

Wantsum Sports Association

Bell Meadow, St Nicholas at Wade

Committee Meeting Minutes – 1st September, 2010

Held in the Pavilion at Bell Meadow at 7.00pm

Committee members attending meeting: Chairman - Eddie McManus, Vice Chairman – James Wells, Treasurer - Jean White, Secretary - Graham Jackson, Val McManus, Darren Couzins, Kevin Field, Annette Paul, Arnie Van Orsouw, Libby Spackman, Dean Edwards

Parish Council Representatives: Arthur King and Nigel Connell

Visitors: Elizabeth Worley

1. Apologies

Steve McManus.

2. Minutes of last meeting

These were discussed and agreed.

Matters arising

A letter was sent to Bob Parsons outlining the expected duties. As yet he hasn't signed as requested to agree to the new terms. It was also agreed that he would be reminded about the new times for opening and closing the gates.

Mower – a new engine and fitting will be covered within the remaining Sport England grant money.

Storage – there is some racking available via OHCC for the garage. This will help considerably with storage space.

It was also noted that the new goals had been delivered, that the quiz and boot fair had been very successful and that everything was booked for the firework display in November.

3. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that the year was going well. The cricket season had proved to be busy but very successful and we were now looking towards the start of the football season. The events during the summer had proved very successful and ideas were welcome for future events.

When the Pavilion was built and sporting activities started the Parish Council set up the Wantsum Sports Association. Management of the facilities was devolved to WSA, this has continued and is run on these lines now. Decisions are made by the Committee and we do not have to trouble the Parish Council. If we do need to contact the Parish Council this should be via the WSA Chairman. This has always been successful in the past.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer circulated copies of the WSA accounts for 1st June 2010 to 31st August 2010. The bar income had been very good. It was noted that a cheque for £32 had not yet been presented. BOC (gas supplier for the bar) proved to be very expensive and the account with them has now been closed. Andrews in Cliftonville will be used in future.

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6. Bar Report

A proposal to round bar prices to the nearest 10p to avoid the use of 5p coins was discussed. It was commented that increasing prices now might be seen as unfair to the footballers who are about to start their season. It was agreed to make sure that the bar floats contained enough 5p coins and that prices would be generally reviewed when VAT increases in January 2011.

7. Cricket Report

OHCC reported that cleaning of the pavilion has been satisfactory.

There was a discussion about loam and seeding work that needed to be done on the nine wickets. The Chairman had made some enquiries and found that a company called Eden Park (in Sittingbourne) could supply loam and seed at very competitive prices. It was agreed to purchase 6 bags of loam per wicket and sufficient grass seed to do the job. The Chairman agreed to place an order with Eden Park, which would be invoiced through the Parish Council so that VAT could be reclaimed. The Parish Council budget each year for ground works of this type.

8. Football Report

Blean Sunday had played one match so far this season and reported that the pitch was generally fine but would be even better if it could be rolled. The Clark will ask the contractor to roll the pitch while it is still reasonably wet. He will also check which day mowing takes place so that white-lining is done at an appropriate time.

It was reported that the new goal posts and nets are fine. James Wells was thanked for concreting the posts in. James has also ordered new pegs for the nets as the old ones can't be located.

The 5-a-side tournament had been reasonably successful and made some money towards St Nicholas FC funds. A bigger and better event is planned for next year.

St Nicholas FC is due to play their first match in the new league at home on 4th September. They are planning to apply to be a Chartered Standard club which will give them access to grants.

Dean Edwards has taken over the running of the St Nicholas youth football training on Saturday mornings from Nick Gurr. Dean will also take Nick's place on the WSA committee. He is trying to keep costs down so that as many local children can join in. To aid this, it was agreed to waive the pitch fees for one season, but the £30 affiliation fee would still be payable to WSA.

Dean has made enquiries about obtaining CRB checks. If any other WSA committee members are interested, an application could be submitted jointly via WSA. There is currently no charge. Dean will let the Secretary have the details.

The youth pitches will be marked out and white lined in time for the first training session. The pitches may have to be moved (compared to last season) due to the location of the new artificial cricket wicket.

9. Pavillion

OHCC may like to hire the pavilion for their New Year party. This is to be confirmed.

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Further sets of keys to the pavilion and main gate are required. The Chairman will arrange for these to be cut.

The firework display has been confirmed for Friday 5th November. A sub-group will be formed to plan and organise the event. The following points were raised:

- We will need several volunteers to help including wardens on the entrances
- A meeting will be arranged – 11th September at 7.00pm was proposed
- Hot food and drink (burger van?) will be organised
- Barriers will be required to keep people within safe areas
- Event is for local residents only
- School car park has been booked – there will be no parking allowed in Bridges Close or Bell Meadow car park
- There will be no bonfire
- Publicity: Parish newsletter, Parish magazine
- The firework company will clear up after themselves – WSA will provide bins for general litter collection

10. Any Other Business

Suggestions for future events were put forward: Another Quiz night, a party for the coffee morning ladies, a kids party, a Christmas social, and a Quiz/Hoodening night were suggested.

Suggested dates for the Quiz/Hoodening were 10th or 11th December. Annette Paul will confirm the night that best suits the Hoodeners.

OHCC would like to play their traditional Boxing Day match at Bell Meadow. The Secretary will book this.

There will be a "BMX Track" meeting in the pavilion on 9th September. People will be asked to vote for which track they prefer.

There will be a Parish Plan Steering Committee meeting in the pavilion on 9th September. Eddie McManus will represent WSA.

It was pointed out that St Nicholas Open Gardens will be held on 5th and 6th June 2011. This is a very important event in the village calendar as it raises a great deal of money for the church. Bell Meadow is traditionally used for car parking. The Secretary will contact Roger Silk as soon as possible to request that OHCC arrange to play away matches that weekend.

There was a suggestion to hold an adult supervised youth club in the pavilion. There were no objections in principle, however it was pointed out that they will need to have plenty to do to keep them occupied.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

The AGM will be held at 7pm, Monday 1st November 2010 in the Pavilion, Bell Meadow.

Minutes Approved

Date