

TENTERDEN SPORT, LEISURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES REVIEW



NOTES OF A MEETING ON THURSDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2021

Present: Cllr. P. Clokie (ABC), S. Parker (Footballers), G. Smith (Footballers), Cllr. M. Hill (KCC), M. Carter (TTC), K. Mulholland (TTC), J. Nelson (TTC) and A. Sugden (TTC). Mr. P. Burgess (Town Clerk)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr. K. Walder (TTC), Mr. L. Mayatt (ABC), Mr. S. Harris (ABC) and Mr. M. Seymour (TST).

2 INTRODUCTIONS.

None.

3 ELECTION OF CHAIR.

Cllr. K. Mulholland was elected as Chair.

4 MINUTES.

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2019 were agreed.

5 MATTERS ARISING.

None, apart from those addressed in minutes.

6 FOOTBALL PROVISION - UPDATE.

(a) Section 106. An update on the section 106 provision for the Homewood School 3G was given by the clerk. In all £275,000 is due to the school from Tent1a provision and £257,000 has so far been paid. The remainder is due shortly. This constitutes half the end cost and a £40,000 contribution towards maintenance. Cllr Carter suggested that signage should appear on site to indicate co-funding of the 3G by TTC ABC and Homewood.

(b) Shelter provision at 3G. Two bus shelters had been offered by TTC to Homewood but despite reminders no arrangements had been made to install them. Cllr Nelson pointed out that the shelters were only needed for community sessions and not for the school. Cllr Carter agreed to approach Vincent Reidy with whom he has regular site meetings. If this was not successful TTC should write an official letter asking for reason for refusal to install.

(c) Pitch Equivalence. The Clerk stated that at the time the 3G S106 funding was agreed, it was dependent on both a robust community

use agreement and the FA confirmation that the 3G was an acceptable equivalent to the recreation ground pitch. That confirmation was delegated to the Kent County FA. KCFA visited site and confirmed that they were satisfied with the provision. Graham Smith disputed this as the pitch was smaller than full size. Confirmation awaited from ABC. The group agreed that we needed to ensure that the relevant ABC officers were present at the next meeting to resolve this issue and also to advise on potential pitches on Tent1b and/or Hopes Grove (Nursery site) in the future. Both Graham Smith and Steve Parker re-iterated the footballers' opposition to removal of the recreation ground pitch.

(d) Offers of Land.

(i) Smallhythe Rd Plot The offer of land next to the Cricket club had now been withdrawn by the landowner. In any case FA funding would have been unlikely with the provision of only two pitches.

(ii) Tent1b Again this offer had been withdrawn. It may be feasible as a requirement of the S106 agreement perhaps in tandem with Hopes Grove Nursery should that site come forward.

(e) Cllr Mulholland enquired about the Tigers. Graham Smith has now stepped down from the chairmanship role. The Tigers use the 3G and also play at Rolvenden where the pitches are well-drained and of good quality. They have a partnership with Charlton who provide coaching at the 3G.

(f) Cllr Mulholland also enquired whether pitches had been raised as part of the Neighbourhood Plan process. Graham replied that they were on the Section 106 "wish list" for future developments.

(g) Appledore Road pitches. The committee agreed that these pitches would have been ideal but were now, of course, tied in with the Wates plans for Limes Land. Graham Smith and Steve Parker would try and have dialogue with Homewood and Cllr Nelson felt that the only way to unlock this situation was to talk to Wates and we should approach council to grant permission for talks on a restricted level. Meanwhile, non-councillor members of Sports Review were prepared to open discussions with Homewood and Wates.

7 REPORTS FROM INVITEES.

Cllr. Nelson reported that the Leisure Centre (TLCT) was still in a state of flux. The roofing is going ahead but the operating structure generally is still in discussion. The Trust is prepared to have a wider remit (including over the administration of the recreation ground, if required) which would facilitate grant funding applications.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE TOWN COUNCIL.

- Signage should be erected at the Homewood 3G to publish the funding support from TTC and ABC.

- The Clerk should send an official letter to Homewood if no response from them regarding the shelters within a reasonable time frame.
- Allow sports review to talk to Wates within specific restrictions and potentially other landowners (Tent1b and Hopes Grove) with the blessing and participation of ABC.
- Invite relevant planning/S106 staff to next meeting.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

None.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

To be arranged in 6 weeks' time, preferably at 5pm.