

Parks Report: RLA 26 June 2014

- **Swanscombe Park:**

Bowls is now in full swing and despite the regular damage caused by foxes the green is playing well. Instead Rise Bowls Club are holding a number of open days in June.

The refurbishment of the flagpole is now complete and we have been flying flags on relevant days.

All of the flower beds have now been planted.

Painting of the tin fence in the old putting green area has been done and the railings have been repainted.

Another successful dog micro-chipping session has been held by the Dogs Trust on Saturday 7 June 2014.

The outstanding repairs to the Tennis Court and Bowls Club fence have been completed.

Some work to remove dead wood from an Ash tree is required.

- **Manor Park:**

Repairs to the roundabout, highlighted in the Annual Playground Inspection, have been undertaken.

A Horse Chestnut tree bordering the church wall has died and will have to be removed.

Unfortunately there has been an increase in vandalism and nuisance in the park over recent weeks.

- **Broomfield:**

The football pitches have been top dressed and seeded. We intend to have selective weed killer applied to the field in the coming weeks.

Cricket has been underway for some weeks now and the feedback from the clubs is that the square is playing well.

A swing seat has been replaced in the play area.

A patch of Japanese Knotweed has been discovered on the perimeter of the field. This is a notoriously invasive species and we will follow Environment Agency guidelines which recommend cutting down the stems and regular treatment with weed killer. We shall need to monitor any regrowth for a number of years.

- **Knockhall:**

The football pitches have been top dressed and seeded. Deep spiking is taking place to try to alleviate the waterlogging problems that the junior pitch suffered last season. Weedkilling should take place on the field in the next few weeks.

- **Heritage Park:**

The kissing gate at the top of the steps has been repaired and reinforced.

There has been a spate of graffiti recently on the information plaques and marker stones.

- **Valley View:**

We have been advised to monitor the roundabout as the bearings are showing early signs of wear.

- **Saxon Court:**

The work to the safety surface, highlighted in the Annual Safety Inspection, has been undertaken..

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 March 2014 15:33:07
To: Graham Blew
Subject: Skate Park:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am emailing to request information regarding how I would go about building a community skate park. I'm under 18 (I'm 14) and don't belong to any community organisations. I was thinking of possibly creating one.

I have not had a thorough look around yet, but I believe that a small section of Knockhall Park's field would be an amazing spot to build one. If it turns out to be possible, I plan to apply for a National Lottery Grant. The whole aim of the skate park is to help install a sense of community, increase peer-to-peer relationships (whatever the age) and boost confidence. It would be much different than a usual skatepark, as the community-build sense will be strongly recognised and publicised. I am hoping for it to be fenced off, but open to the public from 4-8 PM (Roughly) on weekdays (and a lot longer on weekends) to prevent it from just becoming another trashed up loitering spot. It will be run on volunteers who help clean and maintain it, as well as possible help from local shops such as B&Q to source required materials.

I'm not asking for any form of permission or anything like that, Just advice on where to go and who to approach. Also, whether Knockhall Park is even a possible location.

Many Thanks,

[REDACTED]

Unread COPY

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 February 2014 were approved and signed as a true record.

428/13-14. **SENIOR GROUNDSMAN/GARDENER'S REPORT.**

The Senior Groundsman/Gardener updated members on the work undertaken, by the Parks Department and also the work planned for the future which included:

Swanscombe Park, Manor Park, Broomfield. Heritage Park, Knockhall and equipment.

Recommended: That the item be note.

429/13-14. **ANNUAL SAFETY INSPECTION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.**

Members received the Annual Safety Inspection of Play Ground Equipment and were asked to approve the remedial actions indicated in the report. The Town Clerk advised members that, to save on costs, any remedial work able to be done "in-house" would be undertaken by the Parks Department.

The Chairman expressed his satisfaction that, due to the council's investment, the items highlighted in the report had dramatically decreased.

Recommended: That the Annual Safety Inspection of Play Ground Equipment be noted and that the undertaking of the remedial work indicated in the report (yellow) be approved.

430/13-14. **BALL GAMES IN BROOMFIELD PARK.**

Members considered the email received from a resident of Pentstemon Drive. After discussion with the Senior Groundsman/Gardener it was agreed that the Parks Department monitor this situation and that this item be re-submitted to the next Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting.

Recommended: That the Parks Department monitor the situation and that this item be re-submitted to the next Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting.

