

**Playing Field Committee Meeting
held on 3 October 2022 at 2.30pm
at Old Frank's, High Street, Elsenham**

Minutes

Present:

Mrs. S Waite (Chair SW), Mrs. B Donald (BD), Mrs. F Lambert (FL),
Dr. G Mott (GM) and Mrs. L Johnson (Parish Clerk LJ)

Members of the public: none

- 1. Apologies for absence:** None.
- 2. Minutes of last Meeting:**
The minutes of the meeting held on 25 August 2022 were agreed and signed by SW.
- 3. Items brought forward from previous meeting**
 - 3.1. SIA Licence.** Angela Greneski, UDC Community Safety Officer, informed LJ that she did not need to obtain an SIA licence. If you are viewing your own system, you do not require one.
 - 3.2. Tennis Club lease.** See item 8 on agenda.
 - 3.3. RoSPA.** There are some non-urgent items that need to be addressed on the RoSPA report. LJ will start to look at these once the new play area has been installed. **Still ongoing.**
 - 3.4. Jet wash.** SW was unable to jet wash the play equipment as it needs electric power. **Still ongoing.**
- 4. Playing Field**
 - 4.1.** The maintenance on the playing field needs to be put on a formal footing with a programme of work to be followed each year.
LJ to contact Garson's Group Ltd, to ask them to inspect the playing field and carry out any work required. Early in 2023. LJ will send out tenders to prospective companies to obtain quotes for a contract for the provisions of an annual football maintenance service.
 - 4.2.** LJ to arrange for the light in the playing field by the entrance/exit of the Leigh Way path to be cleared of vegetation that is currently covering the light.
 - 4.3.** A request had been made for a notice to be placed on the swing gate by the Memorial Hall saying, 'Emergency Access, No Parking'. LJ to arrange.
 - 4.4.** More advertising is needed for the clothes bank in the playing field. LJ to put poster on the village notice boards, post office, and the Elsenham News. LJ is to contact the company as EPC has not received any payments yet.

4.5. It was agreed to try and get the young people that use the Teen Shelter to take more ownership of it. This would hopefully stop some of the anti-social behaviour that is happening at present. FL said she would talk to the young people and get some ideas as to what they would like.

5. The new play equipment

A meeting is arranged with Dania on Wednesday 5 October 2022.

It was agreed to raise the following issues;

- The new path needs to be extended to all equipment, including the existing rocking horse (15) and the existing clatter bridge (7).
- Would it be possible to include designs on the new surfaces, such as hopscotch?
- Would it be possible to keep the existing 2 metre slide (the quote proposes 1.4 metres)?
- P.4 of the quote says that a Scramble Net is included, but it is not evident on the layout.
- Would it be possible to provide a clearer layout of what is proposed on mound?
- What is proposed concerning the existing tree on top of the mound?
- We would like to keep some of the existing equipment where it does not clash with new provision.
- Rolling log.
- Two single and one double springer (the four-way springer and springer seesaw would be removed).
- Zig-zag balance beam.
- Three of the four existing plank benches (two near the mound and one under the trees). By retaining the above we presume there would be a cost saving.
- When would the work begin?

GM is to draft a reply to Playdale explaining why they were not awarded the contract.

6. CCTV – Mrs. F Lambert

It was agreed that having a camera in the top car park which can read number plates was a good idea. Without it the police could not pursue some crimes. LJ to contact Lee Rhodes, who maintains the CCTV in the playing fields, asking what would be involved if the camera in the top car park was changed to night vision. LJ also to ask Peter Johnson, who had carried out a lot of research into CCTV.

7. The Tennis Club lease

EPC sent an email on 2 August to the Tennis Club asking for a copy of their feedback which they compiled in 2018, the Tennis Club did not reply. It was therefore decided not to pursue the lease for the Tennis Club, which was for their benefit only. EPC and the Tennis Club have had no problems working alongside each other since the club was set up many years ago.

8. Isabel Drive Play area

Once the improvements to the Leigh Drive children's play area have been completed, the Playing Field Committee will turn its attention to improving the Isabel Drive play area.

The litter bin just inside the gate of the play area is used mainly for dog waste, the sign denoting 'No dog waste' has been removed. This is a children's play area and having a bin overflowing with bags of dog waste is not acceptable. LJ to purchase a new sign, if dog

walks continue to use it then the bin will be moved. EPC employ someone to empty litter bins not bins with dog waste in them, for this you need special protected clothing. LJ is in the process of arranging quotes for all the hedges belonging to EPC to be cut back, this includes the Isabel Play area.

Public asked to leave the meeting

In accordance with section 1 of the Public Bodies (admissions to meeting) Act 1960, the public and press will be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

9. Leigh Way Path

The three quotes were discussed.

Proposal the Playing Field Committee recommend to Full Council that Honour and Son's quotation is accepted.

SW proposed, FL seconded, the vote was unanimously.

10. Any Other Business.

UDC are inviting Town and Parish Councils to participate in their Tree Planting Initiative for the planting season 2022/23. The scheme will be restricted to proposals which include not less than 3 trees, or 10m of hedging plants, with no charge to the parishes.

It was agreed that members should walk round the playing fields to see the best place that trees or hedging could be planted.

The football club had raked off the grass on the small football pitch by the side of the Bowls Club, leaving the piles of grass near the white lines of the pitch. This is killing the grass underneath. LJ to contact the Football Club and ask them to move the grass piles into the foliage of the playing field boundary.

The meeting finished at 4.45pm.

