

Committee, **Group** or Sub Group : SCENic - formerly Community Enhancement Group

Meeting Date & Venue 2nd October 2023 at 7.30pm @ West hall SCC

Report Author: Adele Sharp - Chairman

Present Paddy Riordan, Anni Martin, Eric Hotson, Catherine Farragher, Adele Sharp, Jose Castro,

Apologies Mel Alessi, John Perry

* **Minutes of last meeting 29th September 2023**

* **Matters Arising not on the agenda**

+ Spar planters – weather has held up repairs but in hand

+ Parade car park wall - MBC funding so PR sorted quotes and with MBC now to be done.

1. Merit Awards for Volunteers – youth nominations

We had 5 nominations to consider, all were admirable candidates but it was decided to recommend Gil Anthony for his efforts in improving the skatepark. He came and spoke passionately and eloquently at a council meeting and has continued to be a valued person liaising with other youngsters at the skatepark.

It is wonderful to have so many young people worthy of consideration for the award.

Note – It was also recommended that SPC communication group use social media earlier in the year in future to advertise the awards.

2. Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Tree

As per last meeting we agreed in principle that we would like a tree.

The issue remained about where to put it.

* Parade – there are already enough trees here X

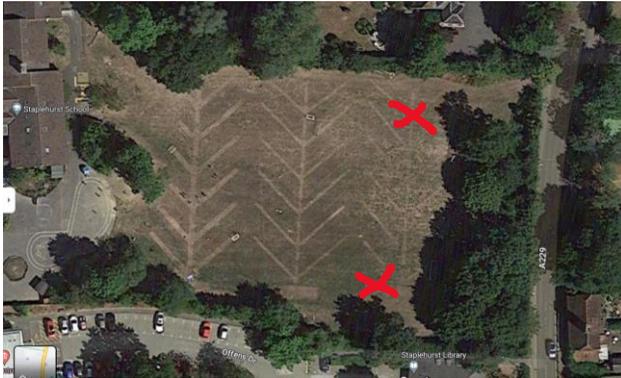
* Upper Church Green – owned by Golding Homes X

* SCC – replacing one that fell recently ?

* Surrenden Field tree + bench with plaque - ?

* Primary School field tree + bench with plaque

It was decided to enquire whether the school would be interested as our first choice, Surrenden field as second choice. PR will contact the Head of the school.



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3. D Day 80th Anniversary Memorial – Thursday 6th June 2024

SCEG have put forward the idea of asking Staplehurst ladies choir to lead some singing at this event at 7.15pm. They are open to other ideas. Nationally there is a lighting of beacons at 7.45pm. We have a beacon but it is not installed.

There was much debate which led to the following:

1. We recommend SPC support for the event organised by SCEG
2. Who paid for the beacon, SCEG or SPC?
3. Where is it currently stored?
4. MBC gave permission for the installation of a temporary structure at Surrenden Field but its installation would not be temporary so we therefore do not recommend it is installed there.
5. Suggestion that maybe a light on top of the church might be more visible? AS to contact vicar.

4. Youth Club

Following the last meeting where the Fire risk assessment report by MA was discussed, recommendations were made to comply with regulations within the 30 days notice.

- Kitchen and dining room Fire doors and check if glass is safety glass.
- Electrical certificate and PAT testing.

MA contacted the relevant company regarding the fire doors but reported back to RFO (clerk on holiday) who said the building was therefore not insured and felt the building had to be closed. We are not sure, but assume that insurers were contacted and said this? There was some concern about whether we had closed the building too quickly without having all the information, possibly not necessary.

Electrical testing is happening next week Tuesday.

Surveyor to check building and safety glass partition being appointed.

PR has also booked a visit by the Building control officer.

There was much discussion about whether there had been a fire check (County Fire Protection issue a safety check certificate) as it was unclear. AS will check with clerk and if not appoint them to do a check.

Was it necessary to have another check when work has been carried out?

If we have a certificate, does that supersede a 'report with recommendations'?

The 3 regular users have been temporarily relocated, Bridge to KLC, Men's shed and youth club to Scout hut.

It was recommended that the office advertise the relocation for the Youth group on Friday for Tuesday's meeting and put a notice on the door.

Please invite Rob Yorke of KCC Youth services to next meeting on 30th Nov to discuss options to keep Youth Club going as discussed at council.

5. Pavilion Surrenden Field (120 yr lease) / Youth club Pavillion (plot owned by SPC soon) improvements options – long term project In light of the Youth club work being carried out, it was decided to defer this item to the next meeting.

AOB

These items were not discussed at the meeting

* Christmas tree chipping event at the Parade on Saturday 6th January between 10 am and 2 pm. This will be carried out by Neil Jackson, in remembrance of Jon Grimwood; all voluntary donations to go to the Heart of Kent Hospice.

* Telephone Box

Future meeting dates – 7:30pm in West Hall, Thursday 30th Nov, Jan 11th

Meeting ended 9.30pm