

HARTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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1st September 2006

Dear Councillor/Sports Club Representative

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee to be held on Thursday 7th September 2006 commencing at 7.30 p.m. at the Pavilion, Manor Field.

Yours sincerely

Julie Hoad
Proper Officer

AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive Members' declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

(WHITE)

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held on 18th July 2006 as a correct record (annexed).

4. Cricket at Manor Field

To receive a report from New Ash Green and Hartley Cricket Club.

5. Cricket at Longfield Hill

To receive a report from Meopham Cricket Club.

6. Football at Manor Field

To receive a report from Hartley De Sales Football Club.

7. Financial Report

(BLUE)

To receive and note a financial report indicating the net position of the allotments, open spaces and Pavilion as at 1st September 2006 (annexed).

8. Budget 2007/08

(BLUE)

To consider the budget for the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee for the financial year 2007/08 (annexed).

9. Playgrounds

(GREEN)

(a) To consider a play area safety inspection undertaken by RoSPA on 13th July 2006 on the Council's three playgrounds (annexed).

(b) To consider a report on the action taken in respect of the play area safety inspection undertaken by RoSPA on 13th July 2006 and to confirm the Clerk's actions, as set out in the attached report (annexed).

A number of quotations for various items of works in the Council's playgrounds have been sought, as set out in the aforementioned report. If the quotations are available for the meeting, the Committee is requested to consider these quotations and approve the necessary works.

10. Manor Field

(a) To consider a quotation to replace the perspex on the notice board located on Manor Field. The graffiti has been successfully removed from the notice board, but in doing so the surface of the perspex has been damaged, making it difficult to read notices placed on the board.

(b) To consider a quotation from T D Munday for the sum of £60.00 to fix 2 no benches on Manor Field (currently stored in the Calor gas compound).

(c) To consider a quotation from T D Munday for the sum of £30.00 to supply and install stock fencing to extend the existing stock fencing both sides of the path off the car park leading to the Pavilion

(d) To consider a quotation from T D Munday for the sum of £60.00 to cut down and clear the bramble along the western boundary of Manor Field.

(e) To consider a quotation to spray the field for the control of worms.

(f) To consider a quotation to reduce the height of the hedge running along the northern boundary of Manor Field.

(g) To consider cutting back the bramble on the 20 foot wide strip of land bordering the southern boundary on Manor Field, (i.e. behind the Pavilion and the car park) and spraying.

11. Pavilion

(PINK)

(a) To consider a report on the new fire rules which require the Council to undertake a fire safety risk assessment on the Pavilion (annexed).

(b) To note the graffiti has been removed from the back of the Pavilion and the storage container. The work was undertaken by the Probation Services on 15th and 16th August 2006.

12. Chantry Avenue recreation ground

(YELLOW)

To consider an e mail dated 21st August 2006 from a resident of Chantry Avenue complaining about the height and spread of three horse chestnut trees in the recreation ground (annexed).

13. Woodland Avenue recreation ground

To consider a quotation to repair a section of fencing at Woodland Avenue recreation adjacent to the kissing gate located next the car park off Porchester Close.

14. Pond

(a) To consider a revised fee quotation of £400.00, i.e. (2 days @ £200 per day), from Blackwood Bayne to produce a plan for the pond which would include:

- Analysis of the pond – brief survey of the current condition of the pond only
- Options for the management of the pond to include a wetland option

- Analysis of these options including cost estimates

(b) The Committee is requested to note that a new grant scheme for community environmental projects was launched on 8th August 2006. Awards of upto £1,000 are available to local groups and individuals for the hire of tools or equipment and to purchase plants, paint, signs, materials etc for environmental projects, including the creation of a wildlife pond.

15. Hartley Court Green

To consider planting a new tree on Hartley Court Green to replace the dead tree which has since been removed.

16. Publications

To receive and note a newsletter published by the Kent County Playing Fields Association entitled “The Playing Field – Summer 2006”. (Copy available in the Parish Office).

17. Hartley Wood

(a) Possessory Title claim

At the last Committee meeting it was reported that the Council was aware of two further unregistered plots of land in Hartley Wood owned by a family who had since moved out of the parish. Information had been sought from the family on the position of these plots within Hartley Wood, but the family had not responded. As a result the Committee had resolved to resume its possessory title claim on those parts of Hartley Wood where there was no known owner, once this information had been received.

The Committee is requested to note that a further attempt has been made to obtain information on the location of these two unregistered plots from the owner, but to date no response has been forthcoming.

In light of this report, the Committee is requested to consider what action, if any, the Council should now take in respect of its possessory title claim on the plots of land in Hartley Wood where there are no known owners.

(b) Village Green Application

At a meeting of the Special Projects Committee held on 21st August 2006 it was suggested that the Council may wish to consider seeking village green status on the part of Hartley Wood owned by the proprietors of Gorsewood Farm. The Committee is requested to give this matter due consideration.

18. Allotments

To consider the rent for the allotment plots for the year 2006/07. When the invoices for 2005/06 were issued last year, the allotment holders were given twelve months notice that the rents for 2006/07 would be increased in line with the rate of inflation.

19. Date of next meeting

List of circulated documents

Copies of all documents listed below are available for inspection in the Parish Office

1. Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held on 18th July 2006 (**WHITE**)
2. Financial report indicating the net position of the allotments, open spaces and the Pavilion as at 1st September 2006 (**BLUE**)
3. Draft budget 2007/08 (**BLUE**)
4. Play area safety inspection report undertaken by RoSPA on 13th July 2006 (**GREEN**)
5. Report on the action taken in respect of the play area safety inspection undertaken by RoSPA on 13th July (**GREEN**)
6. Report on the new fire safety rules (**PINK**)
7. E mail dated 21st August from a resident of Chantry Avenue in respect of the chestnut trees located in the recreation ground (**YELLOW**)

Committee Membership

Cllr Barnett
Cllr Harris (ex officio)
Cllr Sewell
Cllr Tremain

Cllr Gaywood (ex officio)
Cllr Mrs Oxtoby
Cllr Mrs Solman
Cllr Ward

