

NEWPORT PLAYING FIELD TRUSTEES
MEETING 25th JULY 2011
ECO CENTRE, LOWER ST. MARY STREET, NEWPORT
7pm

AGENDA

- 1 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 27th June 2011
- 2 Matters Arising.
- 3 Alteration & extension to Changing Room - progress report.
- 4 Correspondence.

Letter from Mr. Prichard (W.J. Williams & Davies Solicitors)
re 13 Maes Morfa.
5. A.O.B.

J. Weston.....Secretary

NEWPORT PLAYING FIELD
TRUSTEES MEETING 27th JUNE 2011
THE ECO CENTRE, LOWER ST. MARY ST NEWPORT

PRESENT: Cllr. Byron James (Chairman)
Cllrs. Paul Harries, Clive Owen, Mike Sajko & Peter Harwood

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs. John Rowe Lewis & John Humfrey.

Mr. Prichard (Solicitor) was kindly attending this meeting, and it was agreed to first discuss the long outstanding matter of the lease/licence necessary for the small plot of land adjacent to 13 Maes Morfa.

Mr. Prichard read to the Meeting the most recent letter received from Mr. & Mrs. Sneade's Solicitor dated 2nd June.

The Chairman said he was exasperated with the continuing prevarication of Mr. & Mrs. Sneade, and if they now accept a licence the annual fee should be at least £25. in order to recover some of our very considerable legal costs incurred over many years due to their behaviour.

Cllr. Owen cited the £100 per year we charge for one car parking space in Parrog Yard, and compared this with the much larger plot of land used by Mr. & Mrs. Sneade, and he seconded the Chairman's £25 per year licence fee.

Mr. Prichard informed the Meeting that from last autumn the Trustees have incurred £406 + VAT additional legal costs and in the months/years leading up to this date a further £870 + VAT.

Cllr. Harries suggested we should adopt one of the following 3 options.

- 1) Mr. & Mrs. Snead pay our legal costs since last autumn £406 + VAT and pay an annual licence of £10.
- 2) Increase the annual licence to £25.
- 3) Finish the whole matter and accept paying all our legal fees from the Playing Field Charity funds.

Cllr. Harwood agreed with Cllr. Harries.

Mr. Prichard suggested we ask for a contribution towards our costs when granting the licence.

Cllr. Harries made the following Proposal which was seconded by Cllr. Harwood and agreed by all present.

"That Mr. & Mrs. Sneade's Solicitors be instructed that we require their Clients to pay our legal cost of £406 + VAT incurred since last autumn, and we will accept an annual licence fee of £10, or if this is not acceptable we offer them a licence of £50 per annum. Should neither of these licence fees be acceptable we will seek repossession of the land."

Mr. Prichard was thanked for his attendance and left the Meeting at
7.45 pm.

MINUTES Resolved to approve as correct the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 23rd May 2011. Proposed and seconded by Cllrs. Harries and Owen and unanimously agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

Confirmation is still awaited via Cllr. Hutchinson that the School accepts responsibility for the inspection work carried out by their Caretaker and paid for by the Town Council.

Cllr. Harries reported that the main Playing Field gate still needs a replacement catch/loop to ensure it remains closed.

Cllr. Harries told the Meeting that he has had to reprimand two local residents for exercising their dogs in the Field and allowing them to defecate there.

Cllr. Sajko is still awaiting a reply from Fields in Trust.

Cllr. Harries confirmed that the N/P have cut the grass and tidied the Hen Castell site.

Cllr. Harwood raised the question of putting the Playing Field annual accounts in the public domain and giving individual Trustees a copy. Cllr. Harwood was informed the accounts had been accepted by the Trustees and the Charity Commission given the information they require. It was proposed and seconded by Cllrs. James & Harwood that the accounts be placed on the Town Website.

Cllr. Harries reported that Specifications for Work required for enlarging the Changing Rooms to accommodate a child care facility had been sent to 11 local builders. Only one Builder had returned a quotation and this was from Property Refurb in the sum of £122,474 including VAT. The Playing Field contribution would amount to £12,247.

Mr. Pickerskill (Site Manager appointed by PLANED) considers the above quotation to be "not too wide of the mark" for the work involved.

PLANED are currently discussing the above quotation with their Board Meantime Cllr. Harries suggested we meet with the Builder and ask whether he could make any savings on his quotation.

Mr. Pickerskill has said we could obtain further quotations, but Cllr. Harries was concerned about further delay, and the possible loss of the grant.

Cllrs. Owen & Sajko proposed and seconded that we meet with Property Refurb and see if we can agree any acceptable reduction for work and/or fittings etc. and this was agreed by all present. The Chairman & Vice Chairman will meet with the Builder.

Cllr. Harries reported that he had met with two Tree Surgeons and had received two verbal quotations from Liam Morris £600. & Tom Underwood £900 respectively. It was unanimously agreed to accept Liam's quotation, and the Secretary was requested to write to Liam.

All the recent utility invoices will again be given by the Secretary to Cllr. Sajko, together with the meter reading book recently returned by retired Cllr. Evans, and Cllr. Sajko will endeavour to suggest satisfactory payment arrangements from all Clubs etc. who use the facilities.

FINANCE

It was agreed to pay the outstanding Welsh Water invoice for £124.86.