



BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council, 5 Foreland Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5XN

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Minutes **Steyne Park Project** meeting held **9th April 2014, 18.00** at Bembridge Youth & Community Centre, Steyne Park, Steyne Road, Bembridge

Present: Cllr D Grannum, Cllr A Woodford, Cllr B Bristow, Cllr M Tarrant, Mrs E Goldring Clerk, Mrs J McDade Asst Clerk, Mr H McDade, Mr K Cook, Mrs A Cook, Mr G Giles, Mr Portwine, Mrs D Portwine, Mr S Burden, Mrs D McGovern, Mr J Holbrook, Mr S Bligh, Mr G Walker, Mr K Marston and Mr A Morris

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence. Apologies received from Cllr S Pigot.

2. STEYNE PARK PROJECT

Cllr Grannum chaired the meeting. Points discussed:

- Drainage for the top field needs to be the first project. Side ditches need to be cleared as residents along Steyne Road are experiencing flooding in their back gardens. Trees/bushes/shrubs between the fields could be removed so the top field didn't feel isolated.
- Ladies rugby on the Isle of Wight is looking for a home, as at present they are travelling up to Winchester. Youth rugby is also looking for pitches around the Island. Lower league rugby is also looking for pitches. There should be plenty of funding available with the World Cup next year, especially for women's and youth rugby. Vectis youth are aware of the possibility of using the field in the future.
- Cricket nets are ready to be erected by Bembridge Cricket Team, just need to decide site for them. Bembridge Cricket has already requested funding for a new cricket wicket. Cricket and rugby seasons do overlap but would work together for use of site as many players are members of both sports.
- New changing rooms would be required with more sport. Mobile changing facilities available on the island to use. We do still have the plans for changing rooms to be built at the end of the BYCC. Removing the trees/bushes a viewing area could be built at the back of the centre. Small kitchen area in the changing rooms could be changed into another referees room as it's too small for a team changing room.
- Allotments had been tried on the field previously but poor drainage meant the area was not ideal. With sports and children around, do not think that allotments would work on the field but need to be somewhere less obvious like the adjoining farmers field.
- Youth football taking off really well at the moment, with 3 teams ready to join leagues next season. Ideally a youth pitch marked out on the field or an all-weather pitch would be appreciated.
- The BYCC would like to see the petanque moved to the front of the centre for better viewing and lighting. Flood lights could be replaced with more modern lights, as per the new street lights which shouldn't affect the local residents. The parish council already have planning permission for the floodlights that are on the field/park at present. The reason the petanque was positioned in the old play area was to avoid scooters/skateboarders crossing over it to get to the skate park and causing damage.
- Multi Use Games Area could encourage a number of different sports from netball, basketball, 5-a-side football, hockey and tennis. Needs to be a good size and well thought out. Tennis will also be covered by the use of the school tennis courts. Could install a pay as you use system? A '3G standard pitch' would generate lots of use but could cost up to £750,000.

- Running track around the outside of the top field with maybe a trim trail course. Trees could be planted in from the boundary with the running track protected from any field sports. Nets around the field would not look very appealing.
- Outdoor gym equipment could be positioned on the area of the cycle mound, which would need to be flattened. The cycle mound is not used and needs to be changed. Hillcroft Turfs have said they would pay for soil but we're not sure how much rubble was dumped there.
- Extension to the BYCC with higher ceiling to accommodate squash, badminton and handball would be good.
- Parking could become an issue with more use of the park and needs to be looked at. There is an entrance into the top field but would need a solid surface put down and is not wide enough for parking. Would be risky allowing cars to park on the top field if cricket was being played.
- Funding would need to be sort for all parts of the project and we would need to work with different sports/funders to achieve everything wanted. Help will be needed when application forms are completed. Fund raising events will need to be organised as we will have to match fund in some cases. Football always has plenty of grants available, as will rugby over the next year as well as Biffa and Awards for All. Lee Matthews at the IWC may be able to help with available grants. Would the Inter Island Games have any grants available?
- Increase signage for no dogs is needed for the park and field. Can be a problem with dog mess which needs to be cleared before matches and training sessions, though some of that could be from badgers/foxes.
- We need to promote the park/field once project complete to attract island competitions, the football used to hold finals on Steyne Park.

Following the discussions Cllr D Grannum, Cllr B Bristow, Cllr A Woodford, Mr A Morris, Mrs A Attrill, Mr K Cook, Mrs D Portwine, Mr S Bligh, Mr G Giles and Mr H McDade agreed to form the working group. Mr K Marston (cricket) and Mrs J Bulpit (school) would be asked to join and Harry McDade would ask some friends.

A working group meeting will be arranged in the next couple of weeks to take the project forward.

Meeting closed 19.05