

**NORTHFIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**The Parish Office, Ash Green Sports Centre, Ash Road, New Ash Green, Hartley, Kent  
DA3 8JZ**

**Telephone 01474 702760. Fax 01474 700496**

19<sup>th</sup> September 2008

Dear Councillor,

You are invited to attend a committee meeting of the Northfield Management Committee to be held on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2008 commencing at 10.00am in the Pavilion, Manor Field, Hartley.** We would like to remind members of the Committee that all original copies of the correspondence contained in the Agenda are brought to the Committee meetings and held on file. If any member wishes to have sight of the correspondence that is not copied with the Agenda, would they please contact the Secretary to the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

**Jane Redman  
Julie Hoad**

**A G E N D A**

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
3. **To Approve the minutes** of the meeting held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2008  
**(APPENDIX A)**
4. **Matters Arising** from those minutes (Not on the Agenda)
  - 5.3 Membership of Ramsak – To note that the Secretary has written to RAMSAK to inform them that the Committee no longer wished to renew their membership.
  - 5.5 Letter to staff at Ash Green Sports Centre – To note that the Secretary has written to the Staff at Ash Green Sports Centre to thank them for undertaking the memberships for the Horse Riding Route.
  - 6.1 Cutting of the field for hay 2008 – To note that the Contractor has removed the area of burnt debris that was left as a result of some hay bales being set on fire.
5. **Financial Report** **(APPENDIX B)**
6. **Land and Site Maintenance** **(APPENDIX C)**
  - 6.1 Access gate from Milestone School – To discuss the attached proposals for new entrance arrangements next to Milestone School. **To be sent under separate cover.**
  - 6.2 Hedge Cutting – Further report from Cllrs. Barnett and Mrs Oxtoby.
7. **Recreational Facilities – Horse Riding Route and Junior Football Pitch**  
**(APPENDIX D)**
  - 7.1 Horse Riding Route – Cllr. Mrs. Oxtoby to report. To also note that the Secretary has written to those members who had not rejoined the riding route this year requesting that they return their keys.
  - 7.2 Julia Brudenell – It was with sadness that the Northfield Management Committee and members of the Horse Riding Route Advisory Committee learnt of the death of Julia Brudenell. A letter of thanks has been received from her husband, thanking those members for their condolences on the family's loss.

7.3 Junior Football pitch – To receive the notes of a meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2008 to discuss the constitutional issues that have arisen out of the marking out of the junior football pitch. As a result of that meeting, a letter was written to the Chief Executive at SDC requesting advice. He passed the matter on to the Monitoring Officer to respond and copies of the correspondence are attached.

## **8. Boundaries**

8.1 South Ash Boundary Hedge – TD Munday has been asked if he is now in a position to carry out the work which he quoted for last year on the South Ash Boundary Hedge. It has also been agreed that a site meeting will take place between representatives from the Northfield Management Committee and the Village Association's Chairman of the Greenland Committee to discuss the cutting back of the brambles on VA land, which are encroaching onto Northfield.

8.2 Ash Road Boundary – To discuss whether or not to proceed with obtaining quotations for post and rail fencing along this boundary.

8.3 Hedge along the Ash Road Boundary – Kent Highway Services have recently cut the middle section of this hedge.

## **9. Barnetts Wood and New House Shaw**

9.1 Quantitative Tree Risk Assessment on New House Shaw – Invitations to quote have been sent out to three contractors. The Secretary will present a report at the meeting.

9.2 Barnetts Wood – A figure of £2,000 has been budgeted to allow for formative pruning and mulching in Barnetts Wood during the winter of 2008.

9.3 Free Trees – To note that the Northfield Management Committee can apply for up to 25 trees for free plus additional trees at cost price (usually 40-60p each). Applications must be received by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008.

9.4 Barnetts Wood Noticeboard – A letter has been written to TD Munday requesting confirmation that the noticeboard that was removed from Northfield was still in his safe keeping and if so it required repair and some alteration to the wording. It also required some new posts.

9.5 More trees to be planted on Northfield – A letter has been written to the Forestry Commission for advice and guidance.

## **10. Ship Cottage Encroachment**

10.1 It was reported at the last meeting that the New Ash Green Village Association were now in a position where they would be able to offer a licence to the owners of Ship Cottage in connection with the encroachment on to Northfield land. The two Parish Councils, as lessees of the land, have been requested to sign a licence so that the matter can proceed. Hartley Parish Council, at their meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2008 agreed to sign the licence and Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council would be discussing the matter at their meeting to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

## **11. Health and Safety**

**(APPENDIX E)**

11.1 Visual Inspection Sheets – The visual inspection sheets for July and August 2008 will be available at the meeting.

11.2 Bollard to be placed outside the entrance gate to Church Road – The bollard which has been purchased for the entrance gate to Church Road is awaiting erection by the New Ash Green Village Association's Greenland workforce. The erection of the bollard has been delayed due to staff shortages and workload.

11.3 EDF Energy – Since the last meeting, the 23 points raised by the Surveyor for the New Ash Green Village Association have been studied and answered, and a copy forwarded to EDF Energy. Members attention are drawn to points 7 and 10 on the attached copy, both of which require a decision.

11.4 Draft lease for electricity sub-station on Northfield – The Secretary and Treasurer have taken the opportunity of studying the lease again and have asked the Village Association’s Solicitor to raise the two points that are contained in the attached letter, with EDF Energy. She has subsequently written to EDF to seek clarification.

11.5 Legal mechanisms for the draft lease – Once the lease has been agreed, it will be necessary to advertise the Councils’ intentions in a local newspaper over two consecutive weeks and to consider any objections. A draft notice has been drawn up as follows:-  
‘Pursuant to Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Parish Councils of Ash-cum-Ridley and Hartley give notice of its intention to dispose of land on Northfield located in the parish of Hartley for the provision of an electrical sub-station, access thereto and underground cabling.

Any objections to the proposed disposal should be sent in writing to either Mrs Jane Redman, Clerk to Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council at The Parish Office, Ash Green Sports Centre, Ash Road, New Ash Green, Longfield, Kent DA3 8JZ or Mrs Julie Hoad, Clerk to Hartley Parish Council at The Parish Council Office, Hartley Library, Ash Road, Hartley, Longfield, Kent DA3 8DL by no later than 5.00 p.m. on \*\*\*\*\*’. Two quotations have been sought for publication of the notice from:-

**Kent Messenger Group**

Gravesend Extra (free paper) £183.60

Dartford and Gravesend Messenger £312

**Kentish Times Newspaper Group**

Gravesend Reporter £456. All quotations are exclusive of VAT.

**12. Single Payment, Environmental Stewardship Scheme and Soil Association**

12.1 Single payment scheme – A payment of £51.47 had been received in respect of the Single Payment Scheme for the year 2007. A letter explaining the modulation refund payments has been sent to the Northfield Management Committee and Cllr. Barnett will report at the meeting.

12.2 Soil Association – Cllr. Barnett to report.

**13. Correspondence and Date of Next Meeting**

13.1 Kent Wildlife Trust Annual Review 2007

**14. Any Other Business**