

**OTFORD  
PARISH  
COUNCIL**

Parish Clerk:  
Sharon Palmer  
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The School House  
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Otford Sevenoaks  
Kent TN14 5PG

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**MINUTES of a MEETING for OPC RECREATION COMMITTEE**

at The School House on 30 March 2015 from 6:30pm

Present: Cllr C Marsh (in the Chair)  
Cllrs D Cracknell, N Fothergill, J Howe, March

Also Present: Mr M Richards (OAA) for part of the meeting  
Mrs K Drake (OSA)

Clerk: Sharon Palmer

- 1 Apologies Action  
Apologies were received from Cllr M Evans and Mr R Beasley (Parish Agent).
- 2 Minutes  
The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 February 2015 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 3 Matters Arising  
There were no matters arising which were not dealt with on the Agenda.
- 4 Allotments
- a The Parish Agent's Report was considered with the report from the OAA.
- b Thanks to Kay's publicity in the Chronicle, only one half plot remains un-let.
- c The gate has been repositioned and Brian will fit the padlock.
- d The new water tanks are being installed during Easter week (week beginning 30 March) and the OAA will chase the covers for the existing tanks.
- e The hedge alongside the tennis courts has been cut and mowing has been arranged.  
The paths in Mill Meadow have already been done by some kind person.
- f The first aid kit is in place and a notice about Weils Disease displayed.
- g The car park has been less muddy and the OAA will present ideas and costings for improvement at a future meeting.
- 5 OSA
- 5.1 The following points were discussed:
- a The two new applicants for membership are having their insurance checked and their applications will be considered at the OSA AGM on 16 April 2015.
- b Derek Cunningham (OUJFC) has asked for permission from the Parish Council to purchase a container for the Club's mower. The Parish Council is disinclined to give permission for this as there is an empty shed by the Pavilion and a container would be another piece of equipment on the Recreation Ground and children may be tempted to climb on it. Clerk to respond
- c After much discussion, the charity football match with the Police will take place on 20<sup>th</sup> May on the upper pitch. The problem has been to find a date convenient for all parties (possibly Police shift patterns are problematic). The Recreation Committee suggested that they try and get the date fixed sooner and approach OPC initially for permission. The top pitch can be used at any time but the lower pitch only up to the first week in May. OUFC is concerned that runners are spoiling the line markings on the football pitch making the task more difficult.
- d Sevenoaks Ladies (not members of the OSA) run on the Recreation Ground and Paul Robertson (Community Warden) will be asked to get more information. Clerk
- e No-one has been nominated for the Kirsch Cup and OSA will nominate someone.

- 5.2 Future Planning following expiry of the lease on the football pavilion in 2016. Cllr Cracknell has prepared notes on this subject which have been given to all members of the Recreation Committee for their consideration and suggestions prior to the next meeting of the Committee. All
- 6 High Street Recreation Ground
- a A report from Brian Thomas was read out. Kay Drake will remind the Cricket Club that they need to cut the grass around the cricket nets and across the side of the hall. The turf is in reasonable condition but mowing needs to start soon on both the Council and the Cricket Club areas. Brian reports that the tractor used to mow the outfield is not up to the task. Mrs Drake will ask the person responsible to reply to this charge. K Drake
- b Brian Thomas will repair the gate into the children's play area. Brian Thomas
- c The Petanque Club has asked for a grant of £1,800. They will be asked to apply to OPC with a formal request.
- 7 Chalk Pit
- a Waste from No. 4 Tudor Drive has not been removed.
- b The Scouts have made good the area used for the Guy Fawkes bonfire.
- c New Railway Bridge. SDC has given permission for a drilling rig to check the soil structure behind the Scout Hut. The Recreation Committee suggests that the Highways Committee ask SDC about liability for any possible damage to the access road. Highways Committee
- 8 Hale Lane
- a Brian Thomas is having difficulty with the installation of the new swing seat as it needs an unusual set of clamps which is very expensive. Brian and John Edwards-Winsor are trying to source a cheaper solution. Brian Thomas/ JE-W
- b There was a fair amount of dog fouling last week so another poo fairy pick-up needs to be carried out soon by Councillors. All
- 9 Youth Activities
- a Family Fun Days are booked for 28 July and 30 October on the High Street Recreation Ground and will be advertised nearer the time.
- 10 Any Other Business
- Centenary Fields. The Oxford Hale Lane Recreation Ground did not qualify for this scheme and the Committee felt that the regulations were too restrictive.
- 11 Date of Next Meeting
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 at 7:30pm (as agreed at the Recreation Committee Meeting on 1 December 2014).

Signed ..... (Chairman)

Date .....