

CULLOMPTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the CCA Council meeting held on Wednesday 20th June 2012 at Community House, Cullompton.

Present:

Ashley Wilce	(l)	Chair	Brian Barnden (Cullompton Rangers)
Eileen Andrews	(l)	Vice Chair	Lynne Read (Cull. Swim/Pool Camp.)
Nikki Woollatt	(l)	Treasurer	
Cathy Rutley	(l)		
Jenny Hill	(l)		
George Manfield	(l)		
John Chard	(l)		
Sharon Vaughan	(l)		
Brian Mitchell	(l)		
Moira Lear	(l)		
Cheryl van der Salm	(l)		
Peter Vile	(l)		
James MacPherson	(l)		
Janet Sutton-Webb	(l)		
Dave Cloden	(l)	in lieu of M Scott	

Meeting opened at 7pm. The Chair opened the meeting and thanked C Rutley and J Hill for all their hard work and for staying on the Council; thanks also extended to E Andrews for all her hard work and for staying on as Vice Chair.

Election of Secretary

No-one present put themselves forward to be nominated. The Chair stated that this situation would have to be resolved at the next meeting and that he would take the Minutes for this meeting only, it not being appropriate to do so on an ongoing basis. Members were asked to see if they could recruit a person willing to be Secretary and that if this failed, the Council may have to resort to 'names in a hat', with the exception of current and immediate past, Honorary officers.

Action Point: All members.

Public Question Time

No members of the public present

Introduction of Members

Apologies

John Mapson (l)
Dave Regardsoe (l)
Neil Vaughan (Cullompton Traders' Assoc.)

Approval of Minutes of the last meeting

Proposed Acceptance: M Lear Seconded: P Vile Vote: Unanimous

Minutes signed by Chair as being a true record.

Matters arising from Minutes (above)

- (i) Correspondence: Collection of cheque

P Vile stated that he had been unable to collect the Grant cheque from Cullompton Town Council. E Andrews said that she had done this on his behalf.

- (ii) AOB: Trees on the Glebe land

Action Point: P Vile will contact Aaron Evans, MDDC and report back at the next meeting

- (iii)(a) Public Question Time: Red Diesel

J Chard asked whether the Council was able to confirm that the fields were agricultural land in order that he might be able to continue to provide a free grass-cutting service to the CCA. Discussion ensued as to whether or not the CCA fields were/n't agricultural land for such purposes. The Chair suggested that he make enquiries and report back.

Resolved: That J Chard continue to provide a grass-cutting service on the understanding that the land was agricultural land (hay being harvested) AND that the Chair make enquiries with HMRC and report back.

Action Point: Chair

Proposer: C Rutley Seconded: E Andrews Vote: Unanimous

- (iii)(b) £500 Donation from J Chard/Leathersellers

Mr J Chard provided the meeting with background information relating to the donation and asked if the Council would write soonest to indicate their acceptance.

Resolved: That the Treasurer responds thanking the Leathersellers for their donation and that the Council gives a vote of thanks to J Chard.

Action Point: Treasurer

Proposer: P Vile Seconded: A Wilce Vote: Unanimous

- (iii)(c) Community involvement/way forward for CCA

The Chair advised that this needed to be raised an Agenda item at a future meeting, in order that meaningful debate could take place.

(iii)(d) Whippet Track

Discussion took place as to why the track was not being used this year – lack of maintenance by the Whippet Club and whether or not the track should be removed. The general consensus was that, since it was the longest track in the UK and the inherent value of this asset should the CCA find itself in a Compulsory Purchase situation, we ought not to take any action until the future use by the Whippet Club had been clarified.

Resolved: That the Chair contact the Whippet Club to establish the current and future situation with regard to maintenance of the track, with the possibility of the CCA doing the maintenance, perhaps for a fee; and report back.

Proposer: C Rutley Seconded: J Hill Vote: Unanimous

Action Point: E Andrews

Finance

The Treasurer advised that it was necessary for a resolution to be passed adding her as an Authorised Signatory.

Resolved: That N Woollatt is added as an Authorised Signatory.

Proposer: A Wilce Seconded: P Vile Vote: Unanimous

Resolved: To pay invoice to Morrishes in the sum of £115 for grass-cutting.

Proposer: C Rutley Seconded: P Vile Vote: Unanimous

Resolved: To pay invoice to Morrishes in the sum of £115.

