

Minutes of the Bowls, Allotments and Site Committee Tuesday 10th November by Zoom

1. Present

Robert Goodhand, Ray Swallow, Phil Stevens, Frank Booth, Paull Curtice, Anne-Marie Stevens, Sheila Harrison, Gerald Andrews, Ed Tuck, Lionel Mendoza, Dave Evans, Steff, Janet.

2. Apologies

Michael Adams

3. Winter Club Nights

We cannot have club nights yet, but will start them when we are allowed.

4. Club Build Update

The plumber and electrician are coming this week.

Paull asked for an update from Shaun. The build should be completed within the next couple of weeks, weather permitting. The windows are being made now

Frank would like some help to move some stones this week. Steff volunteered for Friday afternoon and Gerald said he could help on Wednesday. Robert said he would email members for volunteers.

Paull has had a quote for £275 the weatherboard at the back of the build. He needs a decision on whether to do it now or later. Robert and Paull will discuss it on site and decide.

5. S106 Bid Status

We had a report from Lionel:

1. Carol Taylor the MDC Officer supposedly steering all the S.106 applications, after initially being extremely helpful has, in recent weeks, been somewhat reticent in letting me know the current state of play.

2. Following two unanswered emails I managed to speak to her over the telephone on Thursday of last week to be told that the matter had become 'political' and she was waiting for a steer (guidance?) from her supervisor and that I should contact her again the following week.

3. I duly rang her today and was told that she was still unable to give me a definitive answer to the matter of timing and quantum but that she would telephone me this Thursday, hopefully with a more helpful answer.

4. I'm not too sure what to read into all this other than the obvious which I would suggest includes (a) Some kind of stitch up - though I don't know why and who would be behind any such action (b) Pressure for some reason from the Town Council, despite their written support (c) Complications arising from the move to abolish structural tiers of local government (d) a reticence by MDC to commit ALL the s.106 money in the pot in case other (more) worthy causes arise before the cut off date when any remaining monies have to be returned to the developer (some time in 2024 I think). This might, for example, lead to a reduction in the sum they will award to the club. But they know this could prove embarrassing if they were to give the full amount requested by SMTC but not us.

6. Green Update

Frank says the green is in good condition for this time of year. Tining will be done this month.

The lawnmower has broken down and we are waiting to see what is wrong with it and how much it will cost. Frank thinks it may be the clutch.

7. Site Update

Paul has removed the flagpole. Steff has helped with the painting.

The flag still needs to be designed so Phil can order it.

Dave Evans has offered to paint the changing rooms when we are ready.

8. Future Clubhouse Development

We need to see how much money we have left after the build and if we get the 106 money.

Paul suggested that we can plan the kitchen now with a sub-committee.

Steff, Anne-Marie and Gerald volunteered.

The wall needs to be moved in the clubhouse first and Phil will help with the planning for that.

Robert suggested that we could spend £15,000 on the kitchen.

Sheila asked if she could have a new glass washer in the bar.

9. Bowls 2021

Phil said that all the fixtures have been done for next year.

Dave asked Bowls England about the coaching and nothing can be done yet because of Covid-19.

We may be able to get a bursary for the coaching from Bowls England and get our money back on it.

10. Club Kit

Steff has designed and priced new t-shirts and jackets for the club. He has rebranded them but not changed the logo.

We could explore changing the Market Cross but it could be divisive with members. We can look into it.

The committee approved the new design so Steff can get some prices and samples. The committee also approved to finance the samples as we will get our money back when returned.

Hopefully the sample will be here by the next committee meeting.

11. Any Other Business

Jen Coles from the allotments has agreed to come onto the committee.

The wider membership needs to be informed of the coaching course to see if anyone is interested. Robert will email all members.

Frank asked about a plaque to be made to thank our doner, for the opening ceremony of the new toilet build.

