

Draft Minutes of  
Extraordinary Amenities Charity Trustees Meeting  
(Zoom)  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

In Attendance: Mark Taylor (MT) Acting Chairman, Ann Powell (AP) Bookings Secretary, Selina Bond (SB) Hall User, Sally Woodall (SW) Secretary and Hall User.

Apologies: Mark Chadwick (MC) Rec Ground Steward, Dave Lucas (DL) Village Hall Steward.

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020:

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly.

Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda:

AP had confirmed the school would not be using the football pitch for the rest of this term.

MT had passed relevant paperwork and numbers to DL for maintenance work to be carried out.

Village Hall:

MT advised new information is being received almost on a daily basis and constantly changing. The only comment made was how our hall would operate if someone became ill and we have to offer a room to isolate them and a first aid box. It might be that we have to provide a chair in a safe place but we all agreed as individual halls open, the way forward should become more apparent.

AP had a request from her neighbour who asked if he could use the hall to run first aid courses. Whilst we all thought this was a great idea, the hall is currently closed and will not be available until September. AP to advise accordingly. **AP.**

Playground:

MT asked if anyone had looked at the draft Risk Assessment he produced at the last meeting. We had all reviewed it but in view of information changing on a daily basis, nothing had been approved. MT said he would circulate a revised version following the receipt of any new information. MT advised that further interference with the equipment had taken place over the weekend. All the hazard tape had been cut and left on the ground. Those swings would now be secured by means of a padlock. He will advise Ali Joubert (AJ). MT had received more information from Laura White (LW) and following DL's confirmation that Woodcote playground was open, had been to look at it.

Information from the Association of Play Industries is attached as a pdf(Appendix 1) to these minutes. They summarise the HMG guidelines and quote Sevenoaks Town Council (STC) as an example of a way forward. MT advised almost identical issues to us but that their risk assessment was 'subject to the agreement of their insurers'. So, their insurance company can give advice (by definition) whereas our cannot – they tell us they are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

The signs at Woodcote tell the public:...'entry to the play area and use of the equipment is at your own risk' so they are passing all the 'responsibility' on to the public. The Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association (OPFA) guidelines received from LW are also attached as a word.doc (Appendix 2) to these minutes. They summarise in part one the HMG guidance but go further in part two to clarify the history regarding such playground installations as being designed for 'unaccompanied children' in 'unsupervised locations'.

LW further advises:... *"simultaneously we have an item, which is specifically designed to be played with unsupervised, then signs are being put up stating use at parents risk, when we know that those unsupervised children are not legally old enough to accept that responsibility and therefore the managers/caretakers of the parks have to ensure they are safe for the unsupervised child."*

In sending his email apologies to the meeting DL also attached a photograph that he had taken on the Isle of Wight, where all playgrounds that he had seen were open. The first line of those signs reads:

*"Children must be accompanied by an adult"* so notice has been taken of the 'unsupervised child' issue, but it still does not account for children using the equipment without their 'responsible adults' being aware.

On 4/7 issue 30 of the Gap Electronic News & Information Exchange (GENIE) contained the following:

*Goring Parish Council is working hard to try to come to a decision on how and when to reopen the play equipment. At this time, the play equipment areas will have to remain closed. The government guidelines are very onerous and after consultation with our insurers there is quite a body of work to do to allow them to be re-opened including inspections and cleaning – at this time we are not sure when it will be practicable to re-open them unless the government regulations are relaxed.*

The Recreation Ground in South Stoke is facing similar challenges.

SB suggested that it would be a good idea to replicate the message on South Stoke Online. MT said that he had suggested that by email to PW (as he, PW, had a Facebook presence and MT did not) but that he (MT) had not received a response.

MT was also aware that Goring Parish Council (GPC) was meeting at the same time as the AC and that the re-opening of the two Goring playgrounds was on the agenda. Appendix L to that agenda, from the GPC website, reads as follows:

### **Reopening Play Equipment**

The Assistant Clerk for Properties has completed Risk Assessments for the two play equipment areas at Bourdillon and Gardiner Recreation Grounds. The current assessments indicate both areas should remain closed. It is known, and has been observed, unaccompanied children are still accessing and using the equipment, particularly at Bourdillon, including the basketball hoop – with multiple children climbing on the main structure of the hoop stand. If the play areas remain closed long term

– an option is to install Heras fencing to prevent further ingress of unaccompanied minors. In mitigating the risks to allow reopening, a number of chemical treatments are being reviewed, all known to be used by various organisations locally, with varying retention certificates against viruses. An option would be to use one of the chemicals to treat the parks at the recommended intervals. Goring C of E Primary School and South Stoke Amenities Charity have also been requesting updates on products and risk assessments we are completing to follow our approach in a joint community effort.

If the decision is made to treat the equipment and re-open, consideration needs to be given to requesting volunteers to do the spraying, which would require appropriate volunteer risk assessments, PPE and training to be given to volunteers.

After discussion it was decided to await the outcome of the GPC meeting. **MT.**

Football on the Rec:

MT advised the footballers had not turned up this weekend. Hopefully, this will continue to be the case.

Community Building:

SW advised the Trustees Councilor Bryan Urbyck, (BU), reported on the current situation regarding the Glebe. The Diocese has not had any contact with the builder or PC and BU was of the opinion this would not happen this year. Roy MacMillan has provided the SSNL with an update in this month's newsletter. With regards to the hall and shop, BU confirmed the position of applying for grants could only be possible if a planning application was in place. Geoff Ward (GW), and David Kennedy (DK), put forward a motion in order for the project to be submitted as a whole but in a way that it could be completed in 2 parts, separating the hall from the shop. DK advised the shop was the more urgent issue, due to planning restrictions on the current building. The CBP agreed to advise Kingswell, the chosen builder for this project, to apply for planning.

200 Club:

MT advised this would be drawn on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

AOB:

AP asked MT if contact had been made following the request from Green Gym (GG) to enquire if they are needed back to finish the fencing on the Rec. MT had received an email from GG via Chris Bertrand and had passed it on to MC. We have no problem with this and asked AP to contact MC to discuss possible dates.

Date of next Meeting: TBD