

Minutes of Methven Parks Committee – 27 July 2009

Present

Rory Macgregor	Nicola Macgregor	Elaine Boyd	Ian Blance
Neill Blance	Debbie Frame	Brian Donaldson	Sandra Baldock
David Bennet	Alison Bennet	Kate Blanche	Shirley Kean
Tommy Latto	David Wilkie		

Apologies

Lisa Hoey	Catherine Scott	Kirsty Scott	Roy Hoey
Maureen Patton			

Meeting was opened by Chairman Rory Macgregor and thanks were given for those in attendance.

Everyone was given a copy of the Agenda for meeting. Previous minutes read out and agreed.

1. Funding Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Wilkie reiterated we had missed out on the £250 grant from the Environmental agency but that he would diary for us to apply in March 2010 so that this grant could be 'ring-fenced' for us. Kate Blanche has managed to get £50.00 from them in the meantime for the purpose of making 'bat boxes'. This has to be completed prior to monies being released.• Rory has completed a draft Playing Fields fees/Terms and Conditions. There was some good constructive discussion about this and a final draft will be circulated by email as soon as the amendments have been received. Because of the increased costs to the MPC in running the Park and Den, it was suggested that the fees were too low at half that being charged by the council, so an amendment to reflect 2/3 of that charge was agreed. This will, we hope, cover some costs of park maintenance and pavilion repairs but still reflect our continued support for local sports teams. In fairness, it was agreed that we review the document to include all sports teams, including the Tennis Club.• It was agreed that we should accept the advice of our electricity supplier and source a token/card/coin meter for both the pavilion and the tennis club. Rory will request assistance from local electricians.
--------------------------	--

<p>2. Den</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ian Blance gave feedback on the Den cleanup. Ian was the only person who turned up to the last cleanup and it was accepted that we have to try for a large team again. Much of the ivy and bracken has been cut away and paths widened, but more to be done such as overhang on the burn. August 8th was suggested and Rory will put out an email to request help. ● Den boundaries – A question was raised as to the boundaries. Need to consult a map of the area. Rory will ask Ross Young if such a thing exists. ● It was agreed that a notice needs to be set up regarding the increasing problem of dog poo on paths in the Den and Park. Rory will make up some temporary signs which we hope will reinforce the message about responsible pet ownership. ● Picnic benches – Roy to chase this up. ● We have to upgrade the steps leading out of the Den. Rory to ask Wilma Lumsden if the council can help. Brian D to ask A Macgregor re concrete kerbing, etc. ● Bat boxes – see 1 (above). ● Plaque – Rory spoke to Historic Scotland, SNH and SDRP. Possible assistance.
<p>3. Duck race</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Post Office has done a great job so far and confirmed 50 ducks sold so far. Catherine Scott has suggested we state what prizes will be available. Rory suggested that committee have another word with family, friends and colleagues about the duck race to build interest. Rory will put together some leaflets for doors and ask if the cubs/scouts can assist with this task again. ● Activities on day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Storyteller (gazebo required) ○ Bouncy castle (Gavin Colyer) ○ Pony Rides (Heather) ○ Pillow Fight (tba) ○ Wheelbarrow Race (Ian Blance) ○ Treasure Hunt (Lisa Hoey) ○ Bush Craft Skills for kids (Richard Armstrong – Countryside Ranger) ○ Duck Sellers (tba) ○ BBQ and drinks (tba)

<p>4. AOB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floor hire 14/8/09 – Gordon Halley, Crieff. Help required in putting down on 11/8/09 and lifting on 17/8/09. Rory to put out an email requesting help. • Kristy Scott has taken on the Youth Committee. Four people attended the first meeting which was very positive. Rory asked that the ‘adult’ committee work closely to foster good relations and ensure this youth committee are given all the help and advice required. The Youth Committee will work under the auspices of the MPC as we have a charity number, so while any funds raised by them will go into the MPC account, it will be ring fenced off for their use, and where possible the MPC may be able to augment that for specific use. Rory will also liaise with the Village Hall committee to ascertain whether the old snooker room to the rear can once again be used for the youth group. • It was agreed to begin planning the Fox Slide. Rory will speak with Wilma Lumsden to see what (if any) planning requirements must be met. • The Scouts Group will collect the pole fight equipment 28 July. Rory will ensure this is returned. Rory will also request return from previous Scout committee of the koo! • Rory suggested the committee begin a process of upgrade to the pavilion. This is especially important as a) there are a number of serious deficiencies, and b) if we are intending to formalise arrangements with the sports teams we have to ensure a reasonable facility for them. Obviously funding is a major hurdle we have to overcome, so it would be prudent to obtain some estimates on requirements, and then complete grant applications.
<p>5. Next Meeting</p>	<p>Monday 10th August, 7.30pm, Methven Arms This meeting will finalise activities for the duck race.</p>