431/13-14. **SKATE PARK - REQUEST.**

Members considered the email received from a younger member of the community regarding setting up a skate park and asked that they be invited to the next meeting of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee to discuss the project.

Recommended: That the person submitting the request be invited to attend the next meeting of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee to discuss the request.

Graham Blew

From: Peter Harman <harmanpeter@hotmail.com>
Sent: 04 June 2014 21:37
To: Graham Blew; Cllr Kevin G Basson; BRYAN READ
Subject: Fwd: Pentstemon Drive - ball games

AGENDA ITEM 7.2
RLA 26/6/14

Peter Harman
(b) (6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Peter Harman" <(b) (6)>
To: "Graham Blew" <graham.blew@swanscombeandgreenhithetowncouncil.gov.uk>, "Cllr Kevin G Basson" <(b) (6)>, "BRYAN READ" <BRYAN.READ@DARTFORD.GOV.UK>
Subject: Fwd: Pentstemon Drive - ball games

Hello Graham,

I was able to meet this evening with (b) (6) of Pentstemon Drive (mobile no (b) (6)) to discuss the problems relating to ball games being played on the grassed area opposite his house. Mr (b) (6) and his wife have lived at this address for about five years, and he informs me that the problems of balls hitting cars and houses is becoming more frequent. He also said that he has some concerns about road safety for children running across the road without checking for traffic to retrieve the ball. He said that some of his neighbours shared his concerns.

There does not seem to be any easy solution to this problem, the possible options appear to be:

- (a) ban all ball games in that area,
- (b) additional low level fencing to stop the ball passing through the fence,
- (c) plant a couple of additional trees on the grassed area, and
- (d) take no action.

My feeling is that the best option would be to display a sign banning all ball games in the vicinity of the road, together with a couple of trees planted near to the road. I think that this would then cause the ball games to be played further back away from the road. However I would suggest that residents should then all be consulted on any action agreed by the committee.

Whilst on site I noticed that one of the trees is leaning over at a very steep angle, and probably needs to be supported with a timber post.

Kind regards

Peter

Peter Harman
(b) (6)

Begin forwarded message:

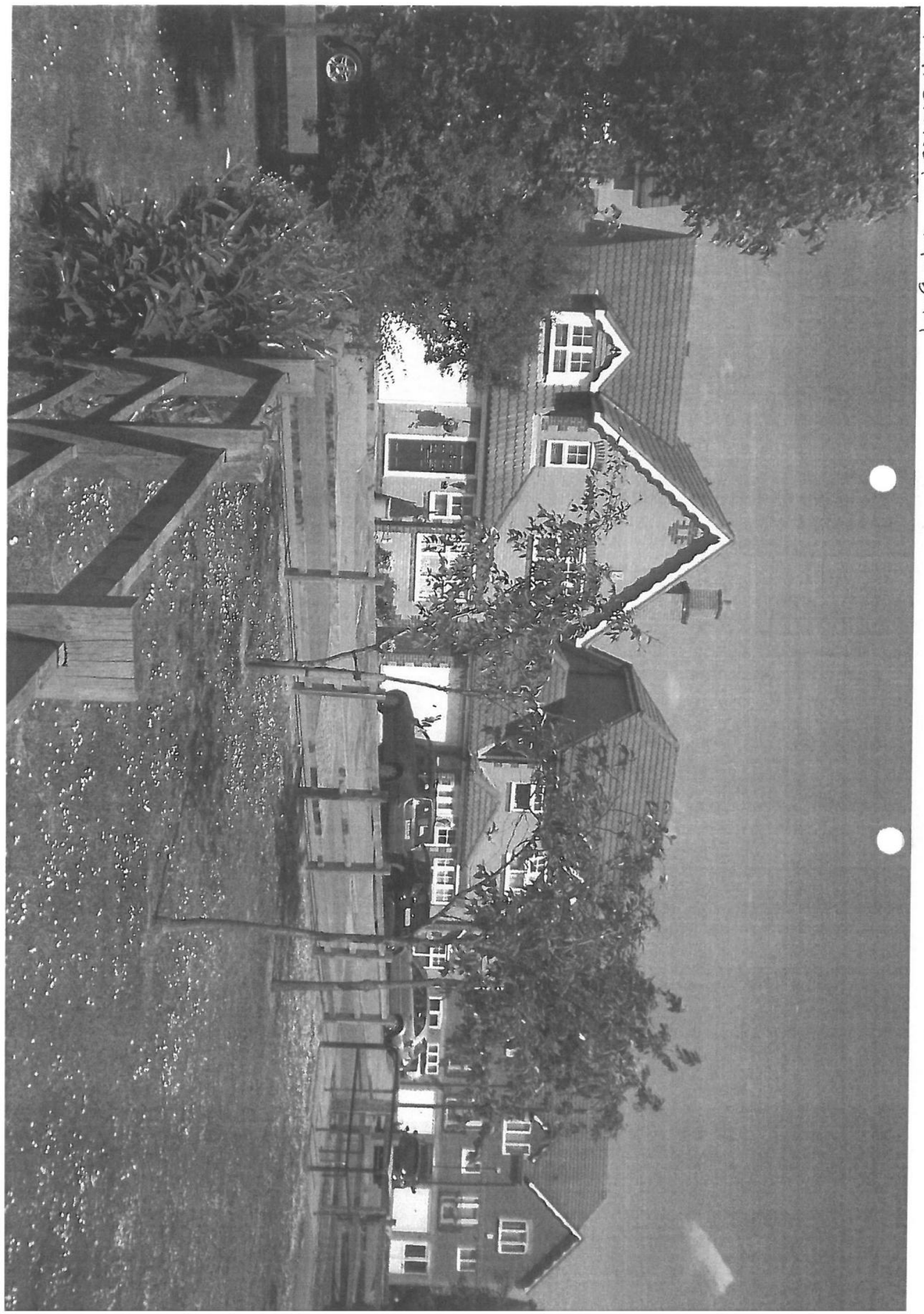
From: "Graham Blew" <graham.blew@swanscombeandgreenhithetowncouncil.gov.uk>

