

School Field Timeline

- 11/07/2011 – Mr J Brine writes to WCC Building Development Support Officer enquiring about the lease and maintenance.
- 20/07/2011 – Jane Hopkins (BDS Officer) writes to Mr J Brine that unfortunately the maintenance must come from the school's structural maintenance budget and the annual £50 rent payable to the NPC is also the school's responsibility.
- 05/07/2011 – Jane Hopkins sends the above response to NPC as an FYI.
- 11/10/2011 – A meeting is proposed between NPC, Mr J Brine and School Governors.
- 19/10/2011 – A meeting is held between NPC, Mr J Brine and School Governors discussing:
 - Expectations in relation to the Contract – the current grounds maintenance contract with is paid for by St Lawrence.
 - How NPC can best support St Lawrence – with particular reference to historical expectations.
 - St Lawrence choosing to make the field out of bounds to the community including the school community whilst problems were being addressed.
 - Discussions regarding the longer term ground access contract – that runs to 2016.
- 08/11/2011 – Parish Clerk contacts Mr J Brine stating that following the monthly NPC meeting:
 - NPC would be prepared to extend the lease of the pastureland behind the Granton Playing Field beyond 2016.
 - NPC intended to review the lease prior to the 2016 date to make the lease terms clearer and easier to understand and follow for both parties.
 - NPC would be prepared to waive the lease charges for the pastureland over the last seven years provided that St Lawrence contributes towards the cost of the hedge cutting and trimming on the field, which would be £240.00 plus VAT.
 - NPC will pay the cost of the work to the hedges on the boundary of the Granton Playing Field.
 - NPC request that the school caretaker lock the gates to the field at dusk each evening to try and prevent young people from using the field inappropriately.
- 04/05/2016 – Jim Sleight reviewed the WCC lease
- 03/06/2016 – Email from Cllr J Alsop outlining potential options provided by the school for the lease moving forward to be discussed at the June or July 2016 PC meeting:
 - To renew the existing lease but with significant change in that it does not give the school sole responsibility for maintenance – specifically in relation to major renovation of items such as a fencing or remedial work on the surface to solve any cracking problems in the future (Proposed that NPC could consider covering this investment via 137 agreement). (Schools preferred route with a potential to discuss 'part funding'.)
 - A pay as you go scheme to cover when the school use the field – and both regular and significant maintenance costs would rest solely on the NPC.
 - The email also states that the relationship has been 'delegated' down from WCC to the school, and as such the new lease will need to be discussed with the school (and dioceses?) directly.

- 06/06/2016 – *PC Meeting*: Update of previous email was given but no further discussion was had as one Cllr declared an interest and the meeting would not have been quorate so item postponed until the July meeting.
- 04/07/2016 – *PC Meeting*: Item postponed as awaiting date for meeting with school representatives.
- 05/09/2016 – *PC Meeting*: Still awaiting a date for meeting with school representatives but the initial framework document was drawn up but legal advice was to be sought.
- 10/2016 – NPC met with school representatives.
- 07/11/2016 – *PC Meeting*: Proposed way forward was outlined:
 - The future agreement will be with St Lawrence specifically – and will be a more simple letter contract rather than the complicated 30 page document currently in place from WCC
 - NPC will continue to charge a peppercorn rent – but will reduce this to £1 per annum.
 - NPC propose to waive the amount owing from 2012 on, and start the new peppercorn rent for 2017 onwards. This will be invoiced at the start of the calendar year.
 - The school will continue to be responsible for mowing and day to day maintenance.
 - NPC will be responsible for significant maintenance such as fences.
 - The field gate will be locked by the school when used, removing the need for the caretaker or similar. They will open the gate at the end of each day.
 - As before the field will be for school use during the school day and for general use at other times.
 - NPC will ensure that the site is insured outside of school times under their insurance policy.
 - NPC will ensure that the land is registered with the land registry (NPC to take advice from Rollasons as to whether it and the adjacent playground, should be registered as one parcel or two).
 - Vote was unanimously approved.
- 08/01/2018 – *PC Meeting*: Lease was signed and sealed. Lease to run for a period of 10 years from the date of signature (expires January 2028).

Note that this timeline has been produced from evidence obtained in the form of emails, pc meeting minutes and documents.

Produce by: Courtney Adam (NPC Clerk)