

# ST STEPHEN PARISH COUNCIL

Bricket Wood, Chiswell Green and Park Street

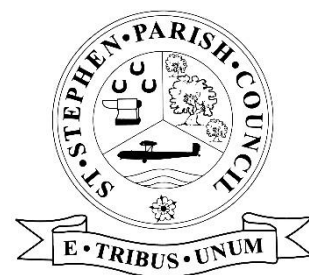
THE PARISH CENTRE STATION ROAD BRICKET WOOD

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## Present

Cllr John Bell

Cllr Wendy Berriman

Cllr Bill Pryce (Chair)

Cllr David Parry

Also present:

Isabel Crozier - Assistant Clerk, (taking minutes), Sue Hake – Clerk, Cllr Beccy Spriggs

1 Member of the Public

Minutes of the **Leisure Committee meeting** held on **Thursday 12 September 2019** at **7.30am**  
Venue: **The Parish Centre, Station Road, Bricket Wood, AL2 3PJ**

- 1920/LC/016 To receive and accept apologies for absence  
Apologies received from Cllr Dorothy Kerry and Cllr Eileen Whittaker. Apologies also received from the Centres Manager and Groundsman
- 1920/LC/017 Declarations of interest and dispensations
- To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda  
None.
  - To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and  
None.
  - To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate  
None.
- 1920/LC/018 To approve the minutes of the meeting 28 May 2019  
**APPROVED:** *Proposed Cllr Bell, seconded Cllr Berriman, unanimous*
- 1920/LC/019 Public Participation  
None
- 1920/LC/020 To receive a report on cricket pitch maintenance  
The Council considered the finding of the report that the overall cost of maintenance, including staff time, far outweighs the income generated from cricket bookings. It was generally felt that there should be some level of subsidy of cricket as the matches are appreciated by more than just those involved in them. However, it is likely that measures can be taken to reduce the amount spent on maintenance and that these measures should be discussed with the cricket teams. It was felt that charging for the season rather than per match played would be a sensible way forward.  
**ACTION:** for the Groundsman to further research the costs at both Greenwood Park and Park Street Rec and clarify the reasons for the differences in income from the two pitches. This report should then be considered at next Leisure Committee prior to starting a dialogue with the teams.

- 1920/LC/021 To agree new hire rates for 2020 – report received  
The council agreed to increase hire charges by 4% across the board, including the nursery. This excludes the cricket pitch hire as this is being considered at the next meeting. Where there is a case for changing the prices outside of the 4%, such as to incorporate cost of broadband at Park Street Rec and to cover the cost of cleaning the pavilions following use, these should be brought to the next Leisure Committee meeting for consideration. The Council agreed that the Finance Committee would review the hire charges during 2020 in order to properly consider the differential between community and commercial hirers and to rationalise rates for 2021.  
**RESOLVED:** *Proposed Cllr Pryce, seconded Cllr Parry, unanimous* to increase hire charges by 4% across the board, excluding cricket, and round up to the nearest £1 or 50p as appropriate.  
**ACTION:** Centres Manager to assess the costs of hosting with the nursery including electricity.
- 1920/LC/022 To consider project proposals for Section 106 funding  
The Council received a report on ideas for unallocated Section 106 monies in the Parish.  
**RESOLVED:** *Proposed Cllr Parry, seconded Cllr Berriman, unanimous* that the Council will put forward the following projects for the s106 monies for the Harperbury development, under the category Leisure and Cultural Centres.
- Upgrades to disabled facilities at Greenwood Park Community Centre and Pavilion (£97,234)
  - Energy efficiency measures at Parish buildings (£70,000)
- ACTION:** Cllrs to prioritise other projects at meeting set before the meeting with the District Council on 23 Sep. The Clerk to produce and circulate an updated list of s106 proposed projects following the meeting.
- 1920/LC023 To receive an update and consider and agree actions for Greenwood Park
- a) PA system – agreed to replace the CD player with a rack mounted CD and MP3 player in time for the Awards Evening on 26 Sep.
  - b) Phase 2 bin replacement – the budget is currently not available to replace the bins.  
**ACTION:** The Clerk to look at funding for new recycling bins and grounds staff to re-site the bin by the wooden gate in the overflow car park to flat ground or remove it.
  - c) Play area upgrade  
New toddler play equipment has been installed. The shade sale has been destroyed by youths climbing on top of it.  
**ACTION:** Grounds staff to consider re-siting the shade sale in consultation with Cllrs to move it out of the way of playing children and enable triangular sales to be purchased off the shelf. Assistant Clerk to install a 'No Cycling' sign in play area.
  - d) Consider extending current café concession to end of March 2020, trading at Salsa on Friday evenings and agree process for retendering concession  
**RESOLVED:** *Proposed Cllr Bell, seconded Cllr Berriman, votes: 3 in favour, 1 abstained*  
that the current Café concession holder be offered an extension to the 31 March

