

**GREAT CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the **ART, SPORT & LEISURE COMMITTEE**

held in The Stevenson Centre at 7:20pm on Monday 26th June 2023

**Present:** Councillors Cllr David Young **Chair**

Cllr Tony Bavington Cllr Sharon Bowman Cllr Kevin Graham Cllr Melanie Keane Cllr Tom Keane Cllr Jane Wakeman Cllr Colin Wright

Council Administrator Miss E Skuce

Council Administrator Miss S Kent

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies were received. Cllr Judith Wilson did not attend the meeting.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

**NONE.**

**3. DECLARATIONS OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY**

**NONE.**

**4. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – FOR NOTING**

Members reviewed and **NOTED** the Items Brought Forward List.

**5. TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FROM THE AIR CADETS TO CONTINUE TO USE THE COUNTRY PARK**

Members reviewed an application received from the Air Cadets to continue to use the Country Park for Cadet training on either Monday or Thursday evenings during the year. The application also informed that there had been a change of Commanding Officer since the previous application and included updated Insurance and Risk Assessments.

Members had no objections to the application and **AGREED** to grant permission for the Air Cadets to continue to use the Country Park for training, as detailed in their application.

**6. TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FROM SAIL TO CONTINUE TO USE THE RECREATION GROUND**

Members reviewed an application from Supporting an Independent Life (SAIL) for their Jets Football Team to continue using the Recreation Ground for their Saturday training sessions.

Miss Skuce explained that SAIL had first been granted permission during lockdown in 2020 and this application to continue to use the Recreation Ground also provided updated Insurance and Risk Assessments.

Members had no objections to the application and **AGREED** to grant permission for SAIL to continue to use the Recreation Ground on a Saturday for their football training sessions as detailed in their application.

**7. TO CONSIDER A QUOTATION FOR REPLACEMENT WOODEN SIGNS AT THE COUNTRY PARK**

Members reviewed Report No. G02 which detailed a quotation received for £3,160 plus VAT for two new wooden signs; one at the Country Park entrance to include a memorial to the late Mick Cornish and one at the car park entrance **(see Appendix A)**.

The Chair explained that Mrs Cornish had enquired about a memorial plaque for her late husband Mick Cornish, who was a Member of the Parish Council and had been instrumental in the designation of the area as a Country Park. This had highlighted the need for new wooden signs as the existing ones were old and worn. The Council Manager had been tasked with finding a contractor to provide a quote for replacement wooden signs in keeping with the Country Park and the new sign at the entrance was to include a memorial plaque to Mr Cornish. Earmarked funds of £2,000 had been set aside for the project.

A Member stated that they felt sign 1 would look better if the memorial wording was moved to the top of the sign. It was **AGREED** for the Council Manager to liaise with the contractor on the final position of the memorial wording.

Members agreed to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it accepts the Report’s suggestion and that it instructs sign 1 as soon as possible, with amendment as above, at a cost of £1,740 plus VAT, including memorial plaque, and that further funds for sign 2 are either vired or allocated in the FY24/25 budget.

**8. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE FROM BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REGARDING S.59 SIGNAGE AT THE COUNTRY PARK CAR PARK**

Members reviewed correspondence from the Community Safety Officer at Babergh District Council which recommended that the Parish Council considers installing s.59 signage at the Country Park car park, following a serious incident that occurred there in March 2023.

The Officer explained that s.59 notices being displayed in the area would enable the Police, under the Police Reform Act 2002, to act out their powers when there is a public order offence. **NOTED**.

Members discussed the Officer’s suggestion and agreed that s.59 signs should be installed at the Country Park car park. It was also agreed that the Allotment car park and Shawlands Wood LNR would benefit from s.59 signage.

It was **AGREED** for the Council Manager to investigate who provides the signage, the cost for signs at each of the locations mentioned above and report back at a future meeting.

**9. TO CONSIDER A QUOTATION FOR THE ANNUAL TREE INSPECTIONS**

Members reviewed a quotation received from Evergreen Landscapes and Fencing for £1,026 plus VAT to carry out the Parish Council’s annual tree inspections, an increase of 4.4% on last year’s figure. It was **NOTED** that the quotation included, at no extra charge, two additional trees; one Oak adjacent to the picnic area of the Country Park and an Ash at the Country Park which had been highlighted for inspection by a member of the public and by Sudbury Common Lands Charity.

It was agreed to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it accepts the quotation from Evergreen Landscapes and Fencing to carry out the Parish Council’s annual tree inspections, at a cost of £1,026 plus VAT.

Funds to come from the Agency Services Budget.

**10. TO RECEIVE THE SCC AND BDC GRASS CUTTING SCHEDULES FOR 2023**

Members reviewed and **NOTED** the Suffolk County Council and Babergh District Council grass cutting schedules for 2023.

Members discussed the current condition of footpaths and gutters in the village and felt that more care and attention was needed when contractors carried out works and in particular, with cuttings being left where they fall and weeds not being removed after they have died off following spraying.

It was **AGREED** for the Council Manager to contact both Suffolk County Council and Babergh District Council and highlight the Parish Council’s concerns over the current condition of maintained public areas, such as footpaths.

Miss Skuce confirmed that District Councillor Ruth Hendry had mentioned at the Annual Parish meeting in May 2023, that she was arranging for Babergh officers to visit Great Cornard on a ‘ward walk’ and look at issues such as maintenance and fly tipping etc. Members would be informed of the date for that meeting once it had been arranged. **NOTED.**

**11. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON CRAB LANE DMMO**

Members reviewed and **NOTED** correspondence from the Planning Inspectorate which enclosed the SCC Order Making Authority’s Statement of Grounds/Case as submitted with the Order and associated Committee Report (including List of Appendices) and SCC’s comments on the objection received.

A Member highlighted that the Public Inquiry was due to be held at The Stevenson Centre on 19th September 2023 and it was **AGREED** for Miss Skuce to circulate the date and time of the Inquiry to Members, and to Cornard Environment and Wildlife Group so that those who wish to attend the Inquiry and support the Parish Council’s application, may do so.

**Meeting closed at 7:58pm**

**APPENDIX A**



**Suggested design for new Country Park entrance sign (sign 1)**

GREAT CORNARD

COUNTRY PARK

Opened by David Bellamy in September 1986

In memory of Mick D Cornish

(1937 – 2020)

CAR PARK 200 YARDS

←

The Council has set aside earmarked funds of £2,000 and it is therefore suggested that sign 1 be instructed as soon as possible at a cost of £1,740 plus VAT (which includes the extra piece of Iroko for the memorial plaque) and further funds for sign 2 are either vired or allocated in the FY2024-2025 Budget.