

NORTH HINKSEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE, HELD ON THURSDAY 30th APRIL 2020, AT 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: C. Potter (Chair), L. Berrett, J. Bolder, D. Kay, D. Blase, G. Fairclough, A. Rankin, M. Dowie, and A. MacKeith.

Others: C A Ryde, Clerk.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** None.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.

3. **Approval of Minutes** From R&A Committee meeting of 23rd January 2020: AGREED.

4. **Questions from Members of the Public.** None.

5. **Vandalism of pond drain.**

Councillor Rankin updated the meeting on vandalism of pond drain cover and damage to pond drain cover and pipes, and the short-term measures taken to ensure safety. The Clerk had reported the damage to the police as vandalism. Councillors to AGREE any further repair works needed. Councillor Kay PROPOSED, Councillor MacKeith SECONDED and Councillors AGREED that Councillor Rankin purchase and fit 3 new access caps and that NHPC's independent contractor inspect the damage and repairs when next able to.

6. **Measures taken to secure play areas during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Councillors AGREED that padlocking the car park, securing gated areas to the lower field toddler play area and posting notices advising the public of what the rules re social distancing was sufficient. They did however agree that the notices needed to be changed as the original ones were weather worn.

7) **Status of repair works previously agreed by HAGS.**

The Clerk was asked to obtain a provisional date from Hags to undertake the remedial work required to repair the Zip wire and safety surfaces. It was hoped that this could take place in July before the ROSPA safety inspection.

8) **Timescale for annual safety inspections.**

The Clerk was asked to contact ROSPA (Play safety) and make some provisional bookings for the Annual Safety Inspections.

9. **Review of Louie Memorial Playing Fields management.**

Councillors DISCUSSED changes needed to management of the playing fields in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and management to be undertaken through September 2020.

It was AGREED that the tree survey for the whole of NHPC estate be undertaken as soon as possible using a professional tree specialist. A report from North Hinksey Conservation Volunteers was noted, with the regular cutting back of growth along the concrete path in June the only recommended action.

10. **Update on fence and boundary issues at western end of Upper Playing Field**

Councillors NOTED that there had been no contact with the landowner and that no record of the original fence lines had been found. Concern was expressed about the use of barbed wire by the landowner and

Councillors AGREED to request ROSPA to comment on this and make recommendations as part of their Annual Safety Inspection.

Councillor Kay PROPOSED, Councillor Fairclough SECONDED and Councillors AGREED that Councillor Potter write to the landowner expressing concerns about the use of barbed wire bordering public areas and to seek clarification re fence boundaries.

11). **Reports**

a) **North Hinksey Conservation Volunteers.**

Councillors received a written report, noting that the proposed planting had been delayed because of the Pandemic.

b) **Louie Memorial Pavilion Trustees.**

No report as the Trustees meeting had been deferred.

12). **Any other items for information.**

Concern was expressed about a Plant sale organised by villagers on the North Hinksey Village Green as it was being advertised on social media and attracting many people. Councillors AGREED to ask the Clerk to seek advice from Thames Valley Police.

13). **Date of next scheduled meeting:** 10th September 2020