

Grandstand on Wharf Lane Recreation Ground

Recommendation

That Council decides the future of the grandstand on the Wharf Lane Recreation Ground or instructs the Town Clerk as to what further information is required to enable a decision to be reached.

Background Information

1. In 1938 the Ilminster Town Association Football Club were granted a licence by The Urban District Council of Ilminster “to play football and erect necessary apparatus with stand or pavilion in the Town Recreation Ground” The 1938 licence appears to have been superseded by a licence dated 21 February 1988 which includes references to use of ground for playing football matches and practice matches as well as erecting floodlights and giving “the right to exclusive use of the two grandstands urinal and sump now on the pitch”
2. The Football Club have now written to the Town Council - see Appendix A to this report – stating that they wish to retain the grandstand and explaining the reasons why.
3. The plans that the Cricket Club had drawn up for The Shed, which have now received planning permission, include the demolition of the grandstand to enable an extension to The Shed which would provide an improved bar / kitchen / cellar and create a new groundsman’s store to be used by the Cricket Club (thus releasing the store currently rented from the Town Council).
4. The Town Clerk has sought legal advice from the solicitor currently working on the new leases and licences which is provided for Councillors in Appendix B to this report which is confidential.