

## **Minutes of an Extraordinary meeting of the Bures Joint Sports Ground Committee held virtually via Zoom on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr G Jackson (Chairman), Mrs J Wright (Clerk)  
Bures St. Mary Parish Council: Cllr L Norton, Cllr S Pentney, Cllr T Saer  
Bures Hamlet Parish Council: Cllr D Monk, Cllr B Raymond, Cllr R Shackell, Cllr M Welch  
Also present: Mrs C Holbrook (Internal Auditor) plus one member of the public.

### **1/02/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from P Gough (Bures Tennis Club).

### **2/02/21 REGISTER OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

To declare any 'Pecuniary' or 'Non-Pecuniary' interests and dispensation requests.  
Register of Interests declared: Cllr T Saer – a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 4.

### **3/02/21 PUBLIC FORUM – 15 minutes maximum public participation**

3 minutes for individual contributions unless agreed by the Chairman

There was 1 member of the public present with no matters raised.

The Chairman thanked the members of the working party for their valued contributions and thoughtful discussions in response to the pressing matters now put before the Extraordinary Meeting of the Sportsground Committee.

### **4/02/21 REFRESHMENTS**

The Chairman presented the working party feedback (previously circulated to all members and attached). She noted that the provision of refreshments at the recreation ground had been extremely valued by visitors last season. However Roses General Store was now open and the Sportsground Committee had previously agreed not to allow a business to run from the recreation ground. Other factors under consideration were available power points for a refreshment vehicle and the need to advertise for Expressions of Interest.

Concerns raised from non-working party members:

a) The first proposed vehicle position was near to the agreed portaloo site and was this hygienically suitable? The Chairman advised that the spacing of the two and positioning of safety barriers would need clarifying if the proposal was agreed by the members.

b) Would the vehicle be covered by the CCTV monitoring? It was thought that CCTV would cover the area.

c) Would Swap Shop items as per the previous season be included in the agreement? The Working Party considered it would be refreshment sales only.

Cllr Saer had forwarded to members some of her own valued thoughts on the proposals for a refreshment stand.

A proposal to request Expressions of Interest was unanimously agreed.

The Expressions of Interest to be placed as widely as possible in the following:

Parish magazine, all noticeboards, website, facebook pages plus corner shop window.

The Working Party had drawn up an Invitation to Tender with terms of agreement for consideration.

Various points were raised and amendments made:

a) The previous decision to not allow a business to run from the recreation ground should remain.

b) Operating times should be flexible and include weekends.

c) Fees to be paid for operating days only.

- d) Suggest 6 operating days maximum. If agreed then fee deposit should be increased accordingly.
  - e) For safety reasons request recycling banks to be emptied when refreshments not being served.
  - d) More flexibility on the type of refreshments for sale. Refreshments to comprise of tea, coffee, soft drinks, crisps, confectionery and ice creams only.
  - e) Daily times of operating were fully discussed. Too early an operating time would conflict with the arrival of primary school children. Secondary school children tend not to arrive back in the village until 4pm. Suggest flexible operating times should be between 10am and 6pm.
  - f) Operate according to Covid-19 regulations to be included in the agreement.
  - g) Stallholder to notify the Clerk if they were not going to operate on a particular day.
- It was unanimously agreed to accept the amended Terms of Agreement.

### **5/02/21 PADDLEBOARDING**

Cllr Shackell presented the working party feedback (previously circulated to all members and attached). He noted that 2 interests had been received to set up a paddleboard business at the recreation ground.

The working party had given full consideration to the interests shown and put forward a recommendation to reject both proposals.

Reasons for recommendation:

- a) Paddle boarding at the riverbank had the potential to attract even greater numbers of visitors to the village.
- b) The existing major parking problems could increase.
- c) For safety reasons vehicular access should not be allowed from the carpark to the riverbank.
- d) Possible domination of the landing stage over other users.
- e) Negative impact on wildlife and the environment.
- f) Reluctant to increase the burden of responsibility and consequential increase in workload for the Clerk.

No further comments raised by the Committee.

A proposal to refuse the 2 interests was put forward. 7 votes in favour with 1 abstention. Proposal agreed.

### **6/02/21 BRIEF INFORMATION & EXCHANGE FOR NEXT AGENDA ITEMS**

It was noted that pop-up fitness businesses were more frequently operating from the recreation ground. How could this problem be 'policed' by the Committee?

Agreed this matter should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

### **7/02/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Date of next meeting: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 to be held either virtually or in the Committee Room, Bures Community Centre, Nayland Road at 7.30pm.

Future dates booked: 13<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 9<sup>th</sup> September, 11<sup>th</sup> November

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed:

Committee Chair

Date: