

EC177

**Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee
12th April 2011 at 7.30pm in the MSC Pavilion**

Present

Cllrs. J. Walker (Chairman), V. Mayes and K. Merritt.
M. Cowan and Pam and Peter Miller.
R. Medley (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr. Sammons.

2. Declarations of interest in agenda items

None declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting of 8th February 2011

After amending section 10.2 the minutes were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

6. Playground

6.1 Safety Inspection. The monthly summaries were handed in. No problems were noted.

6.2 Finance for Playground Improvements.

The application for a £60,000 grant from Jubilee People's Millions had not been successful.

6.3 Publicity for Playground Improvements. The display planned for the April Farmer's Market had been delayed until the following month. Exploded diagrams, pictures of individual pieces of equipment and larger versions of the design had since been received from Miracle.

7. Tree Warden' Report

Nothing to report.

8. Cemetery

8.1 Safety Inspection. The report was handed in.

8.2 Funeral Biers. At the request of the Parish Council Paul Bevan had sent information about the wheeled bier to the other churches in the benefice. There had been a tentative enquiry.

8.3 Nest Boxes. Cllrs. supported the suggestion that a nest box suitable for a Spotted Flycatcher be placed in the Cemetery and the Parochial Church Council were happy for one to be placed in the Churchyard.

8.4 Dog Fouling. An 'It is an offence not to clean up after your dog' sign would be placed at the rear of the Chapel.

9. Churchyard

The most recent report noted some detachment and movement in two memorials and the wooden fence adjacent to the almshouses was leaning at an alarming angle. Although none of these was a safety hazard, Cllrs. agreed that a copy of the report be forwarded to the Parochial Church Council.

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Chairman

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10. Teen Project

- 10.1 Safety Inspection. Reports were handed in. No problems were noted.
- 10.2 New Sign. The new sign listing safety regulations had been installed.
- 10.3 Was Up Mobile Youth Project. A recent message from Simon Pickering, the Youth Project Officer, had given an estimated donation figure of £505 for doubling the period of visits from six to twelve weeks (the original request was for £1,000). Because of recent expenditure the Memorial Social Centre Trustees were unable to contribute. Cllrs. recommended that the Parish Council make this payment and that the season of visits be started earlier.

11. Six Acres

- 11.1 Safety inspection. The report was handed in. A note would be placed in the 'Scene' thanking the large majority of dog owners who cleared up after their pets.
- 11.2 Resurfacing of tennis courts. The advice received from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs was that providing the whole improvement, including payment, took place upon instructions from the Parish Council and providing that the tennis courts remained within ownership of the Parish Council and were a facility for the village, then vat could be reclaimed. Improvements were unlikely to take place before the Autumn.
- 11.3 Scouts and fires. It was noted that the MSC had approved the supervised lighting of camp fires on the recreation ground providing that the turf was removed before and replaced after the event. Cllrs. agreed that permission be granted for similar activities on the Six Acres.

12. Village Greens

- 12.1 Safety Inspection. This was handed in. No problems were noted.
- 12.2 Litter Pick. Cllrs. felt that it was now too late to consider a Spring litter pick. The required publicity would not go out in a village newsletter until the end of April so the actual event would be mid May at the earliest. By then the undergrowth would have taken over. A better option would be an Autumn litter pick with regular mentions in the 'Scene' and 'What's On'. It was further suggested that the event be sponsored and the money raised should be put towards the playground improvements.
- 12.3 New dog bins. These were expected in the next fortnight.

The Chairman announced that Pam and Peter Miller would not be continuing as members of the Estates Committee and thanked them for their most conscientious approach to their responsibilities over the last ten years. Particular mention was made of their personal contribution to the proposal and creation of the Youth Facilities.

Date of next meeting.

This would be held in the MSC Pavilion on Tuesday 14th June 2011.

Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 12th April 2011.

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Chairman

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Date