

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION & AMENITIES  
COMMITTEE HELD 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2011**

**Cllrs. Present:** Cllr. Margaret Allingham, Cllr. Sheila Baynes, Cllr. Keith Day, Cllr. Val Houghton, Cllr. Jenny Hughes, Cllr. Peter Hughes, Cllr. Jane Welsh (Chair), Cllr. Ray Worley

**Also present:** Mr. M. Fitzgerald - Hedge End Rangers  
Mr. Max Parr & Mr. J. Gook - Tennis Competition Organiser s affiliated to the LTA  
Mr. & Mrs. Thoma - Residents of Grange Road.

**R36 Apologies:** Cllr. Derek Pretty, and Mrs. Fry (resident of Woodhouse Lane).  
With effect from the close of business hours today, all communications have been checked for the receipt of apologies.

**R37 Minutes & Matters Arising  
Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2011**

R25, installation of the Cricket Practice Nets extension commenced 11<sup>th</sup> October.

R33, the Heritage Sign has been manufactured and is awaiting installation. A planning application has been submitted and processed.

R35, a letter seeking sponsorship has been forwarded to Haskins Garden Centre Ltd.

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**R38 Correspondence:**

i) An Email from Ms. Jenny Ott of Cranbourne Park expresses her appreciation for the ease of access to cemetery records on the website. Ms. Ott has agreed to the publication of her Email in the next Gazette, to highlight this facility together with her method in locating the final resting place of her late grandparents and her recollections of family history recalled by her late mother that are in addition to those published on the website. She adds *"It's nice to know that Hedge End's history is being kept alive for future generations"* and *"Keep up the good work and thank you once again."* Noted.

**R39 Welcome to Max Parr, LTA Competition Organiser**

*Promotion of terms and use of Hedge End Tennis Courts*

Cllr. Ray Worley declared a non-prejudicial interest and withdrew from discussions.

Max Parr outlined their proposal to conduct non-profit making Tennis Competitions, utilising all three courts, one weekend per month for 3 – 5 hours, for up to 12 competitors. The main objective will be to encourage and give coaching to all ages, promoting the sport of Tennis. Mr. Parr confirmed that there is absolutely no intention to run this proposal as a Business venture, both he and Josh Gook are CRB checked and are trained in Emergency First Aid. The Chair provided a brief description of the current expected income and public demand upon the Tennis Courts and use of Hedge End Tennis Club, explaining the Club's exclusive use of all three courts during their lease hire of each Thursday in the year between the hours of 6.00 p.m. and dusk and Sundays in the year between the hours of 10.00 a.m.

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and 1.00 p.m., plus pre-booked match days that take place between 1.30 and 7.00 p.m. for Saturday fixtures and from 9.30 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. for Sunday fixtures. The Chair emphasised the Council's duty in providing Tennis Courts as a public facility and members accepted that this proposal would be open to the community in general, similarly to Hedge End Tennis Club.

The Chair suggested that Mr. Parr liaise directly with the President of Hedge End Tennis Club, Ray Worley, with regard to his proposals and how they could run consecutively with Club use at weekends and accepted a further suggestion that it may be recognised by the public that similar hours in either organised event could be recognised by the public as being a specific time when the courts would not be available for informal hire, i.e. Sunday 9.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. In any event it would seem reasonable to consider a 3 month Trial period.

**The clerk is instructed to defer this matter to the next Agenda.**

In the meantime, Mr. Parr was asked to return with a full report and a copy of his Public Liability Insurance Certificate together with Time Table of his proposals, following his discussions with Mr. Worley and advised to expect a minimum charge of approximately, £30.00 plus VAT per month for the use of 3 Courts for up to 5 hours, once per month with a three month trial period.

**R40 To consider tenders for the installation of Acoustic Fencing, Woodhouse Lane Skateboard Park** (subject to planning consent). Invitations to tender were forwarded to four specialists and only two submitted.

S. W. Marchant Ltd. to supply and fit 34 linear metres of 3 metre high, Jakoustic Reflective Acoustic Fencing for the sum of £7,390.59 plus VAT.

M & C Fencing Services to supply and fit 34 linear metres of 3m high acoustic fencing with a recommendation including RSJ posts installed due to the sheer height and weight of the fence for the sum of £6,460.00 plus VAT.

