

## **Minutes of Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting of Little Berkhamsted Parish Council**

**Held at 8 pm on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in the Village Hall**

Present:

1. Councillor Ellis Downes (Chairman)
2. Councillor Elaine Hunter (Deputy Chairman)
3. Councillor Derek Stanbrook
4. Councillor Wayne Morris
5. Councillor Penny Stokes

Apologies for absence received from:

1. Councillor Jim Holt
2. Laura Brooks Payne, Clerk, Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

### **Background**

The meeting was called for the sole aim of discussing the cricket pavilion. The Acting Chairman of the Cricket Club had contacted Councillor Downes to advise of serious concerns about the integrity of the roof which appeared to be leaking and was giving cause for concern.

Councillors Morris and Stanbrook had subsequently conducted an inspection of the pavilion and confirmed cause for concern. Part of the roof appeared to be sagging, in areas the felt tiles had "given way". There were also concerns about the general appearance of the interior of the cricket pavilion which was in a somewhat disordered and cluttered state in places. Prior to the council meeting, the cricket club pavilion had been made safe and Apple DayCare, who rent the premises from the cricket club were advised that they should no longer use it pending further inspection for health and safety reasons.

### **Presentation**

The meeting commenced with a power point presentation given by Councillor Morris detailing the pictures and video he had taken demonstrating the damage to the roof and surrounding structures.

### **Issues Discussed**

Discussion ensued as to appropriate actions that needed to be taken urgently to:-

- a. Keep the building safe, and
- b. Initiate repairs to restore its functionality.
- c. Discussion also ensued about wider refurbishment of the Pavillion to allow other organisations to use it for sports and leisure purposes.

The Parish Council had received an email from Apple Day Care offering to pay financial costs of repair in return for being granted a lease to occupy the Pavillion. It was unanimously agreed by the Parish Council that this was inappropriate.

The Council had a wide ranging discussion considering:

1. Wider refurbishment, to include renovating the showers, re-wiring and more major refurbishment, to allow the pavilion facilities to be used by the wider village community.
2. The Parish Council unanimously agreed that it was to the village's benefit to have an active cricket club using the pavilion and to use their good endeavours to maintain good relationships with the cricket club and its officers moving forward.

### **Action Points Agreed**

1. Counsellor Stanbrook undertook to :
  - a. arrange fencing around the front of the village pavilion to prevent access into the building to maintain safety.
  - b. obtain quotations to apply heavy duty polythene secured with batons to the roof to prevent further weather damage.
  - c. arrange a minimum of two builders to inspect the pavilion closely to advise on the extent of the damage, not only to the roof but possibly any other structures, and provide a detailed quotation as to repair costs.
2. Councillor Downes undertook to :
  - a. Contact Apple Day Care to advise them of the Parish Council's decision not to enter into discussions with them regarding leasehold and also to advise them that the pavilion would be unavailable for their use till suitable repairs had been arranged and an appropriate contract between Apple Day Care and the Parish Council agreed.
  - b. Liaise with Councillor Crofton to explore potential funding options for said repairs.

Meeting ended 8:48 pm.