



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Fairground, Trees & Amenities Committee

Meeting held on Tuesday 4 February 2014 at 7:30 pm in The Lounge, Mortimer Methodist Church, West End Road, Mortimer.

Present: Cllrs: P Blagden (Chairman), J Bull, P Wingfield, M Dennett and Cllr N Kiley and D Morsley

Clerk: Mrs J Kirk

Member of the Public: None

1. **To receive any Apologies:** Cllrs M. Lock, J Earl and T Audsley
2. **To receive any Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **To receive a verbal update from the Clerk on any current, ongoing or outstanding matters:**
 - To try and alleviate the damaged surface of the route to the temporary entrance to the CiC building whilst the building works are in progress the contractors have put down some wood chippings. They have also confirmed that they will rectify any damage caused to any surface of the Fairground by the building works.
 - An attempted break in to the secure shed in the compound by the tennis courts had been made the previous evening and some damage had been caused to the shed. The Clerk confirmed that this had been reported to Thames Valley Police and a crime reference number obtained. A replacement part for the shed has been ordered.
4. **To receive an update on the condition of the tennis court surface and the outcome (if known) of the Sport England grant application to re lay a new surface.** The Clerk confirmed that she has not yet heard from Sport England as to whether the grant application has been successful. If the grant application is not successful and in order to be able to continue to keep the tennis courts open further funding sources would need to be explored such as People's Postcode Lottery Programme.

The Clerk confirmed that she had been advised that the Member's Bid Grant for a Sports Shelter and seating for the tennis courts had been unsuccessful as it was perceived that this would only benefit members of the tennis club. The Clerk agreed that she would look for alternative funding for the shelter such as a Parish Plan Grant.
5. **To formulate arrangements for and a programme of future works on the Fairground:** Cllr Blagden advised that he had applied on behalf of the Parish Council to the Woodlands Trust and been successful in an application for 420 trees (Wild Harvest section which include hazel, blackthorn, crab apple, elder and dog rose). This was discussed at length and it was agreed to recommend to the February Parish Council Meeting to accept the free trees and to plant them as a hedge (and infill gaps) at various agreed locations on the Fairground.

In order that the Fairground Working Party of volunteers could be re-started it was agreed that Cllr Blagden would update and add to the list of general tasks on the Fairground and bring back to the Council. The Clerk also reminded the Committee of the need to keep an attendance diary for the working party which would also need to contain information of maintenance work carried out. It was noted that the Fairground Trees and Amenities Committee take

cognisance of the amenities part of its title.

6. **To consider options for the damaged fencing between the grazing area and the environmental strip:**

A large part of the post and rail fence between the grazing area and the conservation strip has been damaged and needs replacing. It was agreed to The Clerk to obtain quotations for this work and report back.

7. **To consider a suitable location for the donated commemorative seat:**

The Committee considered this and it was agreed that in line with the donor's wishes to site the new seat near to the pond overlooking the cricket pitch. It was agreed that the Clerk would check that the Cricket Club had no objections before confirming this. The Committee also requested that it might be a good idea to make it known (perhaps in the next Newsletter) that the Parish Council would consider other similar donations of commemorative seats.

Meeting closed at 8:52 pm.