This page is intentionally left blank

15-10-1951



1-2-81 - 1-2-81



FELLS BREWERY - 117 - 2-14



This page is intentionally left blank

AGENDA ITEM 7.3

RLA 26/6/14

From: Peter Harman [mailto:harmanpeter@hotmail.com]

Sent: 01 May 2014 06:38

To: Graham Blew; kgbasso; Bryan Read

Cc: Cllr Annette R Harvey; Cllr Bryan R Parry; Cllr Jeffrey Harvey; Cllr John A Hayes; Cllr Josephine M Harman; Cllr Lesley C Howes; Cllr Lorna M Cross; Cllr Paul A Read; Cllr Peter C Harris; Cllr Richard J Lees (mac); Cllr Richard J Lees (Town Council); Cllr Susan P Butterfill; Cllr Vic Openshaw

Subject: Disposal of Ford Triple Three Tractor

Dear Graham / Kevin,

I have contacted a number of "tractor clubs" regarding the sale of the tractor. I would like to suggest that we sell it using the "sealed bid" method. I have researched the value of the tractor, and it is so unusual to find a tractor of this age that it is almost impossible to decide a value for it.

Kind regards

Peter

Peter Harman
(07956) 347419

EXTRACT OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

14.2 No property shall be sold, leased or otherwise disposed of without the authority of the Council, together with any other consents required by law, save where the estimated value of any one item of tangible movable property does not exceed £50.

EXTRACT OF MINUTES

355/13-14. POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT TRACTOR.

The Town Clerk and Senior Groundsman/Gardener went through the report and details of the tractor and after discussion it was agreed to offer to purchase the replacement tractor as detailed in the report.

Recommended:

That the council offer to purchase the replacement tractor with the finances being vired/allocated as detailed in the report.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY
LEFT BLANK.

EXTRACT OF MINUTES

432/13-14. **SECURITY MEASURES AT SWANSCOMBE PARK – SECURITY MEASURES (LIGHTING).**

Members discussed the options provided by the quotation for the re-instatement of the flood lights attached to the unused telegraph pole next to the Mess Room and agreed that the matter be monitored and re-submitted to the next Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting.

Recommended:

That the matter be monitored and re-submitted to the next Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting.

