

Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee 11th June 2015 held at 7.30pm in the MSC Pavilion

Present

Cllrs. K. Sammons (Chairman), K. Merritt and J.Walker.

R. Merry

R. Medley (Clerk).

One Memorial Social Centre Trustee (Elaine Poole) attended the whole meeting.

1. Appointment of Chairman. Cllr. Sammons was proposed by Cllr. Merritt and seconded by Cllr. Walker. Cllr. Walker was appointed as Vice Chairman.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr. J. Barton and J. Girling and I. Spencer offered their apologies. Apologies were also received from the two MSC trustees who had hoped to attend. The Chairman reminded members that there was a vacancy for one lay member. A note would be placed in the ‘Scene’.

3. Declarations of interest in agenda items

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the meeting of 9th April 2015

These were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.

Open Session at 7.38 pm

5. Matters arising

5.1 Item 5 from previous meeting – Efforts to curtail the amount of dog muck around the village. Elaine Poole outlined a proposal from the MSC that Dog Poo Fairy posters be displayed around the village and on the dog bins and that a volunteer (and possibly a dog) dressed as a fairy would hand out dog poo bags at the Village Carnival. An explanatory announcement would be made over the Tannoy system. Cllrs. supported the suggestion and offered to contribute financially.

6. Youth Facilities

6.1. Main Playground

6.1.1 Safety Inspections. Reports were in hand.

6.1.2 Errors on notice boards. The Clerk would discuss the matter with Smart Step. Cllr. Sammons and R. Merry offered to check the list of donors.

6.2 Teen Project

6.2.1 Inspections. Reports were in hand.

6.2.2 Improvements. R.Merry hoped to attend a funding workshop on 15th July. Cllr. Sammons offered to make contact with Hardcore Hobbies for advice on modifications. There was general agreement that concrete based alternatives, although more costly to install, would need less spending on maintenance and repairs.

R. Merry was concerned about a further incidence of vandalism and asked if a camera would be an effective deterrent. The Clerk was instructed to check possible use of such equipment with the Information Commissioner’s Office.

Closure of open Session at 8.15pm.

6.3 Bury Road Playground. Staff in Highways Records had written to the Utilities to enquire if they had any objections to the proposed ‘stopping up’ of the old road. BT/Openreach was unsure and had asked for a site meeting. This was being arranged.

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Chairman

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Date

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7. Tree Warden's Report.

- 7.1 The Tree Warden was on holiday so there was no report.
- 7.2 Free tree packs from Community Trees. There was no further news.

8. Cemetery

- 8.1 Safety Inspections. The Clerk had carried out the inspection. A specimen tree had suffered wind damage and needed extra support and a rectangular water tank taking run off from the Chapel roof was no longer holding water. Cllr. Sammons offered to provide a stake and a tie for the tree.
- 8.2 Site and size of memorial garden. Cllr. Sammons suggested a crescent shaped bed of dwarf lavender containing a memorial seat, and possibly backed by a few trees. This proposal would be taken to the Parish Council. It was stated that Cllr. Couzens could be willing to assist with these plans.
- 8.3 Registration of the Wickhambrook War Memorial. This had taken place but the Clerk was unable to determine who had made it, who had paid for it and when it was originally installed.

9. Churchyard

- 9.1 Inspections reports were up to date. A visual inspection had not identified any concerns.

10. Six Acres

- 10.1 Inspections. Reports were in hand. Cllr. Merritt had noted that the goals had not been moved prior to grass mowing so several small areas had not been cut and that there appeared to be some goals no longer in use. The Clerk was instructed to discuss these concerns with the Football Club Chairman.
- 10.2 Storage of Football Club posts. A section of the bank surrounding the Bowls Club car park had been removed to allow access for the wheeled goals.

11. Village Greens

- 11.1 Inspection reports were up to date. The Clerk had noted that some lower branches of trees at Atleton Green needed lopping off; and at Genesis Green a stake was needed for a leaning Hawthorn,
- 11.2 A reminder had been sent to Paul Row about installing the perimeter posts. R. Merry agreed to draw up a list of improvements required.

12. Working Parties.

In the absence of I. Spencer this matter could not be discussed. Cllrs. suggested that I. Spencer produce a written report if he was unable to attend.

13. Overhanging Hedges

County Council highways agreed to send letters to the landowners in question saying that hedges must be cut back in September or enforcement action would be taken.

14. Inter Village Sports.

Tennis, Outdoor Bowls and a Tug of War would be part of Wickhambrook Carnival to be held on 11th July.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Next Meeting Thursday 13th August 2015 in the MSC Pavilion.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 11th June 2015.

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Chairman

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Date