GASKELL RECREATION GROUND MUCH WENLOCK

Registered Charity no. 1116940

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held remotely by video-conference at 7 pm on Tuesday, 9th November2021

Present:

Cllrs Duncan White (in the chair), Marcus Themans, David Fenwick – Much Wenlock Town Council Chris Bowden – Wenlock Estates

Andrew Scott – Wenlock Warriors

Bill James – Much Wenlock Cricket Club

Peter Gylard – Much Wenlock Bowling Club

Ian Dadswell - Wenlock Olympian Athletic Society & Wenlock Olympian Society (WOS)

In attendance:

Lorna Dexter - Secretary and Treasurer

1) Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) Apologies

Apologies were received from: Wilfred Grainger – Much Wenlock Town Council

3) Declarations of interest

None.

4) Minutes

The draft minutes of a meeting held on 7th September 2021 were considered for approval. It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2021 be APPROVED and signed as a true record.

5) Treasurer's Report

a) Members received the following financial report as at the end of October 2021:

Balance b/f at 1st April 2021 19259.86
Expenditure to date 2777.46
Income to date 0
Balance as at 31st October 2021 18344.40

Expenditure for September: Grounds Maintenance £504.00

Bench Removal: £180.00

Expenditure for October: Grounds Maintenance £504.00 Income for October: Wild Flower Donations £50.00

- b) It was noted that Wenlock Warriors Youth Football Club had been issued with an invoice for the user agreement fee of £500
- c) It was noted that Much Wenlock Town Council had been issued with an invoice for the contribution fee of £12,000

d) It was AGREED to approve payment made between meetings for the following invoices:

Date	Supplier	Item	Net £	VAT £	Total £
06.09.21	Travis Perkins	Play area repair materials (Play house)	8.16	1.63	9.79
07.06.21	Travis Perkins	Play area repair materials (Play house)	58.21	11.64	69.85

e) It was AGREED to approve payment of the following invoices:

Date	Supplier	Item	Net £	VAT £	Total £
31.10.21	Shropshire Verti-Drain	Grounds maintenance October 2021 –	420.00	84.00	504.00
	and Turf Services	Grass Cutting (Invoice: 281)			

6) Grounds Maintenance Requirements

- a) It was discussed that the Verti drain should only go ahead if the ground was deemed in a suitable condition. Best efforts were needed to be made to do it by December but not if it was considered damaged may be caused by doing so.
- b) There was some debate as to whether the fencing on the bowling club perimeter was required and concluded that the Cricket club would assess the fence and determine whether the fence needed to remain and if so, best course of repair.
- c) Owing to the general signage being of a weathered condition it was decided that attempt should be made to clean them up by hand, if this proves unsuccessful quotes may need to be obtained in future for a more commercial approach to cleaning.
 - Quotes to be obtain to replace damaged bins.
- d) It was noted that the general use of the grounds signage needed updating and also dog foul notification. A suggestion was made that there could be a notice board to allow information to be displayed that needed details to be changed on a regular basis rather than a perminant sign.
- e) It was noted that Shropshire Council had been contacted with regards to potentially purchasing the carpark on the Scout hut site and were awaiting a response back from the estates department.
- f) It was agreed that Alan Lewis should go ahead with a soil test on the ground for £80+vat and requested that he issue a map of sample sites taken in his report.

7) Reports from User Groups

Members noted reports from the following user groups:

a) Bowling Club

The bowling club were honoured to have held the Junior County championships. It was reported that the green had been well maintained and thanks was given to Dan and Dave Thomas for generously cutting back of the perimeter hedging. A donation hasd be given to the club to purchase a visitor shelter. The shelter had now been purchased and erected. Councillors commented on how nice the paintwork looked and it was **Proposed** and **Agreed** that the Charity **fund the purchase of further paint** of the same colour so that the shed could be painted to match

b) Cricket Club

The cricket season has now finished with one team being fielded. Next season there will still be one team planned. Repairs need to be done to the pavilion which is the clubs responsibility not the charity. Still waiting for the bench specialist to carve a new back for the broken bench.

c) Wenlock Olympian Society (WOS)

It was reported that the Olympians had a successful season despite Covid, no road race and entry numbers being down this year. A change in date may contribute to that and hopefully next year numbers will be back up with the reinstation of the earlier event date of July. Next year they hope to hold the Tri and road race again.

d) Wenlock Olympian Athletic Society

The cross country was less muddy this year as it was held earlier. There was a change in course route due to the planting of the new wild flower meadow but didn't impact the race too much as they used a course route previously used.

e) Wenlock Warriors

Warriors are fielding two teams this year and number of signed players is well supported. Concern was given as to the length of the cut of the playing area on the pitch as it was felt it was cut too long. It was requested that the pitch area be cut shorter, thus also making it more identifiable as the pitch. It was noted that the school had been leaving their goals on the pitch weekly and so the Warriors had to remove the goals to the side to play and also relieve pressure to the grass around the goals. Moving to the side proved a positive move as it still allowed the general public to make use of them.

8) William Brookes School

No representative

9) Drainage

It was noted that Dan Shotton had agreed to take a look and advise on the drainage issue next to the Cricket pavilion.

It was discussed as to whether the ground needed sand dressing and liming. It was agreed to discuss further to a soil test.

10) Dog foul and Management

Clearer signage to dog walking rules to be drafted as discussed in item 6d

11) New Pavillion

It was decided in the first instance Tim Motley contacted to discuss thoughts from Wenlock Estates on the location and general idea as to what the pavilion functionality should be. Discussion ensued as to the requirements for the pavilion with regards to size and design to be able to move forward with fund sourcing. Discussion was held as to funding options. It was decided that further discussion to be taken place following contact with Tim Motley.

12) User Agreements

a) William Brookes School: It was discussed that after contact with the school prior to meeting, they were waiting for a meeting with members to discuss the school user agreement. It was agreed that Duncan and David to arrange a meeting.

20.12pm Ian Dadswell left the meeting

- a) The cricket club stated that they would offer a response to the latest draft within the next week.
- b) It was noted that Wenlock Warriors were happy with their user agreement and had been signed and returned to the Secretary.
- c) Discussion was held and points agreed to the bowling clubs issued raised with their user agreement, draft to be adjusted and reissued for approval.
 - The bowling club requested permission to erect two new lights around the bowling lawn. It was **proposed** and **seconded** that permission be granted
 - It was stated that the access gate from the school side was shut on bank holidays, this was to be queried and access requested during those times.

13) Path and Access Project (LEADER)

Although no representative from the school present to update, it was stated prior to meeting via email that the school was the be holding a governor meeting on 22nd to discuss the gate agreement.

14) Play Area

- a. It was discussed that a lesson had been learnt from this years cut of the hedging and moving forward it would be best to cut every 12 months. It was also highlighted that the drainage will need a review as it has potentially been installed in not quite the right location. It was decided to discuss a potential hedge plan at the next meeting.
- b. It was noted that this years Rospa report had been issued and the play house had been flagged for repairs. It was debated whether the house needed removing in entirety. It was also suggested that Grange Fencing may wish to sponsor a new house. Grange to be contacted.

15) Trees

It was noted that Joffrey is to undertake the epicormic growth cutting

16) Next Meeting

- a) It was noted that the next committee meeting would take place on Monday 17th January 2022 at 7pm via Zoom.
- b) AOB: It was agreed that another site meeting should be arranged for March
 A meeting to also be arranged with Your Green Ltd to discuss funding for the Wild Flower project.

The meeting closed at 8.43pm	
Signed Chairman	Date