

**Minutes of the Stoke Holy Cross Playing Field Committee meeting
held in the Pavilion on 15th November 2022 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs G. Jinkerson (Chair), K. Nobbs and D. Thomas.
M. Beckett
Clerk: D. Wickham

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Hopper, Rob Ward and Glyn Baker and duly accepted.

2. To approve the minutes of the Playing Field Committee meeting held on 7th July 2022.

Having been circulated to the Committee prior to the meeting, the minutes were approved as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising.

There were none.

4. Play equipment review:

(i) Safer surfacing around embankment slide: Michael Beckett reported that he had buried the concrete at the bottom of the slide and turfed over it as a temporary measure. Cllr Jinkerson recommended accepting the NGF Play quote of £3,538.80 incl. VAT. This was unanimously **Agreed**. The Committee will forward this recommendation to the Parish Council at its next meeting.

(ii) Removal of metal gym frame and wooden climber: following a discussion of the need to condemn the wooden gym frame it was **Agreed** that both items need to be removed. Cllr Thomas offered to contact local contractors and digger drivers to obtain quotes.

(iii) To discuss a phased approach to developing play equipment and fenced multi sports surface area to replace skate park: Cllr Thomas noted that the pump park quote in 2021 was circa £60,000 and highlighted the need to look at fundraising. Michael Beckett was aware of a number of possible funding options. Cllr Thomas had received a multi-use games area (MUGA) quote of £90,000. He was in the process of getting further quotes and it was agreed that if funding sources were available this should be prioritised over developing cinder path as pump park. Cllr Thomas suggested that if the section 106 monies were needed for the pavilion they should be used.

(iv) Recommendations from 11th October meeting with David Bracey: Michael Becket has produced a document listing all of the items highlighted in the play area safety inspection and is addressing the low-risk items. Cllr Jinkerson thanked Michael and Cllr Bussey for the great job they had done laying topsoil. The medium-risk items should be resolved by January if possible.

(v) Draft management plan for Long Lane site: clarification was to be sought from the Parish Council at the next meeting in relation to plans and funding for the wildflower meadow development as concerns were raised as a result of additional costs.

Signed

Date

5. Grass cutting contract review.

Cllr Nobbs noted that the contract in relation to the playing field ought to be a football pitch maintenance contract rather than one designed for a park. It was also suggested that the Parish Council should be made aware of the dates on which the grass would be cut.

6. Tree survey issues.

A number of trees were proposed for removal. Michael Beckett and Cllr Thomas will undertake a walkaround to assess the state of the trees which the Parish Council is responsible for. The Clerk reported that the tree budget for the current year was £3,000.00, with a remaining sum of £529.00.

7. To receive a report from Stoke United Football Club.

A written report had been received and circulated to the Committee prior to the meeting.

8. To confirm the date of the next Playing Field Committee meeting.

The next meeting was provisionally scheduled for 28th February 2023 and will be confirmed once the dates of the 2023 Parish Council meetings have been agreed.

Meeting ends at 8.40pm.

Signed

Date