

RECREATION GROUND

19/10/1929 'proposed that the Clerk write to the RDC asking them for a piece of land 3 or 4 acres adjoining the building site at Thornhill for the purposes of a Children's recreation Ground where they could play cricket, football and other games. The vacant piece of land where the children now played was too near the houses and the Chapel and altogether unsuitable for recreation purposes. The Co-operation window was broken by the children while at play on the ground above mentioned and had cost the Co-operative £9-0-0 to make good. Many complaints are received about disturbances caused by the children playing on the streets.'

13/12/1939 'the Clerk to write again to RDC asking them to reconsider the case of a recreation ground and at the same time explain that the piece of ground that was allotted for a recreation ground the C.C. School now occupied.'

20/06/1930 'proposed that the clerk write to Whitehaven RDC for recreation ground or Playing field for Thornhill'

22/08/1930 'the question of allocating as a playground a portion of the field now rented by Mr Dawson at Thornhill has been referred to the housing committee and will be dealt with at their next meeting'

4/11/1930 'recreation ground - acting clerk read letter re same. conditions discussed etc. proposed that ground be accepted on conditions and terms offered by the RDC'

'proposed that the clerk write for tenders for fencing recreation ground. (Mr Richardson's Fence)'

9/01/1931 'proposed that Clerk ask Whitehaven RDC if they appoint a sub committee to meet a sub committee of Parish Council with respect to fencing recreation ground at Thornhill'

27/01/1931 Sub Committee Meeting 'proposed that the fencing of the Children's recreation Ground be left in the hands of the Engineer and Surveyor Whitehaven RDC also the erecting of same. that the Engineer prepare estimated cost of fencing and erecting for Parish council meeting in February'

6/02/1931 'The estimate of the engineer for fencing at a cost of £60/14/0 be accepted.'

'Fencing to be galvanised chain link fencing five feet high two inch mesh secured to oak posts with suitable entrance. Chain link no. 7 gauge.'

24/05/1931 Sub Committee Meeting ' Engineer Mr Buchanan explained that the fencing was not any part of the children's recreation ground and that the entrance was suitable and that he was responsible for the same. the Sub committee accepted the foregoing explanation. That a letter be sent to Whitehaven RDC asking that they erect a fence as soon as possible in keeping with the one erected by Parish council. That cheque for fencing and posts be signed.'

2/09/1931 'letter to RDC with respect of completing fencing around ground remains unanswered'

'proposed that a notice board be erected at the entrance prohibiting anyone except children using the same for games.'

16/04/1934 'proposed that the Children' Recreation Committee meet on Monday to consider what means can be adopted to safeguard the children and to prevent adults using the ground as they were doing at present also to suggest suitable amusements for the children and find ways and means of having the ground fenced in.'

30/04/1934 Sub Committee Meeting 'it was suggested that six swings and a parallel bar be erected on the recreation ground at an approximate cost of £30'

12/06/1934 'Clerk read report of sub committee Meeting and proposals for equipment be confirmed'

'proposed that Clerk write to Ennerdale RDC suggesting they erect a suitable fence on the North side of the ground.'

6/07/1934 'proposed that the Clerk take out insurance policy covering the Children's Recreation Ground as per letter from the Ocean Insurance company at a yearly premium of £1-0-0

' proposed that the chairman and clerk arrange with Mr Buchanan, Engineer and surveyor RDC for the erection of swings and Parallel Bar

27/02/1935 'proposed that the Surveyor of the Ennerdale RDC be asked to erect the children's swings and parallel bar on the children's ground'

10/07/1935 ' proposed that the Clerk write to the ERDC stating that the swings etc purchased by the Parish council approximately 12 months ago were still awaiting erection although the ERDC had through their surveyor promised to have same done'

16/04/1937 'swings on playing ground It was decided that the swings be erected on Recreation Ground'

4/06/1937 ' the matter was discussed regarding the cutting of grass and cleaning the children's recreation ground, it was proposed that Mr Burnip of 13 The Crescent be engaged for 4 weeks at the usual wages as previous and to creosote the posts round the ground'

26/06/1944 ' the clerk was instructed to see Mr Gardiner and have the swings and seats repaired'

22/08/1944 'after a discussion regarding concrete on part of the Recreation Ground it was proposed that the Clerk get estimates of cost from the Border Engineering Co. size approximately 40x20'

12/12/1944 ' Estimates size 22yards x 16yards for the sum of £162-8-0. The cost of a full sized tennis court 78foot by 36foot would be £216-16-0 after some discussion proposed that this be left over until after the war'

'proposed that the swings be dismantled and stored away for the winter'

31/07/1947 'letter read from Ennerdale RDC re the Thornhill Housing Estate Playground. With regard to the Playground this land has been sold to the North Eastern Housing Association Ltd.