Proposer: C Rutley Seconded: P Vile Vote: Unanimous

Resolved: To pay invoice to DB Handyman in the sum of £95 for work to fencing and rails.

Proposer: C Rutley Seconded: J Hill Vote: Unanimous

Resolved: To pay invoice to Mortimores in the sum of £86.40 for accountancy services.

Proposer: C Rutley Seconded: J Hill Vote: Unanimous

Resolved: To pay invoice to C Rutley in the sum of £105.41 for consumables.

Proposer: P Vile Seconded: C van der Salm Vote: Unanimous

Resolved: That the Council gives a vote of thanks to C Rutley and J Hill for all their work on the Teddy Bear's Picnic, Dog Show, etc.

Proposer: E Andrews Seconded: J Hill Vote: Unanimous

J Chard rose what he perceived as a lack of local awareness for the Dog Show at the Town Fayre. C Rutley asked that it be noted that the Dog Show involved a lot of work, contrary to what some people may think. The Chair asked if any further assistance was required. J Sutton-Webb offered to produce posters and the Chair offered to help steward. Other members were asked to provide whatever assistance they could on the day.

The donation of £20 from Cullompton Rangers Youth Team for car parking (as per previous Minutes), had been received and was noted.

Correspondence

Letter received from Viridor, asking the CCA to confirm ownership status of the fields before considering a grant for project works. C van der Salm to respond accordingly. Cheryl explained that we had only obtained one quote so far, but more than one would be preferable; and, that since the grant application would not be considered until September, perhaps the Council ought to get other quotes?

Resolved: That the C van der Salm obtains at least one more quote, two if possible, for repairs to the main track.

Proposer: S Vaughan Seconded: J Sutton-Webb Vote: Unanimous

Action Point: C van der Salm

J Chard queried what the specification was that had been provided as the basis for the quote. He was informed by the former Chair that those providing the quote had been asked to provide a suitable specification, based upon the stated requirements of the CCA relating to the use of the track; also, that he was welcome to provide any technical

assistance to the process, if he so wished – in which case to raise it as an Agenda item at the next meeting, with supporting documentation.

E Andrews said that she had received an email from MDDC Environmental department which she unfortunately had been unable to bring due to IT problems and so she would bring it to the next meeting.

Action Point: E Andrews

Chairman's Business

Damage to Jubilee Wood

The Chair informed the meeting that the damage to the Jubilee Wood had been recorded as a crime by police, but that no suspects had been identified; and that there was little likelihood of identifying the culprits unless new intelligence was received. And, that if there were no objections he would contact the local schools to explain what had happened; also, that the CCA would look to replant new trees later in the year to replace the missing ones. There were no objections.

Action Point: Chair

J Sutton-Webb reported that she had been in contact with the Culm Valley gazette, which would be running a story and wanted to take some photos. J Hill and E Andrews volunteered to provide a photo opportunity and to make the necessary arrangements.

Action Point: E Andrews & J Hill

AOB

Litter

Discussion followed as to the problem of litter bins being filled so soon after having been emptied. General consensus that more bins were needed. E Andrews advised that she had a meeting in hand with MDDC to discuss the possibility of installing a recycling bin and N Woollatt advised that litter bins in the Town were due to be redundant shortly.

Resolved: That the E Andrews meets with MDDC to discuss the possibility of relocating the litter bins (as above), supplying recycling bins and any other options to improve the ongoing litter situation.

Proposer: J Sutton-Webb Seconded: N Woollatt Vote: Unanimous

Action Point: E Andrews

Town Fayre

C van der Salm asked whether the CCA would be having a table at the Town Fayre. It was discussed and agreed that we would have a table, with a lucky dip for children and a fund-raising game, as well as collection buckets. All members available were asked to help on the day, where possible.

C Rutley asked whether the Town Council would be putting steel plates over the weak bridge. It was noted that the Town Council representative was not present and E Andrews offered to follow up on the matter in person, in addition to an email from the Chair.

Action Point: Chair & E Andrews

Litter Signage

J Hill said that she had produced anti-litter signs in Polish and English. Discussion then followed that they should also be produced in Lithuanian. The Chair said that it would make more sense to use pictograms, since these were internationally understood. It was agreed that the current signs would be put up and that pictograms would be obtained in the future, after further discussion.