2020 and a recommendation go to Full Council to allow the café to trade up to 11pm at Salsa Mish.

**ACTION:** Cllr Pryce to undertake a survey of Park users to establish where a café would ideally be sited in the park.

- e) Butterfly Bank update  
There is a volunteer task 9-11am on Saturday 28 Sep to plant up the chalk bank.

1920/LC/024 To receive an update on Park Street Recreation Ground

- a) Devolvement of assets  
Still awaiting an update from SADC  
**ACTION:** The Clerk to write to SADC requesting an update on progress.
- b) Play area  
No update
- c) Car park  
The Pavilion and Park users cannot use the car park because others are using it.

1920/LC/025 To receive an update on Woodbury Field

- a) Devolvement of assets – as above, see item 1920/LC/024 a)

1920/LC/026 To receive a report for North Close

**ACTION:** the Assistant Clerk to research funding and feasibility of a Community Orchard on the area of green space opposite the play area and to involve Park Street Residents Association.

1920/LC/027 To receive a report on Cherry Hill

- a) Fence and footpath  
The fence and associated vegetation is falling into the definitive footpath down the side of the play area. The Rights of Way Officer from Hertfordshire County Council met with officers and grounds staff onsite to look at resolving the problem. The Council has previously agreed to removing the chain-link fence, retaining as much hedge as possible, and installing a stock fence (post and wire) and planting a new hedge adjacent, inside the play area. HCC would be able to contribute £2000 from this financial years capital budget to the project.  
**ACTION:** Grounds staff to cost the project. Establish if S106 funding from BRE development, under the Green Infrastructure category would be available or there is an option to apply for Watling Chase Community Forest Grant Funding (up to £2000) which would require match funding from sources other than HCC.
- b) Play area update  
the owners of neighbouring woodland have planted a laurel hedge along the fence line at the back of the play area which will become a maintenance issue for the Council as it grows through the fence and extends upwards.  
**ACTION:** the Clerk to identify the owner and write to establish what their plans for future maintenance are.

1920/LC/028 To receive a report on Mayflower Road

- a) Dog control and waste  
there are notices in place but the area is often used by dog owners who exercise dogs which are aggressive or that do not return to their owners easily. The District Council have been asked previously to consider instigating a Public Spaces

Protection Order to cover the parish which would enable fines for dog fouling and out of control dogs to be given.

**ACTION:** Assistant Clerk to refer the enquiry about a Public Spaces Protection Order to District Councillors.

1920/LC/029 To consider priorities for 2020/21 budget setting

**ACTION:** Cllrs and the Clerk to submit ideas via email to Cllr Pryce by the 10 October. Cllr Pryce to collate these and submit proposals by 15 October 2019 to the Clerk.

1920/LC/030 Advertising, effective use of our Green Spaces

An advert was placed in the August edition of the St Albans Now magazine (delivered free to households in St Albans) for hiring the Parish facilities. The Centres Manager has not had any resulting enquiries as yet.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

Chairman

Date