

09/18

GASKELL RECREATION GROUND MUCH WENLOCK
Registered Charity no. 1116940

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held at
The Corn Exchange, Much Wenlock
at 7 pm on Tuesday 27 November 2018

Present:

Cllr Kate Southan (Chairman) – Much Wenlock Town Council
Cllr Graham Edgcumbe Venning - Much Wenlock Town Council
Cllr Adam Davy – Much Wenlock Town Council
Bill James - Much Wenlock Cricket Club
Colin Wildblood - Much Wenlock Bowling Club
Mike Mowling – Wenlock Olympian Society

In attendance:

Trudi Barrett – Locum Secretary
Alan Lewis – Alan Lewis Ltd
Cllr Yvonne Holyoak (until part way through drainage discussions, minute 6)

1) Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) Apologies

Apologies were received from Chris Bowden and Tim Motley representing Wenlock Estates and Mike Bainbridge representing William Brookes School.

These apologies were ACCEPTED.

3) Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4) Minutes

The minutes of a meeting held on 9 October 2018 were considered for approval. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.**

5) Secretary's Report

In the absence of the Secretary, there was no report.

Agenda item 10 Drainage was brought forward.

6) Drainage

The Chair introduced and welcomed Alan Lewis, drainage consultant, who updated the committee on the drainage project.

An overview of the proposed drainage work was presented to the committee. This included a primary (pipe) and secondary (sand banding) drainage system. No drains were proposed under the cricket square or under the trees.

Tenders had been invited for the drainage project via Contract Finder but no responses had been received. However, two quotations had been obtained locally. The specification included a period of maintenance following the ground work.

Both of the quotations received were over budget, however, Alan Lewis explained that the specification could be amended to make savings without compromising the drainage work. Alan offered to draw up an outline of potential cost reductions. It was noted that the path around the site was priced separately.

It was agreed that the best time to carry out the work would be late August / early September 2019, which would give the ground time to recover over the winter. This would interrupt football on the field but could allow games to be played in the new year. It might be possible to make an earlier start on the work on part of the field. The ground would be too wet to work on in the winter. It was proposed to leave the surplus top soil arising from the drainage work on site, either used to grade and level the cricket outfield or piled under the trees and used to create a wildflower area. A compound would be required for machinery, near to the old Youth Club. It was noted that access would need to be maintained for the Wenlock Olympians if the work were to commence before mid-July.

It was noted that installation of the path could commence before the drainage work as this would not affect the planned drainage.

The committee considered the need for an appropriate and effective maintenance plan once the work had been completed. It was noted that rolling the cricket pitch would compact the ground and inhibit drainage and that an alternative method of levelling such as harrowing would be preferable. Alan would produce a maintenance manual for the whole site, which should be included in the user agreements and leases.

The committee noted Alan's review of the quotations to hand and his advice to appoint and work with the preferred contractor to finalise the drainage scheme.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to recommend to the Town Council that negotiations proceed with the preferred contractor and that authority be delegated to the Management Committee to negotiate a final project price within the Council's allocated budget for approval by the Town Council.

7) Treasurer's Report

Members received the following financial report:

- The balance brought forward at 1 April 2018 was £15,100.54.
- Income received from 1 April to 31 October was £19,550 and expenditure from 1 April to 31 October was £13,245.08.
- The balance in the bank as at 31 October was £21,405.46.

It was noted that the donation of £100 from the Wenlock Olympian Society had now been received.

It was AGREED that:

- **The Treasurer's report be NOTED.**
- **User agreements and charges should be reviewed once the drainage work had been completed**

8) Water Charges

Members noted that water charges would be recharged to the charity.

Members discussed how water charges should be apportioned and whether the installation of water meters could be helpful. The Bowling Club had suggested that a water meter be installed to monitor their water use. It was noted that there was also a supply component to water charges as well as usage.

It was agreed that there would be no allocation of water charges to users at this time and that the Management Committee would discuss covering water charges with the charity.

9) Demolition of Toilet Block

A specification for the demolition was required, followed by permission from Shropshire Council. The Chair and Colin Wildblood would meet to discuss this further. It was noted that the report from Balfours supported the need for demolition of the toilet block.

10) Leader Application

- a) Members NOTED that the Town Council had resolved to allocate match funding of £30,000 for the application for Leader Funding at the meeting held on 1 November 2018.
- b) The application required confirmation from Shropshire Council that there was no need for planning permission for the outdoor gym equipment. There were two forthcoming opportunities for the application to be considered, later in the week and on 11 December, at which a decision should be made.

11) Bowling Club

- a) **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to approve the following expenses:**
 - i) Timber for the perimeter gully at a cost of £478.38
 - ii) Maintenance of the green at a cost of £177.00

12) Events

- a) **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to grant permission for Wenlock Olympians to use the ground for the annual Shropshire Junior Cross-country event on Sunday, 2 December 2018.**
- b) **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to grant permission to Area 7 of The Pony Club to use the ground for the running phase of their Winter Triathlon on Sunday, 3 February 2019.**

13) Goal Posts

Members considered the purchase of goal posts, which had been requested by the school. It was agreed that Cllr Adam Davy would liaise with Mike Bainbridge at the school on exactly what was required and report back to the next meeting.

14) Pitch Marking

Members considered the request from the school for further pitch marking. Concern was expressed about the long term burning in of markings.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to approve Option 1, over marking and burning the lines in again, at a cost of £130. Further marking would be considered in March.

15) Cantilever Basket Swing

Members considered a report and quotations for the purchase of a replacement basket swing. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to approve the purchase of a basket swing from Play and Leisure Ltd at a cost of £1,795.50 + VAT, to include supply and installation.**

16) Tree Planting

Members considered a request from Much Wenlock Tree Forum for a tree to be planted to replace the commemorative Luscombe Oak. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to approve the planting of a replacement Oak with a plaque, at no cost to the Committee or Town Council.**

17) 2019/20 Budget

Members noted the draft budget. The Chair agreed to discuss the detail with the Treasurer.

18) Next Meeting

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to cancel the meeting scheduled for 11 December 2018. The next meeting would be scheduled for a date in January 2019 , to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 20.55

Signed
Chairman

Date.....