

**MINUTES OF PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2009.**

**PRESENT** Bev Barrell, Clare Eastwood, Ian Earl & Terry Thompsett.

**APOLOGIES** Jo Taylor, Gina Hawthorne, Hayley Earl, Katie Wride, Jonathan Taylor.

Minutes of previous meeting handed to those present (copy of these will be made available to all other com members).

**MATTERS ARISING**

Recycling                      Going well –VAP team looking into additional collections.

Club contributions        Clare and Terry to do

Meadow info                Clare /Gina have started this

**SKATE BOARD PARK**

Lewes DC environmental health dept have been in contact with Liz Cullen/TT. They are concerned they have not been kept informed regarding resolving the noise problem. TT has spoken to LDC and given them info they required and is continuing to seek a solution to this problem.

**FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT**

This has been received and some of the works already carried out. Ian and TT to meet up before the play group return to ensure any items relating in particular to them are carried out.

**HARD COURT/ BASKET BALL COURT**

Report of open house meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> August 2009 – for villagers to “voice” their opinions regarding the basket ball court – at the Pavilion 6pm till 10pm.

The meeting had been widely publicised with items in parish magazine, Plumpton column in middy and county times, posters through out the village.

A total of 29 people attended during the evening which included 6 com members. (signing in list is available for anybody interested)

An email was received by TT from Catherine Jackson – “not happy with loss of grass to tarmac , how much need etc etc”

A letter from Julie Russell – in support of the project especially as giving more opportunity for all age groups to use the facility.

A letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> May 2009 and sent to Richard Taylor from Reg Stone – expressing view that “too much of the play area would be lost and the cost of the project”.  
(copies of all the above communications are available on request.)

POINTS RAISED WITH THE EXISTING PROPOSAL IE BB /HARD PLAY AREA WITHIN BOUNDARY OF EXISTING PLAY AREA

Location - the general feeling from those most at “risk” by the proposals ie people living close to the play area. Is why not further away.-- it was explained that alternative locations ie in the dip, tennis courts, south boundary against service road, area between car park and play area had all been considered and for one reason or another not considered suitable. The position of the bb/hard court was agreed by the committee after long and considered thought so that the facility, which is multipurpose ie honey bees, is best positioned for use by all interested parties.

Loss Of Play Area -- it was explained that the whole play area is being considered for revamping and that the existing boundaries could be moved to replace any area lost for the bb/hard court.

draft proposals for the revamping of the play area equipment were available for people to see.

Concern if either of the willow trees would have to be felled for the proposal. -- with some adjustment of the exact position of the bb/hard court this could be avoided.

Several comments regarding access to the bb/hard court via the play area were expressed – the general guide line now is for age groups to mix.

The subject of segregation of the play area and bb/hard court (fence) is causing some concern -- the installation of a fence similar in style to the existing is a possibility. The committee not very keen on “prison type high fence” as it is thought would spoil the general view of the playing field and could become a climbing frame - if necessary that type of fence would only be provided between the areas and not to all boundaries.

It would appear a covenant ( at present not seen by the committee) exists and possibly extends to the NW corner of the court and would mean “nothing over five feet high”- -this could cause problems for both the bb court and any alterations in the play area..

Support from a lot of those who attended for the project as it provides a much needed additional facility to the playing field.

finance -- the £10k grant plus fund raising would it was anticipated pay for the project or the project would be tailored to suit the budget.

Insurance -- this would need to be checked with the pc insurers.

### Possible alternative locations

Discussion with some who attended and committee members have suggested that the court could be placed along the n-s boundary of the play area, possibly starting closer to the pavilion and encroaching only a short distance into the play area. This would “solve” most if not all the items raised and hopefully be the solution.

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After discussion and taking into account the views of people who attended the above meeting etc a decision was made to resite the court as suggested above. A fence similar to the existing post and rail fence will be provided to all boundaries. Bev suggested that a hedge could replace the fence in the fullness of time. This scheme could be more expensive as extent of fencing is increased and funds from other “pots” would be looked into.

A planning application will be made shortly to LDC.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

TT reported a break in on to the pavilion Sat/Sunday 1/2 August, nothing stolen . Ian had arranged to have the broken glass in the rear door replaced with plywood. (crime no 1103)

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Mon 24<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30

The following meeting will be Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Oct 2009 at 7.30.