20/07/1953 ' letter read from Mr Bessy regarding a playing field for Thornhill and after some discussion it was proposed that we get the technical advisor from

Cumb. And West Playing field Assoc. to visit us also that a letter be sent to ERDC'

22/09/1953 'after some discussion on playing fields it was suggested a sub committee inspect the grounds and report at next meeting.'

23/11/1953 'Mr Sarginson reported that Mr Richardson Mr Stele and himself had taken some time in looking over Thornhill for a suitable playground, the ground they found most suitable was the ground on the North Side behind Agate House. It was decided that the clerk write to the agent for Lord Leconfield and arrange a meeting between him and the council so the matter could be

discussed.5/07/1954 'letter re playing field, to hold flag day Saturday 7th August.'

18/01/1954 'after some discussion it was decided that Mr Richardson would look up the plans of the North Eastern Housing Estate and see if there was any possibility of getting the old Recreation Ground.'

14/05/1956 'proposed clerk to write to North East Housing asking particulars and rent required for recreation Ground.'

28/05/1956 'Plan received from North East Housing showing an area of 1.480 acres which the association would be prepared to let at a rental of £2-10-0 per annum subject to council agreeing to the erection of a fence between the points marked A B C D on plan. Proposed the clerk write accepting these terms and asking for agreement for completion.'

9/07/1956 'Land promised by North east Housing it was decided to wait the completion of agreement before making any plans.'

3/09/1956 'the agreement from the North East Housing Association and tenancy of the 1.480 acres of land at Thornhill as a recreation ground. It was decided to take no action at present owing to the unsettled state of the housing program and the cost it would entail putting up a fence and no definite time of tenancy.'

26/02/1957 'letter received from North east Housing Association ltd stating they were erecting houses on the site and it would be necessary to take immediate possession of the land and would we make arrangements to remove any equipment on the site.' 'letter from the ERDC stating the Council Surveyor would be prepared to arrange for the removal of the swing supports and seat on condition that the Parish council reimburse for any costs incurred, proposed this was carried out and removed to the depot at Egremont. with regard to the post and wire fence around the playing field it was the opinion of the council Surveyor that the condition of the fence does not justify the expense which would be incurred in its removal.' 'proposed that the 100 oak posts and wire fence be advertised (cost £60-14-0 bought 9/02/1931) further proposed that the seat be taken from the recreation ground and placed on the Beckermat Road.' 'proposed that the Clerk write to Cumberland county council asking for plan of the new housing site at Thornhill and pressing the need for a playing field.'

18/03/1957 'The posts and fence were advertised and offers were read to the Council, the sum of £15 being the best offer was accepted. Mr E A Read Joiner

of Egremont having examined the fence and offered to remove the same immediately. This was accepted.'

29/09/1958 'Letter received from Mr Bessy (Playing Field Association) stating that the committee did consider acquiring the land adjoining the School site. The cost however was such that the proposal had to be abandoned and consideration is at present being given to the purchase of an alternative area, namely 1 ½ acres of land in the north eastern corner of O. S. 518'

26/01/1959 'Mr Sarginson had heard that the new playing field for the School had been inspected.'

23/03/1959 'playing field again discussed decided to procure a development map from ERDC and whether they had any proposals for supplying a playing field for Thornhill.'

30/01/1961 'letter received from Cumb and West Playing Field Association asking for particulars as to a playing field at Thornhill. proposed clerk to reply stating we had tried various times to get a playing field but had had no help from the Association. To ask what help they could now offer to this situation.'

26/06/1961 'proposed that something should be done about a playing field. Part of the field 518 had been taken over as School Playing Field and it was agreed that the Clerk write again to the Secretary asking for a reply to our January letter what assistance could we get from them?(Cumberland and Westmoreland Playing Field Association) We have made many applications and we have in mind that perhaps a further part of the field at Thornhill 518 could be purchased for Thornhill and St Johns Parish Council.'

11/09/1961 'Letter received from Mr Bessy but decided to hold this over as no grants can be applied for until the Parish council can show that an established site has been acquired for development.'

The saga continues under Playing Fields