

SHERE PARISH COUNCIL

*Serving the villages of Gomshall,
Holmbury St. Mary, Peaslake and Shere*

PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Playground Committee meeting held on Tuesday 19th November 2008 at 7.15 p.m. in Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall

Present: Dr. C. Brooke (Chairman), Mr. R. Andrews, Mrs. S. Neilson, Mr. J. Tenner, Mr. R. Newman.

Election of Chairman Dr. Brooke was proposed by Mr. Andrews, seconded by Mr. Newman and unanimously elected Chairman.

Apologies for absence – none received.

Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial interests – Dr. Brooke declared a personal interest in the play area at Shere as this is used by Shere Nursery of which she is the Chair.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2007 were approved and signed as a correct record.

Short adjournment to enable the Public to raise any issue relating to an item on the agenda – no members of the public were present.

Financial Report – The Committee received a report from the Responsible Financial Officer/Clerk – copy attached. The Committee formally authorised the Clerk to place an order for the sum of £1,094.70 plus VAT for repairs to various items of equipment in the Shere Play Area.

Annual Playground Inspection by ROSPA – a list of work to be carried out had been drawn up by the Chairman. This was approved by the Committee. In addition the Committee noted that an order had been placed for the repair/refurbishment of the two items highlighted as at high risk – the swings and the roller barrel in Shere.

Other Playground problems - the following matters were raised:

Area immediately below the steps to the top of the Shere slide – possible provision of a safety surface – the Committee noted that this was area was considered a low risk by ROSPA. No action will therefore be taken at present.

Worn areas at entrances to play area – turf has been installed at regular intervals but this wears out extremely quickly. To be considered at a later date.

Worn areas under mobiles – safety surfacing to be considered at a later date.

Tower Hill Rise play area – recent vandalism.

New bark required at Peaslake – bark from Gomshall to be used.

Lift and replacement of safety tiles at Holmbury St. Mary – estimate to be sought.

Safety tiles – appropriate weedkiller to be sought.

Playground inspections – Councillors agreed that inspections would be carried out at a maximum of fortnightly intervals during the autumn and winter months by the Clerk, the contractor or councillors.

Risk Assessment – The Committee reviewed the playground risk assessment. It was decided that no alterations would be made apart from the fact that the annual inspection is now carried out by ROSPA and not the insurance company. The Committee were informed that legislation had now changed and that safety surfaces were not required for equipment with a fall height of under 1.5 metres provided that a grass surface is regularly maintained.

Precept 2009/10

It was unanimously agreed that a request be made to the Parish Council for £6000 for Playground projects (i.e. to install wetpour safety surfacing for the Shere play area) and £6,000 for Playground Maintenance.

Exclusion of the Public and Press (Public Bodies Admission to meetings Act 1960)

The Committee considered tenders received from three firms for the installation of wetpour safety surfacing in the Millennium Play Area in Gomshall. It was agreed that the estimate for £25, 912.60 received from Playground Facilities would be accepted subject to the receipt of two satisfactory references. This approval is not dependant on the amount of grant aid received from Guildford Borough Council. An estimate of £1,350 from G. Rapley for removal of the bark and bark pits was also accepted. It was agreed that the spoil would be left on site.

The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

Date of next meeting – to be arranged.