

## MARSHLAND ST JAMES PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Playing Field Management Partnership held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020

This meeting was held virtually in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

#### Present

Councillors – Wilkinson (Chair) & Norman. Representatives – Mr Gowler & Miss Wabe.

3 members of the public

Clerk – S Thorpe

**1. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Gathercole.

**2. Declarations of Interest on agenda items**

None

**3. Confirm minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Having been circulated before the meeting, the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

**4. Matters arising**

None.

**5. Appointment of additional member**

Following the cancellation of the March meeting, due to insufficient members being present, Cllr Gathercole had asked for an item to be put on the agenda to consider appointing an additional member, he had approached Cllr Mark Thorpe to ask him if he would be willing to join the partnership committee; who had advised that he would.

*To appoint Cllr Mark Thorpe as a member of the Playing Field Management Partnership. Prop: Cllr Norman                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Cllr Wilkinson                      Agreed.*

**6. Update on replacement of the Skate Ramp and refurbishment of MUGA area and planning application for flood lighting to MUGA.**

Sport England had advised that they would be awarding the PC a grant of £10k and an amount to cover the cost of flood lighting for the MUGA. This was dependant on documents being provided to confirm the PC could meet their award criteria, this information had already been forwarded to them by the Clerk. The Clerk had contact Fenland Leisure Products (FLP) to ask if the quotation was still valid and was making arrangements to meet their representative as soon as possible at the playing field to discuss the situation. It was likely that there would be a shortfall of about £33,500 to complete the project. This did not include any additional costs for the planning application for the flood lighting. PC to be asked to consider taking out a loan to cover the shortfall. Project to go ahead as soon as possible when funding and planning permission was obtained. Skate ramp to be completed first if possible, to avoid delay in awaiting planning permission for flood lighting.

**7. Requests to use the playing field**

- a. Samurai Karate Club – a request had been received to use the field for classes as the club was currently unable to hold classes in the Hall due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Information, including Public Liability Insurance (PLI) and details of classes had been provided.

*To grant permission for use of the field for these classes.*

*Prop: Mr Gowler                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Cllr Wilkinson                      Agreed*

- b. Farmers Market – a request had been received from the Marshland Hall committee to use the Hall for a Farmers Market on 25<sup>th</sup> July. Information, including PLI and details of times had been provided.

*To grant permission for use of the field for the farmers market with the condition that in the unlikely event of very wet weather before the event it could need to be cancelled.*

*Prop: Cllr Norman                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Cllr Wilkinson                      Agreed*

- c. Boot camp – an initial enquiry had been received at this stage to ask for permission to use the field for a couple of ladies bootcamp classes. The Clerk had asked for further details and was awaiting confirmation of times and PLI.

*To grant permission for use of the field for these classes when the full details, including PLI had been received, as long as they did not clash with other events.*

*Prop: Cllr Norman                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Cllr Wilkinson                      Agreed*

It appeared that there could be further requests to use the field due to the current Covid 19 outbreak. It was agreed that the Clerk should request that users consider making a donation to the current playing field improvement project (SRAMIF) when permission for use of the field was granted.

Chairman..... Date.....

**8. Issues at the playing field**

- a. Litter and rubbish collection – over the last couple of months there had been several complaints about the amount of litter being left on the playing field. The amount of litter being collected had increased considerable for a period but had recently decreased again. Cllr Gathercole had asked the Clerk to obtain quotations for a larger wheelie bin to hold all of the rubbish and had suggested that the PC might like to consider sharing the cost with the Hall. Information was provided on the cost of this. The matter was discussed and it was agreed to carry the matter forward to the next meeting to allow time to monitor the situation regarding if more capacity was needed for litter collected.
- b. Nitrous oxide canisters – incidents of these canisters being found on the playing field had been an occurrence for a while and recently appeared to have increased.
- c. Dogs and dog waste on the playing field – there had been a few issues of dogs and dog waste on the playing field in recent weeks. It was agreed that additional signage should be installed.
- d. Purchase of steel notices for play equipment – Cllr Gathercole had asked for the committee to consider the purchase of steel signs to prevent them being damaged/removed. It was agreed that a price should be obtained for the signs.

**9. To consider the possibility of re-opening the play area**

The Hall committee had approached the Clerk to offer assistance with cleaning and monitoring use of the play equipment during the hours the café was open. The matter was considered but it was felt that it would not be possible to thoroughly clean the equipment. It was agreed that the government requirements to allow for the play equipment to be safely opened could not be met and therefore it would need to remain closed for the foreseeable future.

**10. Update on CCTV survey of the damaged culvert at the front of the playing field**

No further update. Clerk to chase up.

**11. Issues connected to the new Marshland Hall**

None at the moment.

**12. Maintenance of the football pitches**

The portable goals had been moved to prevent excessive use of parts of the playing field. The nets would shortly be put back up on the smaller goals. The larger goals had been locked to the MUGA fence to restrict excessive use.

**13. General maintenance issues at the Playing Field – including spraying**

A quotation had been provided for spraying the field. This had been approved by delegated authority during the lockdown.

**14. Football**

Mr Gowler advised the adult training had began in June and there were currently about 20 players in training. Contact sport was expected to start by the end of the month. Fundraising was currently being undertaken to provide a new line sprayer and they were hoping for a donation from the PC. A formal approach should be made to the PC.

**15. Report from user groups**

Bowls would be starting again soon.

**16. Members concerns or items for next agenda**

Items to remain on the agenda as already agreed.

**17. Date of next meeting of the Playing Field Management Partnership**

The next meeting of the Playing Field Management Partnership would be on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 from 7.00pm. This meeting will be held virtually.  
Meeting closed at 7.33pm