

Otford Parish Council
Minutes of the Recreation Committee 18.8.14

Present: Cllrs Cracknell, Evans, Marsh, Howe, Fothergill; Parish Clerk, Roger Beasley(OAA), Mike Richards (OAA), Kay Drake (OSA) for part of the meeting only,

1. **Apologies:** Brian Thomas
2. The minutes of the previous meeting on 23.6.14 were approved.
3. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting and not on the Agenda – None
4. There were no new declarations of interest.

5. Allotments

- 5.1 All plots are let and there are currently 2 people on the waiting list
- 5.2 Rights of way situation – ISQ Councillor Cracknell and Mike Richards to meet to discuss
- 5.3 Risk Assessment – Brian Thomas and Parish Clerk to deal with this.
- 5.4 Rents for the year commencing October 2015 to be increased to £2 per rod for both plot and hose. **OPC to vote**
- 5.5 The Parish Clerk was asked to write to and allotmentee who is abusing the watering regulations, despite the Parish Agent having spoken to them on a number of occasions.
- 5.6 MR reported that two water taps needed the washers replacing and the insulation around some of the taps also needed to be replaced in order to comply with water company regulations. BT to be asked to deal with dripping taps and insulation would be examined at site meeting.

6 OSA report

Both the football club and the junior section were still mowing their areas in the off season, but would be submitting bills for the cost of the petrol to OPC.
OUFC requested that in future could any charity football matches planned, take place during the season, in order that they can get their summer ground maintenance plan underway as soon as the season ends.
The parking permit allocation had been deferred to a small subcommittee who will convene once there is a definite date for the commencement of charges.
The Petanque terroire has been newly refurbished and paving laid. Parents believed that this was a sand pit area for children. Councillor Cracknell was devising a notice advising that it was a Petanque area

7 High Street Recreation Ground

- 7.1 Grounds maintenance report – nil of note. The equipment had been inspected in June by the Play Ground inspector who was quite appalled at the lack of supervision by parents of children playing dare, and also playing on top of the teenage shelter. It was recommended that a letter be written to all the Otford school head teachers asking that they please put something in their newsletters asking parents to be vigilant in helping to prevent accidents.
- 7.2 Adult Multi Gym. The Parish Clerk would check with the Parish Insurers that they would be happy with the proposed siting of the Adult Multi Gym.
- 7.3 The questionnaire to parishioners was discussed at length and it is hoped to have a final copy to present at the next meeting of OPC prior to its inclusion in the October newsletter.

8 Chalkpit Nil to report

9 Hale Lane

There are still problems with the equipment installed by Sutcliffes, who are refusing to answer any e-mails. Following discussions with the Playground Inspector who highlighted a further problem, the matter has been passed to the API of whom Sutcliffes are a member, to see if they can help to expedite the matter.

10 Youth Activities

The playday was very popular, but it was felt that for the numbers attending there were insufficient staff and activities. PC to write a letter advising of our concerns.

The Youth Activities which had taken place for 6/52 in Hale Lane had been well organised and supported.

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11 Centenary Fields

This initiative is jointly run by the Fields in Trust (formerly National Playing Fields Association) and the British Legion. We are looking to progress this further, so that the Recreation Ground could be protected as a flagship green space in the Sevenoaks District.

12 Date of next meeting: Monday 6th October at 6.00pm