



BRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes a virtual meeting (Zoom) of the Bratton Recreation Ground Committee held on
Monday 26th October at 7.00 pm.

Present: Mr M Manson (Chair), Cllr J Ligo, Cllr N Morris, Mr P Sharland, Mr G Preuveneers, Mr N Kew, Mr S Lloyd and Mr Tony Jameson-Yates.

In attendance: Nicola Duke (Parish Clerk).

Open Forum to hear from members of the public – None.

	AGENDA ITEM
BRG88	Apologies for Absence Tim Gingell
BRG89	Minutes of Committee meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The minutes of a Committee meeting held on 3rd August 2020 were approved for accuracy and referred to the Parish Council for adoption (proposed Cllr Ligo, seconded Cllr Morris).b) To consider any matters arising from the above meeting of the Committee:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Use of Rec Ground and disabled access – it was reported that the PC had considered a report on these issues and the Chair had been asked to provide some information. He confirmed that Mrs Southern was more than happy for there to be increased use of the ground. In terms of disabled access, the view was that access to the facilities was provided once the ground itself had been accessed. In terms of main access, the gates would be open during formal games. However, wheelchair users would be unable to access unless the gates were open. It was noted that access arrangements needed to take into account security measures; such as preventing access of motorbikes. Members of the Committee were available to enable access outside of formal match times. The Chair confirmed he would provide a formal report on this to the PC and that this would not recommend any changes be made to the main access arrangements.
BRG90	Finance Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Statement of Accounts – members received and noted the financial reports as at October 2020 (information previously circulated). Cllr Ligo referenced the fact that the Rec Ground was part of the Parish Council and its budget was therefore an element of the PC's overall, consolidated budget.

	<p>b) Members noted the status of the reserve (capital) account (information previously circulated) as being healthy, thanks to recent grants received. Cllr Ligo stated the view that the £10,000 COVID-19 grant received from Wiltshire Council was to support the Rec Ground through the pandemic and therefore, whilst being a capital receipt, was not a capital fund. It was agreed that the grant would remain in the revenue account and the Greensward bill for recent ground improvements therefore paid from revenue funds. It was agreed to treat the £2,500 Football Foundation grant in the same way. The Clerk would therefore credit the Revenue Account with £12,500 and charge the Greensward invoice to revenue funds. The EMR would therefore stand at £8,819.95.</p>									
BRG91	<p>Report on recent work at the Recreation Ground</p> <p>The Chair provided a report on recent work undertaken at the Rec Ground:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refurbishment of the fencing along the entrance part of the car park from the near end of the Pavilion to the entrance gate. • The drainage project had been completed and had been successful. • The monkey bar had been refurbished at the Trim Trail. • The wiring on the gate in the northern fence had been repaired. • Major improvements to the playing surfaces for both cricket and football had been carried out. <p>The Chair also reported that the Three Daggers FC were going to continue playing at a very good ground (Chippenham) but had been so impressed with the facilities at Bratton they had asked to use it as the home ground. Cllr Ligo stated that this was a significant achievement for the Recreation Ground.</p>									
BRG92	<p>Recreation Ground maintenance and improvements</p> <p>The Chair reported the following potential list of improvements, which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="268 1350 1444 1870"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="268 1350 660 1420">PROJECT</th> <th data-bbox="660 1350 1048 1420">ESTIMATED COST</th> <th data-bbox="1048 1350 1444 1420">COMMENT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="268 1420 660 1632">New signboard(s) at entrance</td> <td data-bbox="660 1420 1048 1632">£300 (x2?)</td> <td data-bbox="1048 1420 1444 1632">We did have two signboards but one was burnt when a car was vandalised and the other was blown away in gales about a year ago.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="268 1632 660 1870">Refurbish fencing along extended car park area above the ditch.</td> <td data-bbox="660 1632 1048 1870">£400</td> <td data-bbox="1048 1632 1444 1870">Cost for materials: wood and chicken wire. Work to be carried out by the volunteer team. Major pruning of small trees and bushes would also be required.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST	COMMENT	New signboard(s) at entrance	£300 (x2?)	We did have two signboards but one was burnt when a car was vandalised and the other was blown away in gales about a year ago.	Refurbish fencing along extended car park area above the ditch.	£400	Cost for materials: wood and chicken wire. Work to be carried out by the volunteer team. Major pruning of small trees and bushes would also be required.
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Tarmac from the basketball area along either side of the buildings, including a drain around the buildings.	£6000	Quote for tarmac only was £5000 in 2016. Drain cost estimated at £600.
Purchase a battery mower	Deferred until the spring £150 - £400	To supplement the strimmer, especially to mow the grass either side of the new French drain.
Purchase a towed spike aerator (towed by the Countax).	Deferred for now £180	FA Pitch Inspection recommended a spike aerator for drainage. Needs to be used regularly.*
Planting more trees in the Trim Trail part of the Rec Ground		Aesthetic effect Climate emergency Support better drainage NB caution required on type of tree as some roots can be aggressive
Pavilion Improvements	£300	Work to be identified – to include a legionella test
Cricket covers and score board	Costs to be investigated	
Installing worms	Further research required	
Creating wildlife area at the east of the ground	Further research required	

