

SOUTHMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes

The Extraordinary Meeting of Southminster Parish Council 26th March 2024 at 19.00, held at Community Hall 2, King George V Playing Field, Station Road Southminster Essex.

Present: Cllr Harrold, Cllr Fluker, Cllr Mische and Cllr Wilcox

In Attendance: J Jeffery (Parish Clerk/RFO) and 14 members of the public.

24/080 Apologies for absence.

Cllr Cleary, Cllr McKee, Cllr Pratt and Cllr Wyn-Davies

24/081 To receive and approve Minutes of the meeting held 18th March 2024.

Proposed by Cllr Mische, seconded by Cllr Wilcox.

24/082 To receive and note any declarations of interest:

To disclose the existence and any nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. Other Registrable Interests and Non-Registrable Interests relating to items of business on the agenda having regard to paragraph 9 and Appendix B of the Code of Conduct for Members.

(Members are reminded that they are also required to disclose any such interests as soon as they become aware should the need arise throughout the meeting.)

There were none.

24/083 Public Session – Opportunity for Members of the Public to speak

Cllr Harrold informed that any questions relating to items on the agenda would be heard by Members of Southminster Parish Council, however, as the agenda will be going into private session. Members will be unable to respond.

A resident informed that Southminster Tennis Club is the only tennis club in the Dengie, of which four teams play in the Essex League.

It was informed that the tennis teams cannot compete on MUGA courts.

A resident asked what the surface of a MUGA would be and does it require planning permission. If the MUGA was rented to members of the public, how would safeguarding be managed.

A resident asked why it had taken 18 months to get the new build project started.

A representative from Southminster United FC commented that Southminster has the only ladies team in the area. There has recently been a big upheaval, SUFC Holdings Ltd is no longer anything to do with Southminster United FC. It was reported currently Southminster United FC have one ladies team and four youth teams, the club is now run by a committee and the club would like to continue using the football pitches.

It was commented that all sports at King George V Memorial Field should be kept as is and enhanced.

J Jeffery

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A resident asked why a MUGA could not go between the front of the new building and the existing tennis courts.

It was suggested that a MUGA is a good idea. A MUGA, 3G or 4G surface would pay for itself very quickly.

It was asked if the existing MUGA could be upgraded and incorporated in a redesign of the proposed plans.

24/084 King George V Memorial Field Working Group

To create a working group to progress the new build project.

Defer to next meeting.

24/085 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To resolve that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, and that this satisfies the public interest test.

Proposed by Cllr Mische, seconded by Cllr Wilcox.

RESOLVED: Exclusion of Press and Public under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972

24/086 Community Hall One

To discuss the proposal received from SUFC Holdings Ltd, and lease.

To discuss and pass any resolutions as necessary.

Having considered by Council the proposal sent over from SUFC Holdings Ltd, Cllr Fluker proposed instruction to Kew Law for a solicitor's letter, requesting the discharge of obligations under the lease agreement, three months' notice period, all chattels to be removed, cleaning and making good undertaken. The clerk informed the following charges: consultation fee of £350 plus vat, £275 per hour thereafter, seconded by Cllr Wilcox.

RESOLVED: Instruction to Kew Law for a solicitor's letter, requesting the discharge of obligations under the lease agreement, three months' notice period, all chattels to be removed, cleaning and making good undertaken.

24/087 Update from current pitch users

To receive an update from current pitch users.

The Clerk informed that there is an outstanding invoice to Southminster United FC for February pitch fees, SUFC Holdings Ltd are denying responsibility due to fees being stopped by Members. Members asked that Southminster United FC are asked to confirm when their members stopped paying SUFC Holdings Ltd.

Requests from Burnham Ramblers and Southminster United FC have been received to use the football pitches.

Having considered the requests, Members agreed to Thank Burnham Ramblers for their interest, Southminster Parish Council will be in touch.

Members agreed to the continued use of the pitches by Southminster United FC, A memorandum of understanding up to 31st May 2024 to be sent to Southminster United FC.

February Invoice to be emailed to Southminster United FC and ask for explanation regarding payment.

RESOLVED: Southminster United FC to continue using football pitches, Memorandum of Understanding to 31st May 2024 to be sent.

Signed by Cllr Harrold 15th April 2024

24/088 Community Hall One proposal

To discuss proposals for Community Hall one previously circulated to Members.

To discuss and pass any resolutions as necessary.

Having considered proposals from two interested parties, Members agreed to inform the interested parties that Southminster Parish Council is still in an agreement with a third party but are negotiating an end of lease. Cllr Wilcox proposed an invitation to interested parties to give a presentation in the future.

Members agreed the following expectations of Southminster Parish Council for prospective tenants are as follows:

3 Months rent deposit, rent to be agreed, starting rent of circa £500

£300 bond for electricity

Guarantor

References to be taken up

Members requested this information is sent to both interested parties.

24/089 Update from meeting with Southminster Tennis Club

Cllr Harrold to give an update.

Cllr Harrold informed that an informal meeting had been held with Southminster Club, attended by Cllr Harrold, The Clerk and three Members of Southminster Tennis Club.

Discussions were had regarding the new community building and the provision of a new Multi Use Games Area.

The tennis club will be attending the May Day event on 6th May 2024 to promote the club.

The tennis courts will be available for use by the bouncy castles on 3rd November 2024, however, it was agreed that no food or drink is to be allowed in the tennis courts, and parish warden to sweep and clean after use.

There will be a further meeting with the tennis club on 25th April 2024 @ 10am.

24/090 Close of business.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.