

LUDGERSHALL TOWN COUNCIL



RECREATION, LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2013 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 7- 30PM.

1. **PRESENT:** Allan, Betteridge, Kennedy, White, Williams, with C'Ilr Crane in the chair. C'Ilr White arrived just after the meeting commenced after attending a meeting on behalf of the Town Council.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** were received from, C'Ilrs Downie (leave of absence) and Dance, and the Police.
3. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** none
4. **MATTERS ARISING.** Minutes from the previous meeting were approved at the recent Town Council without amendment.
5. **PLAY AREAS:**
 - a) **Pretoria Road –**
 - i. ¼ inspection sheets, were reviewed with the following to be monitored.
 - ii. rip Hazards around wet pour; this is due to ground erosion and shrinkage.
 - iii. Horizontal timber bar is rotting, this item requires replacing, a works order to be raised for the work to be completed.
 - iv. Entrance Gate, seems to cause some concern as it appears stiff to open, however this is due to the design of the gate and its fixings. The air damper is spring loaded and because of the way in which it is installed it will be stiff to open. This damper stops the gate being “thrown” open and regulates the speed by which it closes. The above have a low work priority rating.
 - v. C'Ilr Crane visited the area prior to the meeting and took photographs; he will continue to monitor the areas of concern.
 - a) **Dewey's Lane –**
 - i. ¼ inspection sheets, were reviewed by the meeting with the following to be monitored.
 - ii. Bolts and shackles on the swings have worn but are still sufficiently robust.
 - iii. Dog Springer base requires tightening, C'Ilr Crane agreed to retighten the bolts.
 - iv. Wood Chip around the Crows Nest is low again, probably due to the weather and settlement.
 - v. Trip hazard close to entrance due to erosion of earth from around the concrete.
 - vi. Goal posts, where they have been moved the dip that was caused by use needs to be topped up, and there is a similar problem near the adult swings. Ground erosion will always be a problem where the ground abuts a solid component, rain, frost etc. affects the ground but not the solid items and so erosion occurs.
 - vii. Installation of new pole and sign, it was agreed that with the weather about to improve this work can be undertaken, but the pole requires drilling and cross bolts fitted before it can be installed.

6. RECREATION GROUND –

- a) Re- instate removed sign & pole, this item will be undertaken at the same time that the other pole and sign is to be installed.
- b) Skateboard – inspect equipment re guarantee, it was agreed that the equipment should be inspected, C'llr Crane agreed to visit the equipment and report any defects and report his findings to the Clerk, other members of the committee invited to attend and inspect the equipment if they wished.
- c) Removal of broken tree branch; along the right hand side of the Rec there are a couple of hefty boughs that have broken away from the main trunk. The parent tree is located in a residents garden and as such it should be their responsibility to have these damaged boughs removed. The Clerk is requested to write to the homeowner to enquire about the work and when it will be undertaken. C'llr Crane has a ROM price for the work from a local company, the work will cost in the region of £120.
- d) Reconnection of electricity supply; C'llr White reported that he had spoken with the electricity board about reconnecting the Rec. at present it is just an enquiry, to scope the work and costs. However to have electricity and possibly water available in the Rec would be helpful if the Town Council were to organize functions in the Rec.
- e) The operator who brought the fair to the Rec in 2012 has contacted the Clerk to request a visit again this year. Dates suggested are arrival of the equipment 1st July with the fair operational 4th to 7th with a departure date of the 8th. It was agreed that the equipment arrival should be better managed this year so that local residents are not inconvenienced.

7. ENVIRONMENT:

- a) New grit bin requests. The Clerk has received requests from two residents for additional grit bins, to be located at Johnson Way and Short Street. The Clerk is requested to contact WCC and request the additional grit bins, however recent history has shown that WCC are attempting to reduce the number of grit bins it services and so any request for additional grit bins may not return a positive result.
- b) PRow Footpath 8 – steps damaged. Steps still not repaired, the Clerk has requested an update on progress.
- c) Dog Fouling complaint. A complaint has been received by the Clerk about dog fouling near the memorial around Drivers Relief. Residents are to be reminded that there is already in place a mechanism for complaining about dog fouling, via the WCC website. It was agreed that it is very difficult for the Town Council to eradicate this problem, all that can be done is report such incidents to WCC.

8. RENEWAL OF SMALL WORKS CONTRACT: It was agreed that the Caretaker provides an invaluable service to the Town Council. Any time the Clerk or Chair of the committee's requires small works to be carried out the Caretaker is approached and the work is completed diligently and without fuss. As a result areas that might otherwise cause concern are taken care of. For this work the caretaker is paid separately to his normal contract. It was agreed to recommend an increase of 50p per hour for small order works placed with the caretaker.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. There were no other items of business to discuss and the meeting was closed.

Signed

Date