

**EMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
SPORTS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting held at The Pavilion on
Friday 14th April 2023 at 7pm**

Present: Simon Harris - Chairman
Michael Bath
Norman Gillam
Andy Letts
Dennis Letts
Guy Palmer (Parish Council Representative)

Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

To appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman – Simon stated that he would agree to Chair the meeting.

Apologies for absence – There were no apologies for absence.

Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda – Michael and Dennis declared an interest in item 11.

1. Minutes of Meeting held on the 2nd February 2023 – The Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd February 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

2. Football

2.1 To discuss teams for next season – A discussion took place regarding the email that had recently been sent to Dolphin FC concerning their general conduct at the field and inside the pavilion. It was proposed by Simon, seconded by Michael, and unanimously agreed that the contract with Dolphin FC would not be renewed for next season and they would be given a months' notice at the end of the month. It was agreed that Waterhall Stars would be invited to play next season together with the current Olney Town Colts' teams.

A discussion took place regarding an enquiry for pitch availability for a veteran's team from Olney. It was agreed to offer a pitch share for Sunday mornings at a fee of £750.00.

2.2 FA Foundation Forum – Andy reported that he had recently attended an FA Foundation Forum where it was stated that 60% of grass roots football was played on council owned pitches. The forum provided information on a six-year grant programme to assist with football pitch maintenance. Andy commented that an assessment of the pitch at Emberton had been undertaken and given a grading of "basic 68%". The grant was staged in that 100% would be awarded in the first two years to a maximum of £3200 per year with 66% being awarded in the second and third years and 33% in the final two years. It was agreed that Guy would take this

information back to the parish council. The clerk to send the information to Guy.

Action: GP/KG.

- 2.3 **Email from Olney Town Colts** – An email had been received from OTC regarding a resident commenting that their access to the playing field from their property had been obstructed by goal posts. This issue had also been raised at a previous parish council meeting. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to all residents with properties backing onto the playing field reminding them that consent had been given for them to have access to the field but this did not constitute a prescriptive right and using the access was at their own risk. **Action: KG.**

3. Cricket

- 3.1 **To confirm fixtures for 2023 season** – The cricket fixtures were discussed and it was noted that there was a sponsorship match on the 23rd July which should be charged at an increased fee of £150. Karen to liaise with all teams prior to the start of their games to remind them of access arrangements, parking, cleaning the pavilion. **Action: KG.**
- 3.2 **Storage of loam** - Andy reported that there had been an issue with the delivery of top dressing as the pallet was too small for the load and some bags had become split which were later replaced. The loam had been stored in one of the outside toilets for the time being.
- 3.3 **Side screens (update from Wollaston CC)** – The clerk confirmed that she had received a copy of the insurance policy from Wollaston CC which covered liability for the cricket side screens which were currently in use at Emberton.
4. **Tennis** – It was noted that the tennis court had been jet washed in February.
5. **ESSC update – Post meeting note** – The sensor in the changing rooms had now been replaced.
6. **Changing rooms/showers** – Andy reported that he now had a list of 4 potential contractors to provide a quote for the changing rooms. The question around what exactly was required was raised with Andy responding that the contractors would produce plans and estimates which the committee would discuss. **Action: AL.**
7. **Field maintenance** – Michael reported that everything was going well. Andy reported that the field had recently been sprayed and he would spray again soon.
8. **Car park maintenance (gravel)** – It was noted that with the recent heavy rain, water was pooling at the entrance to the pavilion where the gravel had been displaced. Michael stated that the car park probably needed 3 bags of gravel at £80 per bag with a delivery cost of £30. It was agreed to look at this in September/October time. The clerk to note this in the diary. **Action: KG.**
9. **Newport Pagnell Lions (Gerald Mann)** – The clerk reported that she had received an estimate for a plaque to be mounted on a post in the sum of £44.70. It was agreed to go ahead with the purchase. **Action: KG.**

10. **To receive the Receipts and Payments accounts** – The RFO’s report was noted.
11. **Confidential item** – Dennis and Michael left the meeting for this item.
12. **Assets and insurance** – The clerk reported that Zurich had now included the list of updated assets on the policy and rather than listing the items individually which would have incurred an additional fee of £1800, had included them under the contents of the pavilion (£81,273.00).
13. **Committee concerns**
 - Diesel barrel** – Andy commented that there was an empty diesel barrel that needed to be disposed of. Karen to advertise this on Emberton Echo. **Action: KG.**
 - Waste** – A discussion took place regarding the new wheelie bin system that was being introduced by MKCC in September and the fact that the playing field and pavilion did not qualify. It was agreed that Karen would speak to ESSC. **Action: KG.**
 - Defibrillator** – Simon commented that he was pleased to see the defibrillator had been installed at the playing field.
14. **Date of next meeting** – To be held on Friday 2nd June at 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.10pm