

Committee, Group or Sub Group : Community Enhancement Group - SCEnic

Meeting Date & Venue 21st July 2022 at 6.30pm @ A Sharp's

Report Author: Adele Sharp - Chairman

Report

Present were: Adele Sharp (AS), John Perry (JP), Eric Hotson (EH), Bill McLaughlin (BM), Richard Griffith – clerk (RG).

Apologies: Paddy Riordan (PR), John Perry (JP)

* The minutes of 5th August 2021 were accepted.

Matters arising – none

1. Assets list - not sure we have an up to date one. Alison was looking at making the pub a community asset and I believe we got as far as the pub agreeing, but have they changed owners since?!!! RG - does the office have a list? Any notes about the Kings Head? Also we own small parcels of land, need a list.

RG will sort

2. Bike racks at parade

It was agreed at the last meeting to have bike racks next to subway and Spar under stairs subject to the agreement of the landlord – PR was looking into contacting and getting the landlord agreement?

Alison was going to look into the size and cost and where to get bike racks from. See minutes for AS brief research. £76 - £106 depending on type. Any office notes about this Richard? AS will look up again.



Semi Vertical cycle rack £ 76.80
The bike storage company



High / low floor mounted bike rack £104
Parrs workplace eqpt

2. Surrenden Field projects

a - Pavilion – *to completely redevelop existing pavilion to provide 'café' type facilities, storage and toilets.* We will revive this project. The intent is that the pavilion is for the use of Staplehurst at large and not thought of as a storage facility. Previously the group's intention was to completely replace the existing pavilion. A brick build would be preferable as more aesthetically pleasing, permanent and vandal proof. However, a brick built pavilion would need an architect to design, planning permission and be far more expensive. Previous ideas: brick build (expensive), Wooden (creates maintenance issues), container/ prefab style building with kitchen toilets

windows etc (preferred) with separate toilet block (£12,000) – PR previously provided this visual



and is getting quotations.@ £15,000

b paths - done

c – WW1 commemorative bench – Licence / permission granted. As far as we aware the Events Group are awaiting their builder to install the cement base for the bench to go on. AS ask SCEG about it.

d – Manning Gate – done. Regarding the grass crete, the office has obtained two quotations. Third contractor has failed to attend twice now.

Action: Ask clerk to confirm cost and size.

d – Play area and other improvements –

* Play area – improvements being done. New mini climbing wall in SPC store to be installed by PR and JC when available.

* Adult outdoor gym – Proposal was the area between pavilion and play area as there is room for 6 pieces. As an example of costs, 'Fresh air fitness' do a 3 piece starter pack for £4000 (air skier, rider and double air walker) so we are looking at £10,000+ We would need to bid for money from developers. It is a wish list item for U3A. Action - more research by all



* Meeting area / seating –



Seating area near pavilion needs replacing as broken. costcutters uk do a metal bench (see pic) for £490 inc VAT. Agreed

Agreed to move bin a bit further away and if required, replace 3 other bins on field. May need new bases for them.

Previously suggested that we remove orange and blue seating and move to the Jubilee field / outside Guide hut but decided to leave for now. Is it possible to use CIL money?

3. Public disabled public toilet –



a. The lease / rental of disabled toilet site

KCC – “we do not foresee a major financial burden. Even the legal cost should be straightforward and minimal.”

MBC - Lucy Stroud. "we have no objection to the toilet block being reopened, and my team can advise on what needs to be done to get them back up and running. I need to check whether our Lease with KCC allows us to sublet, and if so there shouldn't be any issue. However if it doesn't we may need to see if the Parish Council could enter into a lease directly with KCC. I'll check the lease and get back to you."

History - Toilets built by MBC over two property lines: the northern 2/3 of the block on KCC land and the southern 1/3 on land owned by Wisperole investments. So KCC need to sort with Wisperole to have the legal right to have the toilets on their land, then can KCC give us a license to open them. Duncan MacKinnon is the Principal Surveyor from KCC dealing with this. Alison having put him put Duncan in touch with Wisperole to negotiate a license, finally had a “phone call from the agent for Wisperole, and he has confirmed that they are happy to leave things as they are with regards the disabled toilets, so Alison is going to email Duncan Macinnan

Action: JP will chase **Get something in writing from Wisperole? We confirm JP chase Duncan**

b. Cleaning. Financial implication - Note - £3000 legal and maintenance costs are in the budget for next year. VC cleaners previously agreed they can do MWF £10 an hour = £30 wk. We think this will be sufficient as patrons will be users of a radar key and we can assess after 3 mths if there are issues. Action: bring to full council to agree in principle on condition lease is agreed.

c. Ready to install radar lock to be able to use a Radar key – Ironmonger direct quote £203 for a set plus the installation cost. Poyntell quotation for installation of one radar lock £259.90 +VAT). No cost to us for the £5 key, as disabled users possess their own.

Action: Ask full council to agree in principle to install, on condition the lease is agreed

c. The repairs External - done. Internal - really just needs a check and a deep clean.

Action: see above – if given go ahead, ready to open when given access by KCC.

4. Telephone box –

Almost ready for use with Welcome to Staplehurst to fit and illuminate, new glass and frames and pins. However we've not been able to trace the clips to fix in place which is holding up the finish.

Ideas for use: - we want to make sure it does not become a dumping ground so not a book exchange. Biddenden use theirs as a plant exchange where green fingered folk put their surplus seeds and seedlings to exchange. Suggestion that we could offer to local groups such as WI, Horticultural and businesses – Made in Kent – to take over for a month to promote their group / business. Action: AS to do an 'advert' to ping round to groups to see if they would like the idea. AS to do an email to groups - see below - not sent yet **Agreed**

You may have noticed the work SPC has been doing to the public telephone in Staplehurst. Instead of it being removed, like other communities, SPC retained it and has refurbished it as a local asset.

Ideas for use:

We would like to make sure it is a useful space for the community.

Biddenden use theirs as a plant exchange where green fingered folk put their surplus seeds and seedlings to exchange.

We also wondered if we could use it as a miniature exhibition spot for local groups to take over for a month to promote their group / business.

We would welcome your feedback about this idea.

A.O.B. SCEnic – Agreed change of name to Staplehurst Community Enhancement New Ideas committee to avoid confusion with Staplehurst Community Events Group!

Future Dates: W 24th August,

Date & Venue of next meeting: 6.30pm W 24th August, at 6.30pm @ tbc

Group membership

AS Adele Sharp

CB Colin Bowden

PR Paddy Riordan

EH Eric Hotson

JP John Perry

BM Bill McLaughlin