

## St Martins Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the St Martins Recreation Services Committee held on Thursday 6th July 2017 at 7.00 p.m. in the St Martins Community Centre, St Martins.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr's A. Cast, G. Pennington, J. Stevens and Sue Heard and Shirley Willis.  
Also in attendance: the Parish Clerk.

	<u>Action</u>
<p><b>115/07/17.R Election of Chairman</b></p> <p><b>Proposed:</b> Cllr G. Pennington <b>Seconded:</b> Cllr J. Stevens</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> that Cllr A. Cast is elected Chairman of the Recreation Services Committee.</p>	
<p><b>116/07/17.R Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>An apology for absence had been received from Cllr N. Graham.</p>	
<p><b>117/07/17.R Co-Option</b></p> <p>There had been no other names put forward for co-option to this committee.</p>	
<p><b>118/07/17.R Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</b></p> <p>Cllr A. Cast declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 121/07/17.R.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note that no other Disclosable Pecuniary Interests were received on any item included on the agenda in accordance with Sections 50-52, Local Government Act 2000 and The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (England) Act 2001 and no applications for dispensations.</p> <p>It was <b>AGREED</b> to accept any Disclosable Pecuniary as they may arise during the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>119/07/17.R Minutes</b></p> <p><b>Proposed:</b> Cllr J. Stevens <b>Seconded:</b> Cllr G. Pennington</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> with 2 abstentions that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Services Committee held on Thursday 7th July 2016, having been previously circulated be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.</p>	Chairman
<p><b>120/07/17.R Urgent Items</b></p> <p>There were no urgent items that had been brought to the attention of the Chairman.</p>	

**154/07/16.R Rhosyllan Farm Recreation Area**

Cllr J. Stevens gave a summary of a meeting he and Cllr G. Pennington had with Iain Hill-Trevor concerning the planned Recreation Ground behind the Rhosyllan Farm development, which is as follows;

Present: Iain Hill-Trevor, Glenn Pennington and John Stevens.  
Apologies: Andrew Cast and Edward Davies.

The meeting had been requested by Glenn Pennington so that the Parish Council and the Brynkinalt Estate could review the current position and likely timescale for the development at Rhosyllan Farm and the consequent handover to the Parish Council of the land being given by the Estate for use as a future Recreation ground for St Martins.

Iain Hill-Trevor gave an update on progress since the granting of outline planning permission for the housing development and his expectation of the timescale for the start of development. In summary, he hoped to have finalised all Reserved Matters on the planning application by the end of March 2018 and – subject to the state of the local housing market – expected housing development to commence approximately twelve months after that date. Iain made clear that he would like the Parish Council to have the opportunity to review the Reserved Matters application before it was submitted to Shropshire Council. He would be in touch to arrange for this to happen as soon as the application was ready.

Glenn Pennington and John Stevens shared with Iain the outline plans the Parish Council had in mind and indicated the current level of funds set aside and earmarked for the development and equipping of the recreation area. They also confirmed that they expected to bid for matched funding for the balance of money needed to complete the development of all facilities once the local community had been involved in agreeing what those facilities needed to include. The Parish Council also recognised the need to establish a financial and management structure to ensure the ongoing management and maintenance of the Recreation Reserve to maximise the utilisation of the land for the continuing benefit of the community.

In response to a question on the timing of the handover of the land for the Recreation Ground, Iain indicated that it could be at any time by mutual agreement and that he had no strong views on this. After some discussion over the practical and legal issues involved, all parties agreed that it made best sense to leave the contractual and planning issues under the control of the Estate and for the actual transfer of ownership of the recreation land to take place at the point at which farming ceased and infrastructure for the housing development started.

The housing development was likely to be carried out in several phases (as per the Pickstock's Irvine Gardens development) and the handover timing described above would thus allow phase 1 to include the provision of access to the Recreation Ground so that the Parish Council could commission work on that land in parallel with the first phase of housing development.

Action

Members of the Recreation Services Committee agreed that we should consider working with the school on a joint use of the proposed facilities and that all future meetings would be documented.

Further grant money was still to come from the Wrekin Housing Trust following the completion of Phase III.

**122/07/17.R Community Consultation**

Members were asked to consider the process for a community consultation on the facilities to be provided at the new recreation site and how to involve St Martins School, local clubs and organisations.

It was agreed that the first step would be to include information on this project in the local newsletters to inform and get the support from residents. A brief report would go in the July editions with a more detailed account in the September issues.

A working party would meet on the 30th August at 2.00 pm to consider a plan of action and time table to meet with the school, local residents and organisations.

**123/07/17.R Proposed Amenity Land Transfers**

Members were asked to consider the process to establish the cost of maintaining these areas prior to further discussions with Shropshire Council.

It was recommended that the Parish Clerk consults with our present contractor to seek his guidance on what standard and specification would be best suited for these area. This would be in the number of cuts per year, height of grass and flexibility of cuts taking into account weather and growing conditions and whether to enter into a collaborative arrangement with neighbouring parishes. We would also need to ensure that our grass cutting map is accurate and the timing of any such contract was in-line with setting our budget.

Parish Clerk

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 19.40 p.m.

Signed .....

Date .....

Chairman