THE FRANK MONTGOMERY PLAYING FIELD TRUST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 05 DECEMBER 2021 AT 5.00PM IN WICKHAMBREAUX VILLAGE HALL, THE STREET, WICKHAMBREAUX

Present: Linda Lodge
Caroline Rees
Elizabeth Stewart
Fiona Dawson

Mrs Chenice Howard-Sparkes, Secretary

3no Members of the Public

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
L. Lodge welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished to thank C. Rees and Steve Rees for undertaking various work in the playing field. There were no apologies for absence.

C. Rees wished to thank L. Lodge for keeping the Committee on track during the interim period between meetings. The Committee decided not to meet via Zoom during Covid-19 and all correspondence was undertaken by email. L. Lodge advised that the playing field was closed in line with government guidelines during Covid-19 and as the play equipment is not fenced off separately from the rest of the field, the whole area had to be closed. Whilst this was unfortunate, Wickhambreaux has a number of other green spaces that could be utilised for daily exercise.

2. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2021-2022**
E. Stewart nominated L. Lodge for the position of Chairman. F. Dawson seconded that L. Lodge be elected for the year 2021-2022 and this was unanimously passed. There were no other nominations.

3. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2021-2022**
L. Lodge nominated C. Rees for the position of Vice-Chairman. F. Dawson seconded that C. Rees be elected for the year 2021-2022 and this was unanimously passed. There were no other nominations.

4. **ELECTION OF TREASURER FOR 2021-2022**
L. Lodge nominated C. Rees for the position of Treasurer. E. Stewart seconded that C. Rees be elected for the year 2021-2022 and this was unanimously passed. There were no other nominations.

5. **ELECTION OF SECRETARY FOR 2021-2022**
L. Lodge nominated C. Howard-Sparkes for the position of Secretary. C. Rees seconded that C. Howard-Sparkes be elected for the year 2021-2022 and this was unanimously passed. There were no other nominations.

6. **CO-OPTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS**
Mary Cruse put herself forward for co-option onto the Committee, which was unanimously agreed. L. Lodge thanks M. Cruse for volunteering as part of the Committee and M. Cruse joined discussions for the remainder of the meeting.

7. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 06 NOVEMBER 2019**
The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

8. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
None.

9. **LOCATION OF 2NO NEW BENCHES**

C. Rees reported that following requests from residents and users of the playing field for additional seating, the Committee submitted a funding application to the Four Villages Post Office and Shop. The funding application totalling £520.00 towards 2no additional benches has been approved and an order has been placed. The Parish Council has agreed to fund the installation costs of the benches.

The benches will be solid teak with plaques, one to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the second dedicated to those who have lost their lives due to Covid-19. It is hoped that the benches will encourage parents to supervise their children more, thereby minimising disturbance to neighbouring residents.

A drawing showing the proposed location for both benches was circulated to the Committee and shown to members of the public present. A letter has been delivered to all households bordering the playing field to inform them of the installation and to invite comments on the proposed locations.

It was agreed to locate one bench by the nature area and the second bench on the side nearest the road in line with an existing bench. The Committee wished to stress that the location of the benches can be changed post-installation should there be any unintended consequences for residents bordering the playing field.

10. **UPDATE ON CAPITAL GRANT APPLICATION FOR ALL-INCLUSIVE ROUNDABOUT**

C. Howard-Sparkes reported that she submitted a Capital Grant application to Canterbury City Council (CCC) for £5,000 towards the cost of an all-inclusive roundabout. CCC will consider all applications received and respond to applicants in March 2022 to confirm whether applications have been successful. Assuming the application is successful, the funding should be transferred in April/May 2022.

11. **CLASSIC CAR SHOW 2022**

C. Rees confirmed that 22 cars are currently booked in for the Classic Car Show on 15 May 2022. Based on previous events, this is likely to increase to approximately 100 classic cars. A joint meeting will be held with St Andrew's Church early in the new year to discuss final preparations and allocate roles.

12. **EVENTS 2021-2022**

Other than the Classic Car Show, C. Rees reported that a request has been received to hold the annual Boxing Day football match on the field, which was unanimously agreed. C. Rees also reported that the Playing Field may be used as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations from 02 June to 05 June 2022. The Committee had no objections in principle to the field being utilised as part of the celebrations.

13. **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR / NOISE NUISANCE**

There have been minimal incidents of anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance reported since the last meeting. C. Rees reported that graffiti has been discovered on the pirate ship and it was agreed to form a working party after the meeting to clean this off.

C. Rees reported that the Parish Council is considering employing a handyman/caretaker in the future. Part of their remit could be to tackle graffiti in the playing field as well as maintenance of the benches.

14. **EQUIPMENT CHECKS ROTA**

C. Rees reported that currently KOMPAN undertakes the annual inspection of equipment and an additional 3no operational inspections a year, which is the next level of checks looking at wear and tear of fixings, etc). C. Rees proposed that C. Howard-Sparkes undertake monthly inspections of the equipment, which was unanimously agreed.

Should the Parish Council employ a handyman/caretaker, monthly inspections could also be incorporated into their role.

15. **FINANCE**

The current bank balance is £2,280.01, including the recent award from the Four Villages Post Office and Shop Fund. C. Rees confirmed that the monies raised from the Bag to Church collection has been transferred to St Andrew's Church.

16. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

(i) L. Lodge reported that more work will be undertaken in the nature area to encourage the space to remain for quiet use. Designated paths will be created through the area with planted borders and low-level fencing to deter straying into more 'wild' areas. The Committee is also considering planting additional shrubs and hedges along the boundary to provide a more nature sound barrier for adjacent residents. Temporary signage has been placed in the nature area and the Committee will consider designs for more permanent signage in due course.

(ii) A resident bordering the playing field reported that there has been less use of the playing field after dark since Covid-19.

(iii) A resident reported that one of the trees in the Playing Field appears to be in poor health. C. Rees agreed to arrange for the tree to be inspected.

(iv) C. Rees reported that she has received an offer from a local farmer to trim back the hedges on land adjacent to the Playing Field free of charge to make it safer for children accessing the field. C. Rees agreed to contact the landowner to inform them of the offer.

(v) A resident reported that part of the wire fencing to the rear of their property appears to have been damaged. The Committee agreed to inspect the fencing.

The meeting closed at 5.50pm

Signed……..... (Chairman)

Date…….....