

**25th May 2023**

Minutes of the proceedings of the **Leisure Committee** held this day in the **Kitty Dancy Room, Sandhurst Community Hall Complex, Sandhurst** commencing at **7.30pm** and finishing at **8.24pm**.

**PRESENT**

Chairman: Cllr Mrs J Bettison

Councillors: Mrs J Alves De Sousa, P Bettison, G Birch (arrived at 7.36pm), Mrs S Davenport, Mrs H Hill, Mrs M Mossom, R Mossom, P Panesar.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Executive Officer: Angela Carey

Non-voting representatives:

M Bird (3<sup>rd</sup> Sandhurst Scouts)

A Bromage (Sandhurst Tennis Club)

P Gunter (Sandhurst Allotment Association)

S Hards (Sandhurst Cricket Club)

C Reid (Sandhurst Boys & Girls FC)

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda item 1)**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor:

M Forster (Indisposed)

Dr S Forster (Indisposed)

Mrs P Limbu (Indisposed)

P Widdowson (indisposed)

(Formal apologies are only recorded for councillors and are not recorded for the non-voting representatives of clubs and groups).

**MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda item 2)**

Cllrs R Mossom & Mrs M Mossom declared an interest in agenda item 6 as they are allotment holders.

**MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE (Agenda item 3)**

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and seconded by Cllr Mrs M Mossom and the following was

**RESOLVED  
2946**

that the minutes of the Leisure Committee meeting held on 16th March 2023 (pages 1383-1386) be received as a true and correct record and that they be confirmed and signed by the Chairman (Unanimous).

**ACTION: EO**

**LARGE EVENTS (Agenda item 4)**

- a) The Committee received an update on the postponement of the Freedom March Event 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023 by the RMAS. The new date was confirmed as 15<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Many suppliers have transferred their services to the new date however some charges have been incurred for cancellation, by others. The RMAS are looking into reimbursing our costs. Stalls and vendors that have paid STC have been offered the option to carry the booking forward or to receive a full refund. A new working group will be formed, and meetings will commence early autumn. Cllrs Mrs J Bettison, P Bettison and Mrs J Alves De Sousa have volunteered to join the group.



- b) **Cllr G Birch arrived at the meeting.**  
The Committee were informed that the Summer of Fun event activities have been booked including birds of prey, climbing wall, face painters, farm animals and more. The event will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023.
- c) The Committee received an update on the Armed Forces Flag Raising Event. The RMAS have informed us that they intend to bring more troops this year and to have a display of Nepalese Dancing as part of the event. This event will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.
- d) The Committee received an update on the Fireworks Event which will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Many of the regular vendors and suppliers have been arranged. A new working group will be formed. Cllrs Mrs J Bettison and G Birch have volunteered to join the group.

All STC Councillors will be invited to join the Working Groups via email.

**DRAINAGE ISSUES (Agenda item 5)**

- a) Cllr Mrs J Bettison updated the Committee on her communications with Thames Water and other parties concerning the sewage leaks by the Scout Hut. Thames Water have informed STC that there is definitely a non-return valve installed and that they have investigated the area and found a blockage due to a build up of wipes, paper towels and items flushed down toilets. They have cleared this and have closed the case. Cllr Mrs J Bettison has made it clear to Thames Water that STC will continue to monitor the situation and should a recurrence occur the case will need to be reopened.
- b) The Committee were informed that investigation work has been undertaken on the drainage system in the car park by the café to try to ascertain why the area continues to flood. The drains have been jetted as they were full of silt and not fully functioning. CCTV has been put down the drains and there is no connection from the drains to the soakaway on Brookside field. A full report will follow from the contractors which will suggest some improvements to help ease the flooding.

**ALLOTMENTS (Agenda item 6)**

**Cllr R Mossom & Cllr Mrs M Mossom did not participate in the discussion or the vote.**

- a) The Committee received a request from SDAA to consider the provision of disabled parking at the allotment gate. They would like two spaces for members that have permanent disabilities or physical impairments temporary or permanent. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and seconded by Cllr Mrs H Hill and the following was

**RESOLVED  
2947**

that STC will allow one space to be allocated for disabled parking. The space is for blue badge holders only. The distance from the area where STC allow allotment holders to park is 60 metres from the allotment gate which the Committee deem an acceptable distance as this is far closer than many disabled spaces in other facilities.

This will be on a trial basis for three months with immediate effect. The parking will be monitored by STC and should the space be used by non-blue badge holders or the area have more than one car parked by



the gate, the arrangement will be revoked. This will happen on the first time of a breach being reported.  
Dropping off heavy items and returning vehicles to the grassed area next to the Scout Hut for parking continues to be permitted.

