

Minutes of the meeting of the Watton-at-Stone Community Hall Board of Trustees held in the Community Hall on Tuesday 5th April 2005 at 1930

Present: Mr. N. Poulton (Chairman) Mr. I. Knight
Mr. J. Meischke Mr. D. Stock

1 Apologies for absence

None.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2005

Mr. Knight proposed that the minutes be accepted and signed as a true record. Mr. Meischke seconded the motion and Mr. Poulton were in favour. (Mr. Stock was not present at that meeting.)

3 Matters arising

• Hire Agreement

Mr. Knight said that the Sports and Social Club's hire agreement had not yet been sent to them. Ideally, it should be sent during January of each year so they can agree to its content.

This was agreed.

Mr. Knight said that the Sports and Social Club have a meeting tomorrow night (6th April) and asked that the Clerk give him two copies of the hire agreement for the meeting prior to that meeting.

Action: J. Allsop

4 Floodlighting

Mr. Knight said that the 3 broken floodlighting bulbs had not been replaced and he had not chased Harknett Street Lighting to do the work. However, he had spoken to the contact Mr. Meischke gave him, who owns a cherry-picker and is willing to fit the floodlighting bulbs for free. Mr. Knight said that we should pay for the work to be done, this was agreed. Mr. Knight said that he arranged to meet with them on Saturday morning, but they did not turn up and he would try again.

5 Update on Tennis Courts

Mr. Knight said that the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) consultant is going to provide the design specifications for the new court and its lighting. These will include a definition of the court, its surround and all materials required; as well as a floodlighting specification. Because the Tennis Club are an affiliate member of the LTA, this service is being provided free of charge.

Mr. Poulton said that when he visited the planning department to have an informal discussion about the new tennis court, they hinted that they were not happy with our existing floodlighting and suggested that we may be required to change it as part of the conditions of granting the application. He said that an application for the tennis court only should be sent to the planning department and if granted, a further application for lighting be submitted.

This item was discussed at length. Mr. Knight said that the LTA would be a valuable source of information on the subject, however they were taking longer than expected to respond to our request.

Mr. Knight said that he would be submitting two separate planning applications.

6 MPPA

Mr. Knight said that he expected the moss-killing and pressure-washing work to be done any day now.

Mr. Poulton asked if there were any other items that needed attention on the MPPA. The only other job outstanding is the welding on part of the perimeter fencing, which Mr. Meischke is arranging to be done.

Mr. Knight said that the Tennis Club had done an excellent job of clearing up around the perimeter of the tennis court.

7 Two Windows in Meeting Room

Mr. Poulton said that damage had been done to the meeting-room window that overlooks the sportsfield. He said that although both of the meeting-room windows are damaged, they do not require immediate attention.

This item to be monitored and the windows replaced when necessary.

8 Wall outside Meeting Room

Mr. Poulton met with Michael Powell prior to the meeting and asked him to inspect the wall and give him a verbal quotation for the material required for repair work.

To supply:

450 frost-free solid black industrial bricks (£45 per 100 bricks, plus VAT)

½ Ton of soft sand

4 bags of cement

Total between £250 - £300 plus labour

Mr. Poulton said that he had spoken to a jobbing builder who will give us a quotation to do the work, providing we supply the materials, he will remove all materials from site on completion.

Recommendation: Provided the quotation for rebuilding the wall is a fair and reasonable amount, the Parish Council agrees that the work be done.

9 Sportsfield Maintenance

Mr. Knight said that the sportsfield is in very good shape for the time of year, but he believed there should be an on-going maintenance programme.

This year the Sports and Social Club plan to apply seed and fertilizer to the sportsfield. The work should be done in early April, which is the window between the football ending and cricket starting. The overall cost of the work is approximately £600 and he suggested that the Parish Council could contribute 50% of this cost.

Recommendation: The Parish Council pays 50% providing this amount does not exceed £400.

During the last meeting of the Sports and Social Club it was suggested that the sportsfield maintenance should be more of the Parish Council's responsibility and that they should ask for a donation from the Sports and Social Club. The donation could be built into the hire charge to the Sports and Social Club.

Lengthy discussion took place and concern was expressed by some of the Trustees about possible problems that this could cause.

10 Dates for future meetings, please bring you diaries

The following meeting dates were agreed for the Watton-at-Stone Community Hall Trustees.

- Tuesday 5th July 2005 at 1930
- Tuesday 4th October 2005 at 1930
- Tuesday 10th January 2006 at 1930.

11 Any other business

- **British Gas**

British Gas supplies gas and electricity to the Community Hall.

Mr. Poulton said that British Gas had informed us that they are to increase their price per unit of electricity later this year. We have until the middle of May 2005 to inform them if we wish to change our supply or accept their price increase.

Mr. Meischke asked the Clerk to give him the latest gas and electricity bills and he will search on the internet for the best service providers who can supply a capped-rate for two years or more.

Action: J. Meischke/J. Allsop

- **Main Hall flooring**

Mr. Stock said that parts of the Main Hall flooring are showing signs of wear. He felt that we should budget for replacing the flooring at some time in the future and therefore need to identify:

- a) the approximate life of the flooring
- b) replacement cost.

This was agreed.

Recommendation: The Parish Council establishes the approximate life-expectancy of the flooring in the Main Hall and the estimated price to replace it.

- **The meeting closed at 2019.**
- **The date for the next Community Hall Trustees meeting is Tuesday 5th July 2005.**