

1 Work at King George Field.

1.1 Tree Trimming.

Mason Tree surgery came on Tuesday 2/2/10 and completed the work.

Whilst Adam doesn't like to Pollard trees, he said the following after completing the work :

With regards to the Poplar tree, as was discussed on site today, due to the tree being multi-stemmed with possible weaknesses at the base of these stems, it is advisable that you consider pollarding the tree by at least 50%. Whilst 50% will severely prune the tree hard, this amount needs to be done to relieve enough weight to try and improve the safety of the tree; particularly due to its close proximity to the Village Hall/Public space.

If you require a quotation for this work at any time in the future, please do not hesitate to contact us.

AN option that should be considered is the removal of the Poplar completely and a replacement tree planted a little further away.

1.2 Replacing the uprights to the fence around the Play area..”

The order has been placed with Frank Sanderson (quoted £270 for doing 9 posts). I will go across and discuss whether any additional post should be replaced when the date for the work has been agreed..

2 Charges for the formal Use of KG Playing field.

The SSC , football & cricket clubs have been advised of the revised charges.

3 SSC Developments

Chris Tadman has made the following report on a meeting of the development committee

I attended a meeting with SSC last night to bring them up to date with the Boxted Parish Council January meeting, when it was agreed that no further expenditure would be incurred until the clubs come up with fund raising routes and a business plan.

The clubs are still keen to progress but did point out that the current design incorporates all the best ideas, and the cost is very significant.

The clubs would like clarification of the following:

1. Who owns the existing building?
2. Is there a lease, and if so, for how long, and what security of tenure is there?
3. Who is responsible for maintenance of the building?

Clerks Report

4. Who owns King George playing field, and what are the conditions of use? Is there security of tenure for the SSC?
5. If there is a new building, constructed with SSC raised grants, will they own the building, and be responsible for its maintenance, insurance etc? Will the Council or the Playing Field trust grant them a lease, with security of tenure?

I think that these questions go to the core of the project, and I would be grateful if you could copy everyone with the answers.

The SSC would like a meeting with the Council when they have clarification of the above.

Further questions / points have been raised by Mick Holland , Steve Dutton and Mark Healy.

Hi Paul,

It is good to talk...and I had hoped you could ask the Chair of the Parish Council to consider a meeting to clear the air and eliminate any confusion as the Parish, Sports & Social and even the pre-school move forward into 2010.

I do feel strongly that a representative from the "Fields in Trust" organisation also be included so we can finally move away from this confusion and so all stakeholders are clear as to roles and responsibilities. I am happy to approach Fields in trust myself as I have already had communication with them.

Can I please confirm this is a request from myself and has not been discussed within the sports and social forum.

Thank you for your support in this matter

Best Regards

Mark Healy

Dear All

I guess after our meeting with Chris on Tuesday we presently have more questions than answers and the sooner we open a dialogue the better for all clubs concerned.

Regards

Mick Holland

Clerks Report

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At the risk of stating the obvious it strikes me that aside from the regular running of Boxted SSC we ought to have a separate and distinctive Redevelopment Group into which or from which could come fundraising.

I am trying to get the Girls Football Club to create both a Corporate Fundraising team and a Social Fundraising Team – obviously for our own survival.

At work I sit opposite a colleague whose church are trying to raise £500K for a new build on a piece of land used for “outward camps for kids”. It has echoes of Boxted insofar as the land is owned in “Trust” by an external body: Scripture Union. The working Trust is The Great Wood Trust. They currently have £50K in their pot. But before they even started going they signed a 99 year lease on the building proposed for the land.

That has to be our starting point.

I would be happy to sit on a Redevelopment Group. I am not a social fundraiser; don't organise raffles or fetes but I can and will write letters and make presentations to funding bodies if required.

My colleagues words of wisdom were: start with a family tree of your own people and invest in a three-dimensional model of the building. The former being the source of priming funding; the latter the thing that really enthuses the big funders.

Stephen Dutton

4 Little Owls.

In the recent bad weather the roof has started to leak. Joe Firmin (the last roofer we used) has had a look and does not believe that it was the old problem area. He will come back and have another look when it is drier and there is less water standing on the roof.patch.

The hot tap in the Ladies ceased to work. I have had both the Hot & Cold taps replaced. In the end I used a plumber from Feering, who we have used for 15 years. The pre-school was using the whole of building today, so the leak can't be too bad.

New Build.

Planning permission has been granted.

I have reminded them that they need to talk to the cricket club in case the building works will have any effect on their match days.

We also need to know when we need to move the roller and any other stuff on the site.

Clerks Report

I gather that the container, alongside the current school, is not being moved. Perhaps we could ask the footballers to store their stuff inside it?.

Grant towards their legal costs for the lease.

This will have to be Section 137 spend. (we have an annual limit of ~£6 per head)

We are bending our Standing / Financial Orders in the way we are granting this money.

We should have considered it along with the Precept.

I would suggest that we resolve to take it from Reserves (Playground Committee funds?).

I have asked Jane to supply me with a rough idea of the cost of their groundworks so that we could have an idea of the total cost of a modular changing rooms.

SO far I have not had a reply.

5 Standing Orders & Financial Orders.

These are supposed to be reviewed at regular intervals. We haven't done it in my time as Gill did a very thorough job 4 years ago.

However, since my review of the Standing Orders, which I had previously circulated, there have been new guidance from the NALC. The Council may want to authorise the purchase on the guidance before approving the revised Standing Orders. (see the appendix to this document).

I have added a couple of further sentences (in plum) to the revised Financial orders.

6 Registration with ICO

As pointed out in County Update 73, we should be registered with the ICO.
I will complete the forms.

7 Investment

I am still looking at 1 year bonds. AT the current time I do have a recommendation.

8 Fenn Wright

I have added the letter from Birketts concerning the payment to Fenn Wright to the appendices.

9 FIT

I have added the renewal letter to the appendices

Clerks Report

10 Runkins Corner on Langham Lane

Email from David Winter)Langham parish Council.

At our Parish Council meeting last night. I was asked to see if you could get any Way Markers for Runkins Corner on Langham Lane please. The Councillors thought that it might stop the odd driver from going straight ahead rather than turning the corner. I was told that Geoff Harris has loads of these way markers.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

David Winter
Clerk to Langham Parish Council
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11 Parish Newsletter

I missed the last publication , because I waited t=for the January Parish Council meeting and then I lost my connection to the email server. When it came back initially there were no messages in the Inbox. By Wednesday I had the old messages back but by then it was too late,