**ACTION: EO**

- b) The Committee received a request from SDAA to consider clearing back bushes and trees on the outside border of the fence following a number of break-ins at the site. Clearance of the ditch was also requested. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and seconded by Cllr G Birch and the following was

**RESOLVED  
2948**

that following the advice of the Head Groundsman substantial clearing back of the bushes and trees would provide easier access to the site and therefore will not take place. It has been recommended by TVP that a preventative measure for break ins are spikey, dense bushes and hedges. Any overhanging branches will be cut back and the SDAA are welcome to cut back any growth that intrudes into the allotments. It was also highlighted that ditches have had grass cuttings and pallets disposed of and it was requested that the Chairman of the SDAA remind members not to put any waste in the ditches.

**ACTION: EO**

P Gunter the Chairman of SDAA invited all Councillors to attend a walk through of the allotments on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.00pm.

#### **Music in the Park (Agenda item 7)**

The Committee were asked to consider a request from the Sandhurst Community Brass Band to provide an informal performance in the Memorial Park. They have also asked for permission to have donation buckets out. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr Mrs J Bettison and seconded by Cllr Mrs H Hill and the following was

**RESOLVED  
2949**

that permission is granted for an informal performance to take place on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The timings will be arranged by the band. Permission for donation buckets has also been granted subject to the organisation having the correct licenses to do so.

**ACTION: EO**

#### **PRESS AND PUBLICATION FORWARD PLAN (Agenda item 8)**

No further additions to the press and publicity plan.

#### **COUNCILLORS REPORTS (Agenda item 9)**

Cllr Mrs M Mossom informed the Committee that Derek Webb is the new manager of Owlsmoor Community Hall.

#### **SPORTS CLUB (Agenda item 10)**

No representative present.

#### **SANDHURST RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (Agenda item 11)**

No representative present.

#### **SPORTING CLUBS AND SOCIETIES (Agenda item 12)**



C Reid from Sandhurst Boys & Girls FC informed the Committee that it has been a shocking season for the pitches due to the weather conditions. Pitch 4 has been out of action since October. The tournament was cancelled half way through Saturday as the rain was torrential. Sunday was brilliant sunshine but SB&G FC made the decision to cancel as the condition of the pitches meant that the grass would be ruined if they continued play. This has resulted in costs of approximately £10,000.

The club is holding its presentation day on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023 it includes 760 players from ages 4-64.

The Dutch exchange trip is happening this weekend and it will be the clubs 20<sup>th</sup> trip there.

S Hards from Sandhurst Cricket Club informed the Committee that the club continues to grow with 70 juniors and 60 adults.

S Hards gave an update on the insurance claim for the damage to the clubhouse. He confirmed that the insurance company were not paying out for the claim. The reserves that were held have enabled them to pay for the electric and water works to be completed. This has allowed the club to serve food and therefore begin to raise money.

S Hards confirmed that they have been successful in securing a grant of £40,000 from ECB for the damage to the clubhouse. ECB have seen the growth of the club over recent years and have supported their application.

S Hards stated that this money will cover the repairs and that any further monies received through grants or fundraising will replenish the reserves.

R Dobson from the Cricket Club will be running 24 miles in 24 hours on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023 to raise funds.

The club will be undertaking a values exercise with its members to remind them of the expected behaviours.

It was confirmed that although the Freedom March Event has been postponed the club are still trying to arrange a match with the RMA.

The Cricket Club would still like to have a bar at the Fireworks Event to continue to raise funds.

A Bromage from Sandhurst Tennis Club informed the Committee that membership numbers have gone down. There is currently a campaign to recruit new members via publications in the SRA magazine and on social media.

A Bromage confirmed that the coach has decided to use another venue for his private coaching business and is operating out of Eversley Tennis Courts now. He feels that this has impacted the Tennis Club.

A Bromage stated that he remains passionate about tennis.

S Davenport from the Sandhurst & District Gardening Club informed the Committee that the club recently held two successful spring shows. The summer show will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and the Mayor of Sandhurst will be attending. There will be a plant sale on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2023 from 10am – 1pm. This will be held at 13 Broom Acres, Sandhurst, GU47 8PN. There will also be an Open Garden held on 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023 from 1pm – 5pm as part of the National Garden Scheme.

P Gunter from the Sandhurst & District Allotment Association informed the Committee that the weather has been wet and cold and is not conducive with good vegetable growing. Now that the sun is out things have improved.



The allotments are looking good and there are currently 52 members and an eighteen-month waiting list.

A Chairman's inspection took place and some members were pulled up on the appearance of their allotments as they were not acceptable.

M Bird from 3<sup>rd</sup> Sandhurst Scouts informed the Committee that all is well with the Scouts.

There is a camp taking place this weekend at Chalford St Peter.

M Bird confirmed that permission has been granted for the Tug of War Club to use the Scout Hut for electricity and water for their tournament.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING (Agenda item 13)**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

**SIGNED AND DATED CHAIRMAN**

