

## **Elsenham Parish Council**

### **Playing Field Committee Meeting Held at 7.30pm in Old Frank's, Elsenham On Wednesday 29 March 2023**

#### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Mrs. S Waite (Chair SW), Mrs. B Donald (BD), Mr. P Jarvis (PJ),  
Mrs. F Lambert (FL), Dr. G Mott (GM)

*In the absence of the Parish Clerk, the minutes were taken by GM*

- 1. Apologies for absence** - Mrs L Johnson (LJ), Parish Clerk
- 2. Declaration of Interests** - PJ declared an interest in Elsenham Youth Football Club
- 3. Open to the public** - None present
- 4. Approval of the minutes held on 1 March 2023** - The minutes were agreed. A signed copy will be made available later.
- 5. Items brought forward from previous meeting.**
  - 5.1. 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 to consider on 3 April's meeting.**
  - 5.2. Tree Planting Initiative for the planting season 2022/23.** See 2 emails from Ben Smeeden on 16 March. Map requested. Tom Moat email 22 March 2023.  
It is not clear why as many as seven replacement trees are needed for the verge outside Gilbey Cottages, but that is a matter for EROWOS. **Action: LJ**
  - 5.3. Teen Shelter** - project for spring 2023.  
There was general agreement that redecoration should be entrusted to users of the shelter, and that they should have ownership, without obvious supervision.  
The shelter will be painted green, and a notice left to say that redecoration is invited. **Action: SW**
  - 5.4. Grit Bin** - SW to discuss with Allan Hathaway. **Action: SW**
  - 5.5. Grass seeds** -children's play area. **Action LJ**
- 6. Football Club**
  - 6.1.** The draft pro-forma agreement from the Football Club has
  - 6.2.** Legal agreement. Update Paul Jarvis.  
The company concerned has been contacted. A response is awaited. **Action: PJ**

**6.3.** The football club's contribution towards the maintenance of the football pitches for 2023/24. Contract £11,275.00.

**Proposal:** The cost should be split evenly between EPC and EYFC, that is, £5,637.50 each.

SW proposed, BD seconded. The proposal was agreed, 4 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstained.

**6.4 Item not on the agenda** The question of whether roll-out goals need planning permission is still ongoing.

**Action:** PJ.

## **7. Playing Field**

**7.1.** Pete's Bench. – now complete.

**7.2.** Clean the old play equipment – now complete.

It was noted that all the equipment has been cleaned, and that it needs to be cleaned regularly in future.

**Action:** SW

**7.3.** Re define the white lines in the bottom car park.

White lines includes marking the wheelchair spaces.

The earth which has spilled onto the car park from the Dania access needs to be cleared.

It was agreed to go out to tender. The budget provision is uncertain.

**Action:** LJ

**7.4.** Reinstating the basketball hoop.

PJ will examine the site, in order to form a view as to whether reinstating the hoop in its previous position is compatible with use of the area as a car park for football matches.

SW has checked prices online.

There is no budget provision for reinstating the hoop.

**Action:** PJ

**7.5 Item not on the agenda.** The question of the surface of the children's play area was discussed. Dania scattered grass seed over some of the bare areas, some of which has taken. It is uncertain how best to proceed. Some areas might need rolling; it might be best to wait until later in the year; it might be best to apply more grass seed now. It was agreed to seek a professional view from Tom Belton.

**Action:** LJ

**8. Proposal:** guide dogs and assistance dogs can be let off their leads in the playing field for exercise.

GM explained that the purpose was to reverse last month's proposal in the light of later advice and developments. His reading of Standing Orders suggests that the provision whereby a decision cannot be amended within six months does not apply to committees.

GM proposed, FL seconded. The proposal was rejected, with 2 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstained, rejected on the casting vote of the Chair.

## **9. Leigh Way**

**9.1.** Light. The light has now been installed.

**9.2.** Gap beside gate. The large gap at one side of the gate is dangerous. Also, the gate does not close fully. It was agreed that Honours should be asked to return in order to rectify these matters, and that the gap is a matter of urgency.

**Action:** LJ

## **10. CCTV.**

Night vision in the top car park that can read number plates.

Still ongoing.

It was noted that the minutes for the meeting on 1 March state that the camera in the top car park focussing on the car entrance gate has been changed to a night vision camera, and that a meeting would be arranged to look at the results.

**Action:** LJ

## **11. Isabel Drive Play area.**

Meeting arranged for 7.00pm at Isabel Drive play area on 3 April 2023.

**Action:** All

## **12. Any Other Business.**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 26 April.

Members would prefer a start time of 7:00 pm, if possible

**Action:** LJ

The meeting finished at 9:10 pm.