



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN ADDITIONAL MEETING OF THE PLAYING FIELDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 12th MARCH 2024

- 1. Present:** Councillors: B. Walton (Chair); R. Bean; N. Ingledew;
M. Tye; T. Walton; D. Wright
Mrs Carey (Clerk)
Mr K. Derby - Box Bowls Club
- 2. Apologies:** Nil
- 3. Absent:** Nil
- 4. Public Question Time:** There were no members of the public present
- 5. Declaration of Interests:** There were no declaration of interest relating to items on the Agenda
- 6. Box Bowls Club:**

An additional meeting had been called to discuss the three issues that had been deferred at the Full Council meeting on 29th February

 - i. **Parish Council's Agreement with the Bowls Club for the hire of the Bowling Green:**

The Committee Chairman and Clerk had met with three representatives from the Bowls Committee on the 5th March to give clarification on the draft contract and the two options given.

The two options that had been given to the Bowls Club were:

 1. The Bowls Club agrees to take on financial responsibility for the upkeep and maintenance of the bowling area, including the four ditches, all benches and the path around the three sides of the bowling green (excluding the path in front of the pavilion for the monthly payments of
 - (a) Maintenance work by ASMC and irrigation contracts = £603.50 x 12 (£7242) and
 - (b) Maintenance materials, to be invoiced monthly (not to exceed £1500 pa without prior approval from the bowls club)Total: £8742 (or more or less depending on materials costs)

The maintenance of the hedge will remain with the Parish Council together with the responsibility for the path in front of the Pavilion.
 2. The Bowls Club does NOT accept responsibility for financial responsibility of the bowling area. They pay (at least, subject to materials costs spend remaining under £1500) £10,000 pa this year

with any underspend on costs to be earmarked by the parish council to build up a reserve to deal with future costs to the assets and liabilities.

The two options had been put to the Bowling Club and they had agreed to accept Option 1.

The Agreement had been redrafted. The responsibility for the path in front of the Pavilion had been discussed at the Buildings Maintenance Committee meeting on 11th March and will be the responsibility of the Parish Council. The reason for this is that if the Bowling Green was removed there would still need to be the path in front of the Pavilion.

Mr Derby stated that he appreciated that things had not been as they should be and that the Bowls Club wanted to look at how they could turn the bowling green into an asset for the parish council and village and agreed that the club should take on the responsibility for the green as much as possible.

The Bowls Club will provide a Risk Assessment twice a year – one during the playing season and one when the green is closed.

After discussion it was **recommended** that the revised contract with the Bowls Club in the sum of £8742 pa be accepted.

This was agreed unanimously.

ii. **Parish Council's maintenance contract with Avon Sportsground Maintenance Company**

At a meeting with Councillors, representatives from ASMC and the Bowls Club several amendments to the contract had been discussed. These were as follows:

- 2.c Fertilizing, weed killing and applying fungicide to the green as per the 12 month ASMC schedule (attached) with any variation to the schedule to be approved by Box bowls club prior to the work
- 3.a The cost of materials used on the green supplied at cost (not to exceed £1500 /the 12 month schedule without prior approval from the Box bowls club
- 5.5 ASMC to complete detailed diary entry at each visit to include: trade name, dosage applied, application rate (Materials used to be invoiced at cost as per 3.a)
- 5.6 Copies of the COSHH assessment for any materials used to be kept in a folder with the diary.

These amendments had subsequently been agreed by Avon Sportsground Maintenance Company

It was therefore **recommended** that the annual contract with Avon Sportsground Maintenance Company for the upkeep of the Bowling Green in the sum of £6691 pa + vat be accepted.

- iii. After discussion it was **recommended** that the refund in the sum of £3853 + interest should be repaid to the Bowls Club with the advice that they earmark this money for any future unforeseen expenditure required on the Green

The Chairman stated that she acknowledged the fact that the Bowling Green would find it difficult to accept Option 1 without the safety net of the VAT refund.

7. Date of next meeting – 8th April 2024

Meeting closed at 1.45 pm

Chair