

# Whitchurch on Thames Village Green Committee



## AGENDA - Meeting Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2012 Greyhound Public House 8pm

Present: Councillor Lindsay Austin, Tim Close, Steve Rogers, Jenny Welham (Parish Clerk)

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Alistair Aitchison, Adrian Dixon, Maureen Stovell,

### 2. Approve minutes of Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Committee approved the minutes as a true account.

### 3. Update on Village Green Committee Status / Terms of Reference.

Lindsay presented the previous Terms of Reference for the Village Green Management Committee and these may need some slight changes following the status agreed by the Parish Council, the Clerk will action and circulate. The status of the Committee was agreed at the Parish Council meeting to be a "Working Group". The group will be responsible financially for any fund raising, grant funds and will receive a budgeted amount annually from the Parish Council. All capital expenditure will need to be agreed by the Parish Council.

Tim Close is regrettably leaving the committee as he is returning home to Australia. He will pass all of his grant application paperwork over to Lindsay. He nominated David Mattimoe from the Cricket Club as the Terms of Reference state that a member of the Cricket Club should be on the Village Green Committee, this nomination was agreed. Tim to approach David regarding this.

### 4. Charity Application – Update.

Due to the many requirements now needed to register as a charity it has been decided not to pursue this application. The main benefit would be gift aid if a large event was held and as Lashings was the major event now cancelled the need is no longer required.

### 5. Finance – Update.

All Lashings ticket funds have been refunded. The PC have budgeted £3000 to the VGC for this financial year. All other funds will need to come in from fund raising and grants.

### 6. Football Pitch / Car Park – update.

The Junior pitch is completed and Lindsay reported that they have done a very good job. There was one objection from a member of WOTHABS who went to look at the work being carried out. FTS will retain responsibility until the newly seeded grass is in a position to be cut. Possibility of goal posts was discussed, costs to be investigated, Clerk to action.

The owner of the horse field reported that during matches cricket balls have to be retrieved from her field. This is also a possibility with footballs. A secure gated access to the field is required so people can go through to collect them.

It was agreed that a kissing gate would be the best option so younger people can easily get through without possibly injury by climbing over the fence and any horses would not get out. Clerk to investigate costs. May need volunteers to install.

Swallow Developments were awarded the contract for the car park, they are developing the building plot known as Boundary House. They have been instructed to start and a definitive date is awaited, but access over the grasscrete will be restricted to allow it to set correctly and the new seed to grow. Dates will be advised as soon as known. The Cricket Club will need to park outside, it has been agreed they can use school parking places outside of school hours.

## **7. Fund raising activity, Grants, Sponsorship, Hiring.**

Fund and Grant raising activity still needs to continue, Tim has one or two possibilities and Lindsay is looking into a possible grant with Village SOS Active. Tim will pass his applications over to Lindsay.

Hiring the Village Green and the buildings would bring in income, the Cricket Club have hired out the ground before. Also the football pitch can be hired. It was agreed that the hire charges and possibilities need to be on the web page and that a calendar be on the web so people can send a request with the date they require to the Clerk who then books in their date. Adrian is designing the web page to need to ask him to include this. Hire costs and possibilities yet to be defined.

The school use the green but they will not be charged, but a schedule of when they use it may be required. The cricket Club fixtures list will also be on the web page.

## **8. Operating rules / Signage**

Lindsay suggested that some kind of signage is required detailing what activities are not allowed on the green such as lighting bonfires etc. It was agreed that the sign should be in the car park and be as friendly and aesthetically rural as possible. Clerk to investigate costs and wording.

Agreed to join the Open Spaces Society as they are very useful for "Open Spaces and Greens" the annual subscription is only £40 and they will be a useful source of information for things such as signage.

## **9. Website**

Adrian is designing the page, he needs to be emailed re the hiring calendar to be included. Once the page is live, all updates should be sent to Hilary Jensen, and News to Richard Wingfield, or to Jenny the Clerk and she will pass them on.

## **10. Date of next meeting Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012.**

Signed.....Date.....