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Minutes of the meeting of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee held on the 05th June 2013 at the Village Hall

Councillors present: Di Ames (Chair), Derrick Folbigg, Trevor Cooper, Stuart Southall, James Rudgley, Nick Papé.

Apologies: Ann Lovesey

Clerk: Anne Papé

Meeting opened 20:00

MINUTES

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Ann Lovesey.

2. Declarations of interest in any matter – being prejudicial or personal

2.1 Councillor Ames declared an interest in item 5 of the agenda.

3. To discuss the Front Garden competition

3.1 Due to the weather it was agreed that the competition would be judged on the last weekend in July 2013. Councillors were to provide a shortlist of gardens in each area before this date.

3.2 Roxton Garden Centre would be asked to judge the competition again. It was agreed to ask the landlord of The Anchor if the prizes could be presented at pub in September. Prizes would be vouchers for a meal at The Anchor.

4. To discuss the Scarecrow Competition

4.1 A theme of Kings and Queens had been agreed previously. Entry forms would be put in place and an under 16 years of age category. The closing date for entries would be 25th July 2013. Prizes would be Bedford Town Centre vouchers.

5. To discuss the hire of the football pitch

5.1 It was agreed that the charge would remain at £25. £7.00 of the fee would be paid to the Parish Council for the use of the field. The remainder would be allocated to the Village Hall Association for the use of the changing rooms. A charge of £10 would be made for use of the playing field only. There would be no charge for village organisations.

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5.2 A list of key holders was to be put in place. Additional keys had been cut without permission and the number in circulation was currently unknown. The committee agreed to change the padlock and issue keys as required. The key would be registered, with only the Parish Council authorised to order keys.

5.3 Copies of public liability insurance would be required from those hiring the playing field.

5.4 The football nets needed to be removed from the goals and put into storage. The goals needed to be moved behind the storage building.

Action – Councillor Ames to contact the football clubs with regard to storage.

Action – Clerk to call Sports Committee meeting.

6 To review the schedule of works

6.1 The committee clarified the areas which had Parish Council trees on them. The Clerk would request quotations for a tree inspection.

6.2 A resident had complained that the garden fencing for a property in Chapel Field had been moved to enclose a section of open space. The open space affected belonged to the Parish Council. It was noted that a number of properties in Chapel Field had enclosed areas of open space and verges.

Action – Clerk to seek advice from the Parish Council solicitors with regard to the Parish Council open space and to contact the Borough Council with regard to the other areas.

6.3 A schedule of works for the playing field would be drawn up at the Sports committee meeting.

Action – Clerk to add schedule of works to the agenda for the Sports Committee meeting.

6.4 The playing field hedge by Birchfield Road would require cutting after August.

6.5 The grasscutting around the village was discussed. Two verges in Green End Road had not been cut. It was agreed to request that one area of the village be completed prior to cutting in another area. Strimming of the kerb line was needed in some areas.

Action – Clerk to see if Green End Road verges were included on the maps.

Action – Clerk to ascertain if the contractor had the appropriate documentation in place for weed spraying before any spraying undertaken.

Meeting closed at 20.45

Signed: _____



Date: _____

15/JUNE/2013

Initial: NP