

# MEETING OF THE POPLARS SPORTS GROUND COMMITTEE

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 10.00am**  
**On-line video meeting via Zoom App**

**Present:** Cllrs R Ringham (Chair) T Hazard (Vice-Chair) Y Greenfield, L King and D Wright  
**In attendance:** J Sherrin (Clerk) and D List (Grounds & Amenities Manager)

## MINUTES

- POP/217**      **Apologies for absence** - None
- POP/218**      **Council members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda** - None
- POP/219**      **Minutes of the meeting held on January 27<sup>th</sup> 2020** – Approved as a true record to be signed by the Chair
- POP/220**      **Coronavirus (Covid-19)** – The Coronavirus outbreak resulted in the closure of the Poplars Sports Ground facility on March 20<sup>th</sup> 2020. Significant income has been lost during the intervening period, both from Clubs who use the ground and hire of the pavilion. Some recovery is now been made from the gradual recommencing of sports as government legislation has allowed. The 3 month period March to May 2020 income for 2019 was £10,787 whilst the income for the same period in 2020 was £ zero. Grants have been sought from all possible sources but the Parish Council has not qualified for rates relief or grants to date as it is a precepting authority and pays business rates for more than one site. The Clerk has applied for a GBC “discretionary grant” and is waiting to hear the result.
- POP/221**      **Re-opening of site** – Archery and Bowls were 2 sports allowed by central government to re-commence from 1<sup>st</sup> June. Through close liaison with the Parish Council and the necessary risk assessments and adherence to national policies and guidance for these sports, these have now started to play again with limited numbers. To date this has been successful. The U3A Petanque Club also submitted a risk assessment and method statement for re-starting from July 6<sup>th</sup>. It was proposed and resolved unanimously that the Club could re-start on this date, subject to adherence to the newly published safety guidelines from Petanque England. Clerk to advise the Club.
- POP/222**      **Football** – Burton Joyce Football Club submitted a risk assessment, training guidance and proposed schedule to the Parish Council with a view to re-commencing training in groups of 6 (including the coach) from July 6<sup>th</sup>, over a 5 night period instead of the usual one. Feedback to be given to the Football Club was as follows:
- Intervals between training sessions should be increased to 15 minutes (from 10 minutes).
  - To note that the pavilion would remain closed, so no hand washing or toilet facilities would be available.

- The Parish Council will provide hand sanitiser units at 3 points in the facility – the gates by: the garage, the 3G and the bowls green.
- A one-way system into and out of the pitches will be set up by the Parish Council, with appropriate signage.
- Alternate parking in designated zones should be marshalled by the football Club.
- Goals will be locked away and matches will not be played.
- As with other clubs, the Football Club is responsible for providing its own sanitisers for use within the ground and for monitoring, marshalling and controlling all proposed safety measures once in the ground.

Proposed and resolved unanimously to allow Burton Joyce Football Club to re-start training on the 6<sup>th</sup> July, subject to the above items and strict adherence to the provided risk assessments and method statements.

- POP/223**     **Rent** – Cllr R Ringham has requested rent reduction for the Poplars site from Severn Trent Water. The request has been escalated within the organisation. R Ringham will chase.
- POP/224**     **Business Rates** – Review of rates increase from Bowls Club Pavilion and future recovery costs. Programme of repayment to cover increases agreed with Bowls Club. New rates bill for Fisherman’s Car Park noted. Clerk to request reduction as the car park has been closed / flooded the majority of the year.
- POP/225**     **Maintenance and Repairs** – A concrete plinth for the BBQ area is being installed shortly. Plans to pursue major repairs to shutters and showers on hold until the financial situation is clarified. Cut-backs may be necessary – to be refer to Finance & General Purpose Committee.
- POP/226**     **Poplars upgrade** – Proposals received from BJFC requesting repairs and changes to the site. Cllr R Ringham to forward to committee members to be considered in July meeting.
- POP/227**     **3G** – Noted that the 3G pitch had passed the necessary inspections to allow continued registration with the FA for the next 3 year period. The guarantee lasts for 7 years and the flat pile continues to be an issue and is likely to be more of an issue at the next inspection. Cllr R Ringham to review the guarantee and report to July meeting.
- POP/228**     **CCTV** – Review of system. D List to get quote for improved resolution at main gates and 3G.
- POP/229**     **Information update** – Cllr D Wright enquired about “Parish Pegs” for anglers. D List reported that the Cricket Club had just requested to re-start training as soon as possible. To be advised that they will need to provide risk assessments and methods statements for review by the Poplars Committee before a decision can be made.
- POP/230**     **Date of next meeting** – July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020 at 10am at the Poplars Sports Ground

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of Poplars Sports Ground Committee

Date: \_\_\_\_\_