

# SEDLSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

## NOTES RE PAVILION REBUILD

1. **INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS.** At an informal meeting of councillors on 31/05/07, there were present: Cllr V Wright (Chairman of the Council), Cllr A Rand (Vice-Chairman of the Council), Cllrs R Dudman, C Wheatley, P Martin. Mrs P Raymond (Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer). Paras 2-10 following record what was discussed.
2. **PLANS.** Cllr Rand has visited the Rother Planning Department and has found that the approved plans are not those approved by the Football Association. Andrew Gerken (Pumphouse Designs) has just sent an amended plan to Rother Planning and believes that this will not require a fresh planning application but will be dealt with as a minor amendment. Cllr Dudman would like to see a building that is suitable for uses other than as a pavilion.
3. **SPECIFICATION.** Construction Notes had been provided by the Sports Association for the contractors invited to tender.
4. **QUOTES.** Three quotes were obtained last year by the Sports Association and Cllr Rand suggested that a 10% increase in price should be allowed for. He is to meet the three contractors as soon as possible.
5. **ALTERNATIVE BUILDING METHODS.** There had been some support at the Parish Assembly for self-build construction of the pavilion. This would require a very dedicated project manager and is not thought to be feasible. Piling anyway is specialised work.
6. **PORTAKABIN.** Cllr Martin has spoken to Rother and received permission to remove several of the damaged Scots Pine trees at the river end of the field so that a portakabin could be installed and the old pavilion demolished. Cllr Rand has checked that it will be able to be plumbed in. None of this will affect the new Societies Association shed. If erected by the Parish Council, and under 200 cu metres in size, planning permission will not be required.
7. **FUND-RAISING.** Catsfield had recently opened a new pavilion costing about £90,000 (no piling and no VAT). They had received £29,000 in grant aid and the Catsfield Parish Council had raised a loan (unknown amount).
  - a. The Clerk had downloaded application forms for suitable grant-making bodies.
  - b. The Sports Association's application for grant aid had been turned down by the WARR Partnership.
  - c. Cllr Dudman agreed to help with the fund-raising. His Playground Committee is still registered with ENTRUST as an environmental body but the committee's constitution would have to be amended before application could be made to the Landfill Community Fund. However, the provision of public access to the pavilion would need to be sorted out.
  - d. Are there any funds available from the governing bodies of the other sports represented at the field? ie stoolball, cricket and archery.
  - e. Collection tins should be available at sports events at the field.
  - f. High profile football clubs could be asked to contribute or, even, a high profile footballer.
  - g. Sedlescombe Golf Club will be asked if they can help (maybe by running a fund-raising day) (Cllr Martin? to speak to them).

- h. Cllr Rand to speak to the Football Foundation about transferring discussions re grant aid to the Parish Council from the Sports Association.
- i. Chris Campbell to be asked about providing a fund-raising “thermometer” at the field.
- j. Local residents to be asked to contribute. The wording of the letter will need careful consideration.

**8. SPORTS ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTION.** The Parish Council will need to consider how the future use and maintenance of the pavilion will be arranged and how much the Sports Association will be expected to contribute. This could have VAT implications. [NB Para 2(viii) of the 2005 Lease states that the Association is:

**(viii) To maintain at their own expense any buildings now or hereafter to be erected on the field and at their own expense to keep the field in good and tenable condition and to make sure that the grass is cut regularly over the whole field throughout the growing season**

- 9. FOOTBALL LEAGUE REQUIREMENTS.** A copy of the letter from the East Sussex Football League has been obtained. This specifies that, unless the facilities at the Sedlescombe Sportsfield are improved in time, no league matches will be able to be played by the senior Football Club at the Sportsfield in the 2007/8 season. The RFO had written to John Noonan asking what the implications are for the Football Club of this requirement as it is most unlikely that the pavilion will be provided in time.
- 10. VAT.** The RFO is in correspondence with HM Customs and Excise re VAT exemption or recovery. It was agreed that VAT should be included in the Council’s calculations even though Catsfield managed to either build its pavilion VAT free or have recovered the VAT.

#### **OTHER COUNCILLORS’ INPUT**

- Cllr Dellow willing to help with fund-raising.
- Cllr Cameron advising re the announcement to be included in the next Bulletin. Copy by 11/06/07. Speaking with Cllr Rand re specification.
- Cllr Irwin has received representations from residents on fixed incomes who are concerned about the announcement at the Assembly that the Council could consider raising a large loan which would have to be repaid over many years from the Council Tax. Cllr Irwin would like details of the Sports Association’s accounts to show how much each sports club contributes towards running the field. She reminds members that the Parish Council is not providing just £18,000 but, in the last two years, has spent nearly £12,000 on the sportsfield car park and £2000 on the new entrance. She also suggests that the Sports Association should have been saving a lot of money because the Parish Council does not now receive any rent for the field. RFO to request latest accounts from Sports Association Treasurer. Also details of insurance of the field and pavilion.
- Cllr Rand to arrange for a photograph to be taken, maybe on Fete Day on 02/06/07, of the small boys in the Sedlescombe Rangers outside the old pavilion for use in publicity campaigns.