**Resolved: That subject to planning consent, the tender of M & C Fencing Services is accepted.**

Mr. Thoma requested confirmation regarding the proposed relocation of the Teen shelter on site and a report to the Police identifying this as a Hot Spot.

The Chair proposed that item 8 of the Agenda be moved to facilitate discussions during Mr. M. Fitzgerald's attendance of the meeting.

**R41 To discuss the feasibility of Saturday morning Football Training at Woodhouse Lane Hedge End Rangers Annual Arrangement.**

The Chair explained the history of the site and Council's policy with regard to football hire and reported that the offices had examined the feasibility of an arrangement whereby Rangers would have use every Saturday 10.00 a.m. to Midday from July to April (40

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weekends) for an annual fee, based on £9.00 per hour plus VAT at £720.00 per annum plus VAT, paid in advance. Fees will not include any grounds preparation or use of the facilities on site. The management of training sessions to be the responsibility of Hedge End Rangers and to be restricted to a maximum of 2 teams only. Richard Bauck also assures Council that any parking difficulties will be addressed. It is hoped that the presence of Rangers will deter unauthorised use of the field. Notices on site will be removed and replaced with appropriate information with regard to authorised training. Under no circumstances are matches to be played - low key football training only, for up to 30 boys. The land is known to be water-logged during Winter months and training sessions credited where necessary.

**Resolved: That the aforementioned terms of hire are approved.**

**R42 To revisit proposals to close access Stubbs Drove/Willow close, due to further information becoming available and local consultation.**

This matter is revisited as a result of public consultation and the guidance of the Rights of Way Review Officer, which clearly identifies the need to retain public access. Clearly public access is used throughout daylight hours and residents agreed that if a locked gate prevented access overnight, this would satisfy their concerns.

The Rights of Way Map Review Officer, Colin Piper, confirmed that there are no recorded public rights of way in the locality between Lower Northam Road and Whitebeam Road, and Stubbs Drove is not an adopted public highway. Therefore, the Town Council would be within its rights to erect a fence on its property to stop or control access from Stubbs Drove. However, from a description of how Stubbs Drove and the public open space has been used, it would seem likely that the public will have acquired a right of way on foot through 20 years use without interruption. Any attempt to stop access completely will no doubt inconvenience and annoy users of the path and probably lead to an application to the County Council to have the route recorded as a public right of way. If the application was successful then any obstruction on the path (including gates) would have to be removed. The suggestion of putting a gate at the southern end of Stubbs Drove would seem to be a reasonable compromise, providing that a system can be established to ensure that the gate is unlocked during daylight hours.

**Resolved: The clerk is instructed to check whether Rights of Way would require a formal application for the installation of a gate, in addition to apply for planning consent for the installation of palisade fencing. Subject to the aforementioned, seek tenders for the installation of 6' high palisade fencing with a DDA compliant lockable gate.**

**R43 Barrier to restrict vehicular access Turnpike Way Sports Field from Thistle Road.**

Following public consultation a resident neighbouring the access volunteered to consult with residents within the immediate locality. From her enquiries the resident advised that at the present time this work would be an unnecessary expense on the already stretched Council budget. Security and privacy was considered at great length and concluded that this would become more of an issue than that of the odd motorbike, as clearly any barrier would give

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leverage to an intruder to their properties. Residents confirmed that there are incidents of vehicular use of the access but not to a degree of regular thoroughfare and would seem more occasional. The consideration that Council has given this matter is very much appreciated. **Resolved: To defer this matter and request that residents inform Council of any further problems.**

Cllr. Keith Day requested that old rotted posts located in the grass verge of the access path are removed to allow tidier grass cutting.

**R44 To discuss 2012/2013 Budget Projects.**

**Wish List:**

Scheduled Maintenance rolling programme for the upkeep of Council properties/boundary fences/infrastructure @ £20,000.

To replace the play area of Nelsons Gardens @ £50,000.

Sports Walls, Turnpike Sports Field and Greta Park @ £15,000.

Kanes Field Grazing @ £10,000. **The clerk is instructed to ensure that this is a subject of the next Agenda.**

Planting and repair of village centre Brick Planters @ £5,000.

Heritage sign @ £3,000.

To replace the village centre notice board, donated by the late Ms. Violet Cook @ £1500.

Paddling Pool seating/picnic tables @ £3,000.

**The clerk is instructed to ensure that Budget Projects is a subject of the next Agenda.**