



Minutes of the Coe's Meadow Management Committee Meeting on
Tuesday 5th July 2016, 7.30 pm at the Village Hall

Present – Chris Leigh, Terri Bowler, Kevin Leigh and Heather Young.

Welcome to new committee members – CL warmly welcomed Mrs Heather Young, Mrs Claire Garden and Mr Kevin Leigh as new members to the committee.

A list of names addresses and contact details are to mailed to each member by TB

Apologies for Absence – Apologies were received from Claire Garden.

Declaration of interest– CL asked if anybody had any interests on the agenda to declare it. There were none.

Approval of the last minutes – TB read through the minutes of the last meeting. They were agreed as an accurate record.

Gate Timetable - Friends of Coe's Meadow, Neena Harding and Ken have kindly agreed to carry on with locking and unlocking the gates to the car park. It was agreed by members to leave the gates open all summer unless we hear that Travellers are on the move, in which case they will be locked.

Maintenance and ROSPA and Timberplay inspection

There has been a huge problem this year with the play equipment. The ROSPA report found rot inside the wooden equipment that cannot be seen with the naked eye. ROSPA bought new testing equipment after a similar thing happened to play equipment in London where a rotten cross bar fell and killed a child.

We have had to pay £500 for a report from Timberplay. CL showed us the final report, which was very detailed. A number of play pieces are unsafe. The double baby swing has been removed as the cross bar was dangerous. CL rang Timberplay to see if our equipment was still covered by their guarantee but unfortunately it has recently expired. One of the poles on the tyre swing also needs replacing. CL has looked into the insurance policy that we have held since the meadow opened. This is with a company called 'Broadspire'. All the relevant information was forwarded to them. They have recently come back saying that the policy does not cover rot!

A quote has been obtained for repair and to replace at a cost of £3964 plus VAT. WE applied to 106 where there is approximately £12,000 but unfortunately this money cannot be used for repair/maintenance. The quote is being put forward to the Parish Council, where it will be voted on at the next meeting to be held on 18.07.16. Timberplay want to know the outcome of the Parish Council vote on 19.07.16. If it has gone our way they will order the wood from Germany which should be shipped on 28.07.16. Work on the equipment would then take place in mid August. A team from Timberplay will be working on Coe's Meadow. We will need to consult with the Parish Council to see if we can provide them with a portable toilet. The double baby swing will not be able to be used for 7-10 days after repair to enable the foundations to set. It has been confirmed today that the original quote received from Timberplay last January will be honoured.

Willow Den – The willow den has unfortunately got very woody and out of control. This means that the willow now is too hard to bend. CL will approach Stour Valley and see if they would be prepared to take on the job to put it back in shape. If not alternatives plans need to be made. TB will get quotes from two tree surgeons and also contact Daws Hall to see if they would be interested in helping. This information will be needed for 18.07.16 Parish Council Meeting.

Pathways – Mortimer's have agreed to spray the paths next time the meadow is mown.

Fun Day Report – The Fun Day was cancelled this year due to unforeseen circumstances. The committee agreed that there would definitely be one in 2017 and planning for it will commence early in the New Year.

Proposals for the coming year – A member of the village has requested the replacement of the football nets. Proposed – Heather Young, Seconded – Kevin Leigh, all agreed.

Peter Fulcher and Chris Leigh went to Bulmer School to talk to the children about their job on the Parish Council. (the children have been doing a project all about Bulmer). They talked to the children about Coe's meadow and asked the children to make a wish for a new piece of equipment – no guarantees! The children have a catalogue to look at. A mature member of the community has asked the committee to consider a boule pit. CL will investigate the cost.

Items for agenda for the next meeting - The items will be set and displayed on the noticeboard two weeks before the date of the next meeting.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 6th September, 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 8.40pm