

# **BEDFIELD AND MONK SOHAM SPORTS CLUB**

Minutes of a "Virtual" Meeting held by Zoom on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020, commencing 1930

Present: Graham Mobbs (GM - Chairman), Keith Frost (KF - Vice Chairman), Geoff Robinson (GR - Secretary), Andrew Manning (ANM - Treasurer), David Whitham (DW), Nigel Billington (NB) and Alison Manning (ALM).

## ***1. Apologies for Absence***

Kevin Lander and David Entwisle (Tennis Club).

## ***2. Minutes of the Last Meeting (24<sup>th</sup> February 2020)***

These had been previously circulated and were "signed" as correct by GM.

## ***3. Action Points from the Last Meeting.***

- \* GR had advised Bedfield Parish Council that the Sports club did not propose any additional restrictions on dog walking on the sports field at the moment. There had been no further incidents.
- \* There had been no feedback on a prospective new auditor.
- \* Various aspects of pavilion repairs and maintenance had still to be done.
- \* Steve Corton has been asked to research and cost the installation of CCTV and it's installation had been agreed with the Parish Council.
- \* The planned move of the defibrillator notices to the other end of the wall had been delayed.
- \* The Safeguarding Policy had been adopted by Bedfield Parish Council

## ***4. Treasurers Report***

ANM had previously circulated a financial update which was discussed. Salient points of the resultant discussion included:

- \* The Club had been encouraged to claim a central government £10,000 COVID-19 Leisure Business Grant, which had been received. It was agreed that the majority of this should be ring-fenced in the deposit account until suitable projects could be identified. It also needed to be considered that the Club may have no significant income in the foreseeable future and this may need to be taken into account.
- \* A small amount would be spent in conjunction with Gillian Edmunds on a new vacuum cleaner, microwave and other essential kitchen/cleaning items. (ALM to liaise).
- \* The £2081.75 due to the Parish Council as the Sports Club contribution to the new play area should now be paid.
- \* Current income was down to the post office rent and bottle bank, the latter which was showing a marked increase in use! However, utility expenses had significantly increased due to the increased and ongoing use of the pavilion by the Volunteer Group.
- \* Accordingly a COVID-19 hardship grant had been successfully claimed and received from MSDC to fund the operation of the Emergency Volunteer Group and the lack of Sports Club income. It was agreed that £500 of this will be immediately ring-fenced for use of the Group.
- \* Internet Banking was working well and was invaluable in the current circumstances covering all income and expenditure in relation to The Group. It would have been impossible without it.

### ***5. Proposed New Play Area***

ALM and GR updated the meeting on the current situation regarding the proposed new play area and on funding issues. Salient points were that:

- \* All but £6.47 had been obtained towards the £35,000 target, which had included £2,000 for fencing materials, to be sourced locally. More fund raising will probably be required for fitting the fencing and this will be considered once the play area is in situ. Donations, Crowdfunding or other fund-raising methods would then be considered.
- \* A Meeting with Kompan had been arranged to discuss the final stage of installation, which may commence in early July. (GR & ALM to attend). Unfortunately, it could be that when finished, the new play area may have to remain closed due to COVID-19 current legislation!
- \* the site of the new play area must be circa 6 metres from the hedge and car-park hoops to allow grass cutting and hedge maintenance, etc. Mark Howard is currently cutting back the hedge and trees in preparation although some form of hedge coppicing may be desirable in due course.

### ***6. Spring Fair and Fete 2020***

The COVID-19 crisis had forced the cancellation of both the planned Spring Fair, which was to have been on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020, and the 2020 Summer Fete. It may be possible to arrange some event later in 2020 but this is impossible to predict with the current COVID-19 crisis still uncertain.

### ***7. COVID-19 Emergency Volunteer Group.***

- \* A highly successful COVID-19 Emergency Group had been established for the people of Bedfield and also was assisting Monk Soham. The main areas of operation centre on the pavilion during the Tuesday post office and on Saturday mornings. It was operating under the auspices of Bedfield Parish Council which ensures that all the volunteers and villagers are covered for insurance and data protection (GDPR) legislation. A comprehensive report had been prepared by Steve Harvey for the last Parish Council meeting and had been well received (see minutes and website).
- \* Feedback from everyone to the Group has been tremendously good and well-earned and this was endorsed by the Sports Club Committee. It was also noted that due to the uncertainty of the current situation there was no way of knowing how long it would be required to remain in operation. ALM stated that when the emergency was over, it may well be an ideal opportunity to consider a “pop-up” shop or café at the pavilion.
- \* It was mentioned that at the recent Bedfield Parish Council meeting, a suggestion was made by several councillors that perhaps visitors on Tuesdays and Saturdays should be encouraged to donate towards the play area (fence) by “shaking a bucket”. It was, however, unanimously agreed that that donations in this manner were not within the spirit of The Group and made an unwritten connection between the play area and the COVID-19 activities. It was also agreed that this connection does not exist and risked undermining the excellent goodwill that the Group has established. GR to advise the Parish Council accordingly. It was emphasised that there would be plenty of time at a later date for donations to be made towards a lasting thank you if that was what people wanted to do.

### ***8. Date of the Next Meeting***

The next meeting, which may be the AGM, will be early July, where and when being determined when the current national crisis becomes clearer.

The meeting ended at 2145.

*Signed:* .....

*Dated:*.....