Field Works

J Hill advised that D Bonsey had quoted £125-£155 for materials to put a fence up around the playing area, to keep dogs out. Discussion followed and it was stated that only one person had complained about this being a problem, although dogs had been seen to get into the area through the open gate (before recent works were carried out). It was generally felt that this was not an issue that warranted spending money, unless further incidents are reported.

Resolved: Not to proceed with these works.

Proposer: N Woollatt Seconded: S Vaughan Vote: Majority

J Hill advised that D Bonsey had quoted £250-350 for repair works to middle bridge, or £200 using gabions and boulders. B Mitchell said that the job wasn't urgent and provided that he had some help, he could sort it out; all he needed was poles, boards and scalpings. D Clode offered surplus scalpings from the Football Club and the Chair offered to help with manpower.

Resolved: That B Mitchell obtain a price for the materials (as above) and to report back to the next meeting.

Proposer: A Wilce Seconded: S Vaughan Vote: Majority

Action Point: B Mitchell

General Signage

J Chard raised the issue of inadequate signage about the CCA fields. The meeting was given an update by C Rutley as to the impending Information Boards and the Chair advised J Chard that it should be brought forward as a future Agenda item.

Woodland Mgt.

J Chard raised the issue of woodland management for the new trees. The meeting was given an update by C Rutley and the Chair advised J Chard that it should be brought forward as a future Agenda item.

Footpaths.

J Chard raised the issue of footpaths. The meeting was given an update by C Rutley and the Chair advised J Chard that it should be brought forward as a future Agenda item.

Six-a-side

D Clode informed the Council of the six-a-side tournament being held on 21st and 22nd July and asked whether the Football Club would be able to park on CCA land in return for a donation, as usual. A discussion followed as to charges made for parking and whether donations were the way forward. It was agreed that while the CCA wished to support the Football Club, it also needed to raise funds (for example, to repair the track to football club); and that this was something that we needed to address in the future.

Resolved: That the football club may park in return for a donation to CCA funds.

Proposer: N Woollatt Seconded: C Rutley Vote: Unanimous

Music Event

D Clode informed the Council of a ticketed music event on 28th and 29th July, and asked whether the Football Club would be able to park on CCA land in return for a donation. A discussion followed as to charges made for parking, especially for ticketed events and whether donations were the way forward – especially when large numbers are anticipated (1000 on this occasion). Again, it was agreed that while the CCA wished to support the Football Club, it also needed to raise funds (for example, to repair the track to football club); and that this was something that we needed to address in the future. The Chair expressed his concern that the Football Club hadn't brought the matter to the CCA beforehand, during the planning stage. Other members said that they felt that if a ticketed event was being held purely to raise money (as opposed to playing football), the CCA should also benefit financially, perhaps charging a percentage of 'gate' money.

Resolved: That the football club may park in return for a *fair* donation to CCA funds.

Proposer: N Woollatt Seconded: S Vaughan Vote: Unanimous

Ditch Clearance

D Clode asked the CCA to consider cutting the foliage alongside the ditch on the hockey pitch, on the basis that children could fall in; and said that as the owners of the land, the

CCA should make sure that it was safe. The Chair stated that the CCA would of course take action in respect of anything that presents a clear danger to users of the fields, but it could not be expected to fence off all areas with ditches, trees, etc., as this would detract from the amenity value of the land.

A discussion followed and there was consensus that the CCA Members decided that (i) cutting the foliage would not prevent a child from falling in, (ii) the risk of this was historically low, (iii) that the work wasn't necessary for football to be played, (iii) that it would disturb wildlife, and (iv) and that it was up to the Football Club to assess the risk involved in their use of CCA land and to take any necessary action, such as ensuring adequate supervision and taping the area off.

Play equipment repairs

To be brought forward to the next meeting.

Campervan parking

B Mitchell asked whether a few vans could park overnight on 25th June.

Resolved: That parking is permitted.

Proposer: J Sutton-Webb Seconded: M Lear Vote: Unanimous

The Chair expressed concern that issues were being raised under AOB which needed proper discussion and which should properly have been notified as Agenda items. Also, that it would be impossible to deal with all issues raised at the next meeting, as a whole Council. He then suggested that members putting issues forward also put proposals forward as to how best to progress the issues raised.

Close of meeting 21:20

Outstanding Actions:

Honorary Membership – G Manfield