***Sandridge Parish Council***

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Simon Thwaites Marshalswick Community Centre,

Parish Clerk The Ridgeway, St. Albans,

Herts, AL4 9TU Tel: 01727 831871 Email: clerk@sandridge-pc.gov.uk

12th September 2024 www.sandridge-pc.gov.uk

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE SPORTS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

Councillors: Graham Leonard (Chair), Carol Chalkley, Mike White, Adam Twidell, James Lambert, Raihanna Ahmed

Public members: Jez Cox, Chris Cooke

Officers: Rebecca Pannese; Project, Amenities and Community Engagement Officer

Simon Thwaites; Parish Clerk

A meeting of the Sports and Recreation Grounds Committee is to be held on Wednesday 18th September 2024 at 7.30pm at Marshalswick Community Centre

**A G E N D A**

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations**

To receive declarations of interest from Members on items on the agenda and to receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests.

1. **To approve the minutes of the Sports and Recreation Grounds Committee meeting held**

**on the 28th June 2024**

1. **Review and approve the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the forthcoming year (deferred from the last meeting)**
2. **Projects, Amenities and Community Engagement (PACE) Officer to give a verbal update on the 2024/25 capital works.**
3. **Surfacing to the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) at Sherwood Park.**

Following the successful completion of the tennis courts enhancement at Sherwood Park, a quote has been obtained to do the following on the adjacent basketball court;

* Removal of all loose particles from surface.
* High pressure washing using 3000psi machines to thoroughly deep cleanse the area

removing excess dirt, moss and stones to help improve the drainage and safety.

* Application of moss treatment.
* Cut off the old tennis court sockets within the basketball play area along with the

centre anchor tubes and cap off the 6mm porous macadam.

* Spray apply with strong "WEATHERSAFE" polyurethane binder.
* Two directional coats of quartz sand textured acrylic PU court colouring in purple. To the

Basketball play area only.

* Mark out and paint one set of basketball and five a side lines with quartz sand slip-resistant

acrylic line paint.

The lines on the existing court are completely faded and almost invisible.

**See photo of a recently completed court**

A blue and purple court

Description automatically generated

**Total cost for the above - £2,458**

*So far, a total of £60,290 has been committed for spend this year out of a possible £80,000 (£30,000 capital works budget and the additional £50,000 earmarked for the bike track).*

It is therefore;

**Recommended**

That the committee agrees to the enhancement of the basketball court adjacent to the tennis court in Sherwood Avenue Open Space.

**7. Alleyway between William Bell Open Space and The Ridgeway**

The local police have asked whether installing gates at either end of the William Bell alleyway, locked at night, would be a solution to some of the antisocial behaviour taking place there. The Clerk has responded, advising the officer that this office would strongly recommend against any such course of action. Key objections would be;

1. Installing gates would do nothing to protect the fronts of the two houses or vehicles on each drive, all of which have been previously targeted.
2. By closing the alleyway at night we would be restricting the use by a huge majority of residents walking their dogs etc.
3. We have no resources available to lock/open gates.

The office have advised the officer that the two residents would be welcome to attend this meeting to argue a case should they so wish. It has recently been suggested by one of the householders that the situation has eased. It is;

**Recommended**

That Members consider the suggestion made by the police.

**8. 2024/25 Sports and Recreation Committee Budget**

Committee Members are asked to discuss and put forward a figure for the Sports and Recreation Grounds budget for inclusion in the overall parish council 2025/26 budget to be presented to the Finance Committee in October. Some suggestions for next year’s capital works are;

* Basketball hoop and dribble area in Jersey Farm Open Space (pending permission being received by SADC) – estimated cost £10,000
* New apparatus to replace the Spider Climber in Harness Way Open Space with wetpour surfacing – estimated cost £12,000
* New climbing unit in Spencer Meadow playground replacing old unit – estimated cost £17,500

Following meetings with contractors, an approximate figure of £40,000 has been recommended for the above works. It is therefore;

**Recommended**

That members request that £40,000 figure be included in the 2025/26 draft budget for approval by Full Council.

**9. Review of Hire Charges at Spencer Meadow**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Use** | **Current** | **Proposed** | **Increase (5%)** |
|  | **£** | **£** | **£** |
| Football Pitch | 993 annually | 1,043 | 50 |
| Cricket Pitch | 2,283 annually | 2,397 | 114 |
| Tennis/Netball Court | 6/10 per hour | 6/10 | 0 |
| Astro Court | 15 per hour | 15 | 0 |

The grounds maintenance contract value is expected to increase around 5% in 2025/26. Tennis/netball and Astro court hire is recommended not to increase within the current economic environment.

**10. Matters of Note**

* The Clerk has again written to the contractor in respect of completing further street art at the skate ramp. Disappointingly, no further work has been completed.
* Tree work is being carried out across the open spaces within the parish, including a reduction of the hedge between Damson Way Open Space and the tennis club, and around the multi-use games areas at Sherwood Park.
* An article will be published in the Autumn Neighbourhood News regarding the Duke of Edinburgh Park Ranger Scheme.
* Three new picnic benches have been delivered and will be installed in Harness Way, St Leonard’s Open Space and Jersey Farm Adventure Playground imminently.
* The spoil from the 2024 installations will be utilised to create wildflower mounds on the border of the open spaces. The poorer soil underneath the top layer is much more favourable to wildflowers.

**11. Any other business**

**12. Matters Arising Since the Circulation of the Agenda**

**13. Suggestions for Future Meetings**

**Date of next meeting – 7:30pm Wednesday 4th December 2024 at Marshalswick Community Centre**