This page is intentionally left blank



AGENDA ITEM 7.5
RLA 26/6/14

FOOTBALL PITCH ALLOCATION 2014 -2015

PITCH:	DAY & TIME:	LAST YEAR:	REQUESTS – 2014 / 2015:
B/FIELD:			
Pitch 1	Saturday pm	Stone C & I	Stone C & I
		Vacant	VACANT
Pitch 2	Saturday pm	Pavilion Athletic	Pavilion Athletic
		Vacant	VACANT
Pitch 1	Sunday am	Taverners	Taverners FC
		Darent River FC	Darent River FC
	Sunday pm		VACANT
			VACANT
Pitch 2	Sunday am	Swanscombe Tigers Men's	Swanscombe Tigers Men's
		Swanscombe Tigers Reserves	Swanscombe Tigers Reserves
	Sunday pm		VACANT
			VACANT
Mini Pitch (80 x 50)	Sunday am	Swanscombe Tigers U11's	Swanscombe Tigers U11's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U11's (B)
		Swanscombe Tigers U12's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U12's (B)	Swanscombe Tigers U12's
Mini Pitch (40 x 30)	Sunday am	Swanscombe Tigers U7's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U7's (B)	Swanscombe Tigers U7's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U7's (B)
			Swanscombe Tigers U8's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U8's (B)



FOOTBALL PITCH ALLOCATION 2014 -2015

K/HALL:			
	Saturday pm	VACANT	Bean FC
		VACANT	VACANT
	Sunday am	Swanscombe Tigers U13's	Swanscombe Tigers U13's
		Swanscombe Tigers U16's	Swanscombe Tigers U14's
	Sunday pm	Swanscombe Tigers U18's	Swanscombe Tigers U17's
		Swanscombe Tigers U14's	VACANT
Mini Pitch (60 x 40)	Sunday am	Swanscombe Tigers U9's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U9's (B)	Swanscombe Tigers U10's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U10's (B)
		Swanscombe Tigers U10's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U10's (B)	VACANT

25-30 Gilbert Close
Swanscombe
KENT
DA10 0NH

13 MAY 2014

AGENDA ITEM

RLA 26/6/14 7.7

Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council
The Grove
Swanscombe
Kent

Dear Sir

We are enclosing a letter that has been sent to Dartford Borough Council and c.c to yourselves and Gareth Johnson.

These bin areas that they propose to install in the close are not an answer to the litter problem,

They will be unsightly and in the front of the properties which will turn a once nicely maintained garden area into a slum area. On top of this they want to charge lease holders for the privilege!!

Yours Faithfully

Residence of 25 – 30 Gilbert Close.

25 – 30 Gilbert close
Swanscombe
Kent
DA10 0NH

13 MAY 2014

Peter Parker
Dartford Borough Council
Home Gardens
Dartford
Kent

1st. May 2014

Dear Sir

We the undersigned are very much against the intention of erecting bin corrals in front of our block or indeed in the Close at all.

We have a nice green area in front of all the blocks with trees and shrubs that are well maintained and in doing this it will ruin what is now a very nice area. Also an added problem on collection day may be the parked vehicles blocking access to these corrals and leading to bins not being emptied.

We fought long and hard to get the Close tidied up and not have all the bins out the front and found that the larger bins in the areas they now are a much better solution.

Our problem with rubbish is that you have not provided enough bins. There are eight blocks of six flats, 48 dwellings, block 1 – 6 still retain their smaller bins. The remaining seven blocks 42 dwellings have only five bins for rubbish and therefore rubbish gets put on the ground or falls from over filled bins.

This will be a step back and not forward and environmentally not an asset to the area.

It will also not stop the “dumping of rubbish” as you suggested as this is “Fly tipping” and a completely different issue altogether that need addressing.

Yours faithfully

No 25

No 26

No 27

No 28

No 29

No 30

cc Swanscombe Town Council
cc Gareth Johnson MP

AGENDA ITEM 7.8
RLA 26/6/14

From: lesley_howes[REDACTED].com [mailto:lesley_howes[REDACTED]]
Sent: 12 June 2014 10:55
To: Info
Subject: Fee for using Swanscombe Park August 8th

Walk Tall are proud to be involved in a project which commemorates the start of World War One. The project is designed to involve local people in research and as part of the publicity are including free open air theatre performances created to illustrate the part local people played in the conflict and encourage members of the public to become involved in the project.

Walk Tall would very much like to use Swanscombe Park as a venue on Friday 8th August at 1pm. The performance will take up to an hour and will need power to work a public address system.

The public will be encouraged to bring picnics and rugs

As co-ordinator for the project I would like book a space in the park and to request a waiver or reduction in the rental fee.

Many thanks for considering this request.

Lesley Howes

This page is intentionally left blank