

The Conservators of Therfield Heath and Greens

The Therfield Regulation Trust

c/o Royston Golf Club, Baldock Rd, Royston, SG8 5BG

Registered Charity No. 277881

Chair: Nicholas Keep

Site Manager: Maria Barber

Email: sitemanager@therfieldheath.org.uk



Summary Minutes for the meeting held on 23rd May 2024 at 7pm in the Black Barn

Abbreviations may be used to identify individuals:

Chair or NKe: Nick Keep, CSw: Clare Swarbrick, CSm: Colin Smith; CHa: Clive Hall;

BHa: Ben Harrop; RLa: Robert Law; JKl: John King; Rev Carol Newnham

Item	Description
1	Apologies for Absence Rev Carol sent apologies.
2	Declarations of Interest: (see * * for any relevant minute details)
3	Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26th April 2024 April meeting minutes These minutes were approved with an amendment from Nick.
4	Major items to discuss
4.1	Countryside Stewardship Scheme NE email The Trust has an offer but have not accepted it yet. There was a lengthy debate about the pros and cons and how to proceed. The main issues are cost, internal agreement, the ORNECs and receiving a guaranteed level of income. RPA are keen to help and have been in contact with Nick. However, it was agreed to pursue the ORNECS and vote on the content next month. Within this discussion it was agreed that Conservators have the option to email in their vote on this specific issue if they are unable to attend.
4.2	New Trustee Deferred to the next meeting.
4.3	Tennis There is a meeting on 5 th June.
4.4.	Staffing Replacements Site Manager update: The job has been advertised.
5	Project/Task updates

5.1	Priorities and responsibilities
5.2	<p>Container update</p> <p>Ben updated the meeting. The Trust needs to communicate with the Runners that they need to remove their container as their license has expired. Maria to revisit the license and draft a letter.</p> <p>The footballers need to rationalise their container at the end of the season.</p> <p>Ben also raised the possibility of renting out a container. This will be investigated further.</p>
6	<p>Health & Safety, Accidents and incidents</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>
7	Leases, Licenses and Tenants etc
7.1	<p>Heath Café</p> <p>Current status</p> <p>The transfer is complete. Greenwoods are sorting out the requested easement which is complex.</p> <p>Nick to obtain an update from Greenwoods.</p> <p>Rob to obtain a further quote for the roof.</p>
7.2	<p>Golf Club</p> <p>They are hosting a charity day on 10th June. The Conservators agreed to their request to erect a gazebo.</p>
7.3	<p>Rugby</p> <p>Ben updated the meeting regarding the lease, lights and grass. They have a written obligation to cut the grass. The details of this were discussed and it was agreed by all the rugby pitch should be cut to 20/25 mm. Ben to liaise with the Rugby club.</p>
7.4	<p>Street Furniture Therfield Heath</p> <p>Email</p> <p>There has been an increase in additional signage occurring on the Heath land. Nick to write to Herts Highways to find out more.</p>
7.5	<p>Rush Green, Sandon Rd, Therfield</p> <p>Email</p> <p>It was agreed to cut this area in the autumn. Maria to inform the resident.</p>
8	Events and Requests
8.1	<p>FOTH plein air painting group event, 7th August</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Event approved.</p>
8.2	<p>CRC walk 19th June</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Application & planned route</p>

	This event was approved by the Conservators. Maria to inform them.
8.3	<p>Kite Festival</p> <p>Request to cut grass email</p> <p>It was agreed that the Trust would offer to pay for a one-off grass cut of the festival area if NE give the necessary permissions.</p> <p>Cllr email</p> <p>It was agreed to signpost the Cllr to assist the Rotary with the Kite festival. Nick to arrange to meet with the Cllr to discuss this and the Sports and Green Spaces strategy.</p>
8.4	<p>Request to host BBQ/Gazebo</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Form 1 & 2</p> <p>Event approved including gazebo but a no re the request to host a bbq.</p>
8.5	<p>Litter bins stored at Thrift Farm</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to get rid of them.</p>
8.6	<p>FOSM litter pick with Meadfleet - 21st June</p> <p>Email</p> <p>All are happy for this to go ahead.</p>
8.7	<p>Update from meeting with Royston Runners</p> <p>The February event has been moved to October. The Royston in Blue event is on 23rd June. Maria to check how they are marking the course. Email request to use a drone at the event to take photos has been declined. Maria to inform the organisation.</p>
8.8	<p>Car park potholes</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Photo 1 & 2</p> <p>The issues regarding the car park were discussed. This is an ongoing concern with long term issues with drainage. Maria to reply to enquiry with this update.</p>
8.9	<p>Royston Hockey Club – banner request</p> <p>Email</p> <p>The Conservators agreed to this request for a limited time. Colin declared interest as he is a member.</p>
9	Finance Matters
9.1	<p>Accounts</p> <p>April accounts</p> <p>VAT on land registry was discussed, whether to claim all of it or carve it up. It was agreed to separate it out. Nick to follow up.</p>
9.2	Banking

	£50k has been transferred to interest account. Nick and Colin have bank cards.
9.3	Budget See Budget 2024 No changes noted.
10	Legal Actions, Disputes, Wayleaves and related issues
11	Any Other business Therfield Heath working with Hertfordshire & Middlesex Wildlife Trust All are happy for Nick to meet up with this organisation to find out more and report back.
12	Date of next meeting 7pm, 27th June 2024 Black Barn