

NEWPORT PLAYING FIELD TRUSTEES MEETING
7pm 28th MARCH, 2011
THE ECO CENTRE, LOWER ST. MARY STREET, NEWPORT

AGENDA

- 1) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 28th February 2011.
- 2) Matters Arising.
- 3) Update on the conversion of the changing rooms to accomodate the Dros Plant child care facility.
- 4) Land adjacent to 13 Maes Morfa.
- 5) Old Castle site Yr Hen Castel - Interpretation /Information Panel
- 6) Correspondence
- 7) Finance
- 8) A.O.B.

Janet Weston.....Secretary

NEWPORT PLAYING FIELD TRUSTEES MEETING
28th FEBRUARY 2011

Present: Cllr. John Rowe Lewis (Chairman)
Cllrs. Byron James, Paul Harries, Clive Owen,
Mike Sajko and Soo Hutchinson.

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs. Dilys Evans and George Potts.

Cllr. Paul Harries reported that he had received a letter of resignation from Cllr. George Potts.

Minutes:

Resolved to approve as correct the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 31st January 2011. Proposed and seconded by Cllrs. Paul Harries and Mike Sajko.

Matters Arising:

A second meeting with the Head Teacher of Ysgol Bro Ingli has still to be arranged to finalise the employment position of the school Caretaker when he is carrying out inspection duties etc. of the MUGA.

Cllr. Dilys Evans to be asked whether repairs have been carried out to the changing room toilets. Meantime a letter had been received from the President of the Rugby Club confirming Sunday May 29th for the annual Rugby Sevens tournament, and that a Club member had carried out plumbing repairs before their last match. The Secretary was requested to thank the Club for this work.

Yet more queries have been raised by the occupants of 13 Maes Morfa and/or their Solicitor. The Secretary was requested to telephone our Solicitor and instruct him to send ONE FINAL letter to Mr. & Mrs. Sneade's Solicitor answering the points they raised and CLEARLY stating that if this is not satisfactory there will be no alternative after the many years we have been trying to reach an amicable arrangement with them but to cease all negotiation and institute possession proceedings. We have previously made it abundantly clear that there will be an annual licence, but it will continue as long as both or either Mr. or Mrs. Sneade permanently reside at 13 Maes Morfa.

Cllr. Paul Harries is in discussion with ROSPA on the subject of the new equipment in the Skate Park, and will be meeting a representative from PCC Regeneration Department.

The Secretary was requested to obtain completed field inspection reports from Cllr. Dilys Evans.

Both the Playing Field and Skate Park gate mechanisms need attention, and it was agreed that Cllrs. Lewis and Harries would try and do the necessary work with professional help from Mr. Shevlin if necessary.

Cllr. Harries told the meeting that the dead trees on the old Castle site have been cut down and the wood suitable for burning removed. The Meeting unanimously agreed to pay £60 for the hire of a wood chipping machine to deal with the small branches.

Councillors had before them copies of the Architects final plans for the changing rooms extension to provide accommodation for small children. Cllr. Harries said any small alterations (internal) would not affect planning permission. Cllr. Mike Sajko proposed and Cllr. Byron James seconded the proposal that the Architect should submit the plans to the N/P for approval. The Secretary was requested to inform PLANED.

Correspondence:

Cllr. Harries requested the Secretary to send the latest Skate Park inspection reports to PCC. Cllr. Harries also confirmed that PCC arrange Public Liability insurance for the Skate Park.

Cllr. Mike Sajko agreed to study the letter from "Fields in Trust".

The N/P have written to say they may be able to carry out grass cutting and scrub clearance on the old Castle site with the help of Volunteers, but this would definitely be a "oneoff".

Our Accountant Mrs. Jamieson has returned 2010 documents, cheque book etc. and the Secretary was asked to make copies of all paid invoices for Cllrs. Sajko and Evans. Income from the Investment Bond last year was £223.19p and our expenses £737.21. A further sum of £234.50 was raised for the P/F by holding 2 small motorhome rallies, and a car boot sale.

The Secretary read her resignation letter to the Meeting and explained her reason for resigning was - in her opinion - the complete lack of financial management by the Trustees resulting in the facilities being used without a record of when and by whom, and the over-long outstanding case of a small piece of land being used without agreement and payment. The Secretary felt she was having to spend completely unnecessary voluntary time because the Trustees did not have strict and enforceable terms and conditions for all who use the facilities.

Cllr. Harries said a proper business plan would be prepared for approval by all Trustees, and costs proportionately charged to all who wished to use part or all of the facilities, and our Solicitor instructed to make it absolutely clear to the residents of 13 Maes Morfa that unless an agreement can be concluded to our satisfaction within a very short time, repossession proceedings would be instituted.

The Secretary agreed to remain in post for a further 4 months, and if her position becomes easier to manage, she would be prepared to withdraw her resignation, but a business plan will require all the Trustees to contribute their time not just one or two.