

## **ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of public meeting held at the Village Hall, Rosemarket on Monday 25/03/11 to discuss possible future uses for the Old School Playground**

**Apologies :** None

**Present :** C'llrs Evelyn Poar, Rhys Jones, David Wildman, Tony Young, Barbara Summons, M.B.E., Alan Taylor (Chairman); Peter Horton (Clerk).

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting all the members of the public (18 in number) present. He introduced all the Council Members for the benefit of those present who might not know them personally. He then proceeded to explain the reason for the meeting – to invite local expressions and opinions on the future use of the school playground. This was felt by the Community Council to be important, as this was a very valuable community asset.

Some present took issue with the fact that C'llr Alan Taylor had obtained a valuation for the land. One local resident mentioned a reference in the recent In Touch citing the Community Council as being the owners. He asked what would happen to the land if the Community Council should be disbanded. The Clerk undertook to investigate this.

David Barrah explained that the Beacon was a Village Green. However, one local resident had been told by the Land Registry that the playground was not registered land. The Clerk mentioned that the land had been registered upon its return to Community Council ownership from the Church authority.

There was some discussion over the issue of the boundary wall between the playground and the triangle of land now belonging to the Old Schoolhouse. The circumstances of the transfer of this section was debated briefly.

Mention was made of the public right of way across the playground. A discussion over whether or not this was still extant concluded that it was.

There was some discussion over the provision of gates into the playground area.

The following were the options mentioned as possible future uses for the playground :

- getting it designated as a Village Green.
- retaining it as at present, including use for Village Hall / Beacon car parking.
- Not to be sold, but retained for Community use in any form.
- Sell the land to finance the construction of a replacement Village Hall.

Mr. Marchant put forward a motion to retain the playground as currently used. It was pointed out that any vote taken on the floor would not be binding in any way on the Community Council, and there was no need to observe the voting formalities incumbent upon the Community Council. The vote was held, and there was unanimous agreement among the members of the public present for the land to be kept in Community Council ownership, and retained for its present use. C'llr Tony Young asked if it was genuinely felt that this was a representative view. It was pointed out that those who cared enough to express a view on the future use of the land were present, so there should be no need to investigate the matter further. On this basis, suggestions to (a) put the results of the vote into In Touch and invite further comments, and (b) schedule a further public meeting to discuss the matter further, were opposed by those present.

Following this the meeting was closed at 8-10pm.