Members discussed the list of improvements and agreed the following:

- Purchase of the battery mower could be delayed until the spring.
- Adding a deflector to the side of the drive to move water into the ditch away from the drive would be considered.
- The tarmac project was supported, with an updated quote to be obtained for tarmacking the front only.
- Work on the Pavilion was queried as some maintenance was felt to be needed. A line was therefore added to the above list.
- The need to replace the ancient cricket score board was tabled together with a request for some more permanent covers (wheel on, wheel off). A grant may be forthcoming to support the latter project but match funding would be required. A line was added to the above list to include these requests.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Kew reported on a low tech, natural drainage solution involving the purchase of worms. This would take 1-2 seasons to show results. He was researching this and would report back. • The shallow ditch down the east side of the Rec Ground where it comes away from the side of the ground to avoid the trees had created an area of 2m width which would not now be mown. Additional planting for a wildlife area was being considered. It was noted that the planting would need to be of local stock and the Chair would seek advice on this. <p>Adjustments to the list of projects were made as marked above and the final list approved. The Chair undertook to obtain any updated or new quotes required. He would then report back to the Committee with an updated list with more accurate costs.</p>
BRG93	<p>BRCG Budget 2021/2022</p> <p>The Chair had circulated draft budget figures, which were considered and are appended to the minutes. It was clarified that budget bids needed to be presented to the Parish Council at the November meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Operating budget for 2021/2022 b) Capital grant bid for 2021/2022 <p>Following discussion, the budget was approved for presentation to Council, without inclusion of the PC allocation, which would be requested to cover the budgetary under spend.</p> <p>In terms of a capital grant bid, given the healthy state of the Rec Ground accounts, it was not felt necessary to apply for further funds for 2021/2022.</p>
BRG94	<p>Tree Surgery</p> <p>The Chair had circulated a report and this was debated. In principle the Committee supported the pollarding of the trees and the removal of the chippings. Mr Lloyd suggested that all wood should also be removed and the Cllr Morris suggested that ivy should also be removed from the remaining trees. The Committee also agreed that the options for retention and removal of wood and chippings should be discussed with the Southern family, who would be paying 50% of the cost. The Chair of the Committee and the Chair of the Council were given delegated authority (with the Clerk) to accept the lowest price (proposed Cllr Ligo, seconded Mr Lloyd).</p>
BRG95	<p>Member Reports</p> <p><u>Mr Sharland</u> – it had been a frustrating season but there had been some cricket played at the end and the cricket square had played well. The team were conscious there were some youngsters who were keen on cricket and they would look at how to involve these next season.</p> <p><u>Mr Lloyd</u> – had been asked if the Committee would consider putting a boules court in at the Ground. He confirmed that this was not for discussion as further work was being done on the proposal and it would be brought back with more detail at a later date.</p>
BRG96	<p>Date of next Committee meeting - Tuesday 5th January 2021 at 7.00 pm. <i>Location of the meeting to be agreed nearer the time.</i></p>

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.25 pm.