

Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee 14th August 2014 at 7.30pm in the MSC Pavilion

Present

Cllrs. J. Walker (Chairman), K. Merritt and K. Sammons.
R. Merry and J.Girling.
R. Medley (Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. J. Norton. I. Spencer did not appear.

2. Declarations of interest in agenda items

None was declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting of 12th June 2014

After the addition of ‘was hoped it’ to ‘Itwould be signed at the June Parish Council meeting’ the minutes were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

- 4.1 Item 7.1 of previous meeting – next tree inspection. This was due in May 2015.
- 4.2 Item 6 of previous meeting – disposal of the old junior goals. The Clerk had delayed requesting their disposal because of recent vandalism of the new goals.
- 4.3 Item 12.4.1 of previous meeting – new dog bin. MSC trustees had offered to share the £168.67 cost and asked what would be an acceptable proportion. Cllrs. suggested a 50:50 split.

5. Finance.

- 5.1 Grounds Maintenance. The invoice for 2013 – 2014 included an extra £408 for additional work on the new playground. Cllrs. had asked what the extra would be for the whole 12 month period.
- 5.2 Skate Park repairs. The £3,507 cost of replacement parts would be mainly covered by insurance. Vat could be reclaimed so the remaining payment would be £191. It was hoped that these parts would be fitted at the end of August.

6. Playgrounds and Teen Project

6.1 Main Playground

6.1.1 Safety Inspection. Reports had been completed and sent in. Recent contact with the insurers had confirmed that detailed written inspection records were not necessary but a weekly inspection by a suitable member of the Council must be completed. Action must be taken and records kept of any defects found. A recent Borough Safety Report included comments about the safety matting and the suspicion was that it had not been laid properly. R. Merry offered to contact Pro-Scape to see what could be done. He had already contacted David King about lifting of the mower blades and the possible re-seeding of some areas.

6.1.2 Purchase and installation of notice boards. There was no further news.

6.2 Bury Road Playground

6.2.1 Progress Report. There was no further progress. Cllrs. suggested that once the Stopping Up order had been completed it could be beneficial to consider a survey in the hope that the presence of any underground services would be revealed.

6.3 Teen Project.

6.3.1 Safety Inspections. Reports had been handed in. The litter problem had been eased by the temporary installation of two large drums. Cllrs. approved the purchase of two boxes of heavy duty litter bags at a cost of £30.56 plus vat.

6.3.2 Repairs. See Item 5.2 above.

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Chairman

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6.3.3 Other matters. Upgrading of the skatepark and the obtaining of grants. Jessica Hulbert had advised that it would be advantageous to form a steering committee which included users. R. Merry offered to meet with the users and progress this suggestion and make contact with Hardcore Hobbies. Cllr. Sammons said that some match funding would be available from the Parish Council.

7. Tree Warden's Report.

J. Girling reported on the worrying build-up of grass cuttings at the foot of a mature cherry on Attleton Green and a dead cherry on Genesis Green.

7.1 Jubilee Oak. Cllr. Wilson was planning to install the guard rails.

8. Cemetery

8.1 Safety Inspections. Reports were up to date.

8.2 Commemoration of World War 1. The Clerk would contact the School and ask if pupils would be willing to create and maintain a small memorial garden. If a positive reply Cllrs. would select a site.

8.3 Cleaning of war memorial. J. Girling, R. Merry and the Clerk offered to carry out the work.

8.4 Wooden cemetery gates. These were in need of minor repairs. John Crysell would be contacted.

9. Churchyard

9.1 Any matters. Cllr. Sammons reported that there was nothing of immediate concern. Falling flints in the wall, one memorial and the rough cut grass behind the church needed monitoring.

10. Six Acres

10.1 Inspection reports were up to date.

10.2 Campers on the 'Six Acres'. The MSC trustees had decided to allow authorised camping on the recreation ground. Cllrs. suggested that Parish Council does the same. If approval is given then the Parish Council must check the land beforehand and emphasize that campers do so at own risk. No guidelines would be issued with regard to the lighting of barbeques.

10.3 Dog fouling. Cllrs suggested that the Borough stencil be tried on both car park entrances.

10.4 Junior Football Clubs. The Football Club chairman had signed and returned the ground rental agreement and provided a copy of the Club's current insurance.

10.5 Model plane flying. The Insurers had been contacted. To claim against the Council an individual would have to prove neglect. The Council is only obliged to take 'all reasonable precautions'.

11. Village Greens

11.1 Inspection reports were up to date.

11.2 Moor Green. J. Girling reported that Paul Rowe was reluctant to place posts on the green. This matter would be referred to the Parish Council.

12. Working Parties.

In the absence of I. Spencer this matter was held over until the next meeting.

13. Autumn Litter pick

Cllrs. agreed on the date of Sunday 2nd November. Usual arrangements would apply.

14. Notes for Scene.

Suggestions included the litter pick and the repairs to the Skate Park.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm. Next Meeting Thursday 9th October 2014 in the MSC Pavilion.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 14th August 2014.

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Chairman

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Date