk regarding the use of the tennis courts and uptake of the Annual Family Passes and to consider whether the maximum number of available passes could be reviewed after a period of monitoring to ensure there is enough capacity to accommodate any extra numbers.

The Assistant Clerk reported that all 60 passes had been sold and that combined with the revenue from the last quarter of tennis coaching – the result was just under £3000 in revenue. The AC also reported that there was a waiting list for the passes with currently four names on. As the summer holiday break from school is about to begin, the Committee decided it would be prudent to gauge over the summer period whether there would be enough capacity to increase the number of passes without impacting on the current pass holders, therefore, the topic will be reviewed again at the September AC meeting (13th September). It was also suggested that given the popularity of the pass that there be a Charvil resident rate and a non-resident rate – this was to be revisited next year when the pricing for 2022/23 is considered.

21/570 Review the quotation for the repairs to the swings at St. Patrick’s and East Park Farm identified in the latest RoSPA report.

The Committee reviewed the RoSPA report and agreed that the remedial actions related to the swings and gate be undertaken and approved the quotation from Playground Facilities Ltd.

21/571 Consider the request to use the East Park Farm pitches for Sunday League.

The Assistant Clerk reported that there had been a request from a local Woodley team to use one of the pitches at EPF on Sundays as their home ground. The Committee expressed their concern regarding over-use of the pitches and the possible impact on local residents but agreed that a trial of one season could be offered but subject to very strict terms of use which if not abided by would result in permission to use the pitches would be withdrawn.

21/572 Consider whether the business/standard rate for the hall needs to be reduced.

The Assistant Clerk provided pricing for other local venues for comparison. It was agreed that in order to attract more business users to the venue that a 10% discount (off the standard rate only) be awarded for bookings of 10 or more in one year (this would apply to day and evening rates both weekday and weekend). This recommendation is to be raised at the Full Council Meeting next Monday (19th September) for approval.

The meeting closed at 9.07pm