

Runnymede Borough CouncilENGLEFIELD GREEN COMMITTEE27 February 2002 at 7 p.m.

Members of the Committee present : Councillors A.G. Collins (Chairman), H.W.V. Meares (Vice-Chairman) J.E. Haas, Mrs C.Y. Jones, Mrs V.R.T. Lenton-Smith and K.J.T. Walmsley

Residents' Representatives : Mrs. M.E.J. Bairstow and Mr. A.E. Panter

Members of the Committee absent : None

566. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28 November 2001 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

567. CHILDREN'S INFORMAL 'KICK ABOUT' AREA

The Committee considered a proposal from Councillor Mrs C.Y. Jones to provide an informal childrens 'kickabout' area for football on the Green. The intention was that a junior size pitch and goalposts should be installed in order to help channel the energies of young children in a positive direction. The pitch would not be available for hire but it was envisaged that it could be used for childrens' football training courses during school holidays.

There was a view that the erection of permanent goalposts would be inappropriate, and the Committee acknowledged the need to maintain the traditional open aspect of the area as far as possible. Nevertheless the potential social and recreational benefits were such that Members felt that a facility should be installed for a trial period, the success of which would be reviewed after the school summer holidays. It was hoped that the pitch would be ready for use by Easter. The modest installation and maintenance costs could be met from existing budgets.

RESOLVED that -

- i) an informal childrens 'kickabout' area be established on the Green at the location identified in Appendix 'A' for a trial period until the end of the school summer holidays;**
- ii) the success of the trial period be the subject of a further report to the Committee at the appropriate time; and**
- iii) the demand for football training courses on the Green during school holidays be investigated.**

(Mrs M.E.J. Bairstow requested that her abstention be recorded in accordance with Standing Order 25.3)

568. DOG FOULING SIGNAGE

The Committee gave consideration to a request from Councillor K.J.T. Walmsley that additional signage be erected to discourage dog fouling on the Green. Members agreed that checks should be undertaken to ensure that all existing signage was in place and appropriate notices added to the sign posts where required. It was anticipated that the new signs could be erected by May. Members also felt that information concerning the health risks of dog fouling could be included on interpretation boards which were to be installed on the Green. The boards would provide a range of information, including historical detail, a map of the Green and a summary of the byelaws. The Borough Secretary and Leisure Services Officer was authorised to approve the design of the boards, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

RESOLVED that -

- i) a survey be undertaken to ensure that all existing signage on the Green is in good order;**
- ii) anti-dog fouling signs be added to the existing sign posts on the Green where appropriate; and**
- iii) the Borough Secretary and Leisure Services Officer be authorised to approve the design of interpretation boards to be placed on the Green in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.**

569. MEMORIAL BENCH

The Committee approved a request from a local resident for a bench to be placed at the southern end of the Green, close to the Barley Mow Pub, in memory of former Councillor Michael Palmer who represented Englefield Green West ward between 1992 – 1996. The purchase of the bench would be funded by the resident concerned and the design selected from a range approved by Officers. Installation costs could be met from existing Leisure Services revenue budgets.

RESOLVED that -

the request for a commemorative bench to be installed at the southern end of the Green be approved.

570. TREE WORKS

The Committee noted the details of a request from Englefield Green Cricket Club that some minor tree works be carried out to improve the view of the new cricket square from the Pavilion. The Club intended to create a new external viewing area on the corner of the Pavilion closest to the square but the view was currently partially obstructed by a number of small trees. Members considered that no decision should be taken on the works until the Committee had met with the Pavilion Trustees in June in order to ascertain their plans for the future of the facility. The delay was unlikely to inconvenience the club since the new pitch would not be ready for use in the interim.

RESOLVED that -

a decision on the request for tree works by Englefield Green Cricket Club be deferred until the Pavilion Trustees present their future plans for the facility to the next meeting of the Committee.

571. CRICKET SQUARE – PROGRESS

(Ref: Minutes of Englefield Green Committee November 2001, page 658, para 404)

Members noted that the new cricket square on the Green continued to make satisfactory progress. Maintenance work was being undertaken to ensure that the grass surface properly established itself and a decision would be taken by Officers in late Spring or early Summer as to when cricket could commence. A watering point was to be provided close to the square and new signs installed opposite the lay-by at the back of the Green to warn motorists that they were parking close to a cricket pitch.

572. ENGLEFIELD GREEN PAVILION

(Ref: Minutes of Englefield Green Committee November 2001, page 660, para 407)

At the last meeting of the Committee, in November 2001, Officers had been instructed to establish whether the Englefield Green Pavilion Trustees were still prepared to undertake their duties and invite them to present a report to Members on their management of the facility.

The Committee now noted that responses had been received from three of the four Trustees, one of whom, Mr. N.H. Rundell, had given notice of his intention to retire from the position. This would leave the number of Trustees one short of the minimum provided for by the Pavilion lease. In these

circumstances it was the responsibility of the remaining Trustees to nominate a replacement for the approval of the Council.

While the other Trustees to have responded were prepared to continue in the role, a number of concerns had been highlighted in respect of the management arrangements and maintenance and access issues. These would be addressed by Officers in a report to the next meeting of the Committee on 26 June. It was understood that the remaining Trustees would be happy to attend the meeting at that time.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 7.47 pm)