

SHERE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Playground Committee meeting held on 20th June 2011 in Tanyard Hall, Gomshall

Present: Dr. C. Brooke (Chairman), R. Andrews, R. Newman, J. Tenner.

Election of Chairman: Mr Newman proposed that Dr. Brooke be elected Chairman and this was unanimously agreed.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cohen and Nielson.

Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial interests: Dr. Brooke declared a personal interest in the Shere play area as this is used by the Shere Village Play Group of which she is part of the management thereof.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2010 were approved and signed as a correct record.

Public Adjournment – no members of the public were present at the meeting.

Financial Report – the Committee received a report from the Responsible Financial Officer/Clerk.

Committee Remit – the Committee considered the Remit and suggested that the first paragraph be amended slightly to read as follows: Policy – The role of the Council in this respect is to provide a number of play areas distributed throughout the Parish in such a way as to provide play facilities for children and to ensure that the equipment is attractive to the children *and young people* and that it is safe for them to use. Dr. Brooke noted that she was an ex officio member of the Committee in her capacity as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. She requested that she become a full member of the Playground Committee.

Playground Problems – following inspections by Councillors the following matters were considered:

Gomshall – cross scales out of action awaiting repairs to bolts. Path through Recreation Ground becoming overgrown.

Holmbury St. Mary – equipment fine. Swing bearings to be lubricated. Fence post tops rotting – tops to be removed if possible and posts treated.

Peaslake – old playground bark safety surfacing had been placed behind the play area but was adjacent to the fence posts. This to be moved slightly to avoid rotting of the fence posts.

Roundabout Whirl – possible trip hazard – to be investigated further.

Shere – no problems.

Swing heights low in several play areas – ROSPA report awaited.

Consideration of future projects

A petition containing approximately 100 signatures had been received from children requesting a skate park. In addition the Police had suggested that the provision of such a facility had been shown to cut incidents of petty crime. It was agreed that the Chairman

would make further enquiries re skateparks and cycle tracks regarding cost, suitable scheme etc. GBC to be consulted.

Risk Assessment – the Committee considered and approved the Playground Risk Assessment with no amendments.

Date of next meeting: to be arranged.