

BARWICK in ELMET and SCHOLES PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **BARWICK in ELMET PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE** meeting held on Monday 26 October 2020 at 7.30 pm by remote access.

PRESENT: Councillors Phil Maude, (Chair), Claire Hassell and Jacque Ward together with representatives Pam Binns (Bowling), Simon Fenton (Tennis), Linda Turp (Village Hall) and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Karen Dales and Steve Collett (Allotments), Chris Swales (Cricket) and Adrian Riddington (Mount Saint Mary's Football).

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 28 October 2019, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record that the Chair be authorised to sign.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

5 CLUB REPORTS

5.1 Village Hall

The Village Hall remains closed due to the pandemic. Two questionnaires have been circulated over the last six months to the main users of the Hall which show a preference to wait until the New Year before considering resumption of activities. A communication had gone out in the last week informing these users that the Committee would be in touch in the New Year to see how many were interested in coming back. At the moment, one or two classes are interested. The appeal for more people to serve on the management committee had resulted in one lady expressing an interest and she seemed very keen and the Chair was keeping in touch with this person every month updating her of what was happening. The Committee has three or four active people and one ladies' husband was helping with getting quotes where needed. The treasurer had given notification that she would no longer be able to continue but had carried on doing the accounts a further year as the number of transactions is greatly reduced. The Village Hall had qualified for the Leeds City Council business rates grant and finances were healthy in spite of the lack of regular income. Tennis Club offered to make a donation in lieu of use of the Village Hall toilet facilities (although they had not been able to use these whilst the Hall was closed). There have been no major concerns regarding security, there had been some things dumped in the gardens. The fire alarm was being checked. There was a notice fixed to the window at the front entrance giving instructions for use of the defibrillator which had faded in the sunlight and was looking scruffy. Cllr. Ward was the official guardian of the parish defibrillators and would address this.

5.2 Mount Saint Mary's Football Club

Mount Saint Mary's Football Club were not represented but had sent a report. At the time of the meeting, the 1st team were 2nd in the Premier Division of the Yorkshire Amateur League having played 7 League games winning 5, drawing 1 and losing 1. The Reserves were 2nd in Division 4 of the Yorkshire Amateur League having played 6 League games winning 5 and drawing 1 (still unbeaten). Over the last month or so they had applied online to the FA

Foundation for a grant towards the required works to purchase and install a new septic tank for the Barwick Clubhouse/changing rooms. After many hours of emails, phone calls and stress, they finally received acknowledgment from the FA Foundation on Tuesday 13th October 2020 that they had been successful with regards the on line application and the FA Foundation offered £7965 towards the overall cost of the purchase and installation of the new Septic tank. So with the £3500 (Funding grant from the Festival application from October 2019) and £7965 (FA Foundation application) they had contributed £11,465 towards the £12,500 plus VAT required for the works to be carried and now completed. This season (2020/21) is their 5th year playing at Barwick and Mount Saint Mary's FC committee/players have thoroughly enjoyed the facilities and surrounding area although at the beginning of their 1st Licence agreement the clubhouse/changing facilities needed major refurbishment and many hours of volunteer work and labour. They have signed a further 10-year Licence with the Barwick and Scholes Parish Council and we were looking forward to making further clubhouse and ground improvements and hopefully bring some success on the football pitch.

5.3 Tennis Club

Due to the pandemic, there had been no matches or tournaments this year (the season normally runs May to August with the planning in March & April which overlapped with the height of the lockdown). The club house had been closed and is off-limits but the courts are free to use (i.e. no structured sessions) as long as social distancing rules are observed and users take hand sanitiser and spray for the entrance gates. In the last month, there had been an issue of people wanting to use the courts in the evenings when floodlights are needed as these are operated from the clubhouse. Therefore, the club have introduced rules where just one person may enter the clubhouse to use a token to activate the floodlights and had installed a hand sanitiser in the clubhouse in June. Due to pandemic restrictions, ongoing maintenance now relies on individuals going to the club in their own time (normally the club organises working parties to carry out such tasks). Most maintenance such as weedkilling and moss removal is done within the budget, the club sets aside some income each year to cover large capital projects such as resurfacing which only needs doing every ten or twelve years. The club didn't qualify for the Leeds City Council business rates grant. Over fifty people had taken advantage of the free membership offer in 2019 and the club had managed to maintain membership levels in 2020. Current membership is £20 for an adult and £25 for couples and free of juniors. Financially, the club was in a better position than it had been compared to the previous year. Membership includes residents from Scholes, Aberford and as far afield as Wakefield.

5.4 Allotments

Cllr. Ward (as Chair of the Allotments subcommittee) and Cllr. Hassell reported on this item. Members of the Allotments subcommittee carried out inspections in September. Nearly all plots are rented out with one half-plot vacant and one due to become available (the plot holder is due to vacate the plot and take a new one and will relinquish her current plot once the last of the produce has been harvested). There are two people on the waiting list. Renewal letters had gone out. Boundary hedges would be trimmed in November. Strimming had been done using volunteers (the top verge and one overgrown plot). It was hoped that in future, strimming could be done twice a year.

5.5 Bowling Club

At the time of the meeting, Bowling had finished, the club being restricted by their governing body and had only started bowling midway through July. Prior to that, opportunity was taken to carry out work on the green to get it to a good standard, a new watering system had been

mended and sprinkler heads raised so that the paths were even. The club had received a grant and had no financial concerns. A contractor had been engaged to do the heavy work.

5.6 Cricket Club

Cricket Club were not represented. It was noted that some kerb stones had been disturbed by the recent work done to install a cess pool for the football changing rooms which the football club had agreed to restore.

6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 29 March 2021 at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Chair
Monday 29 March 2021