

Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee 12th February 2013 at 7.30pm in the MSC Pavilion

Present

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

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of interest in agenda items

None was declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting of 4th December 2012

These were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

Item 11.1 of previous meeting – Use of small goals by the Football Club. The clerk read the letter sent to Keith Warnock seeking reassurance about safe use. A reply was awaited.

5. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

6. Playground

6.1 Safety Inspection. The monthly summaries were handed in. All weaknesses were being monitored.

6.2 Progress with lease and playground refurbishment. The lease had been signed by the approved representatives from both the MSC and the Parish Council and was now in the hands of Ashton KCJ. They will send a copy to Land Registry. Solicitor’s fees would be around £1200 and the Parish Council is likely to receive an invoice for half this amount, plus an invoice for the first year’s rent. Playground Refurbishment. The 60% deposit had been received by Miracle Design & Play Ltd. and the final colour scheme had been confirmed. Work on the site could start as early as mid March with possible completion by the end of May. A note would be placed in the ‘Scene’ to see if anyone is interested in the redundant play equipment.

6.3 Bury Road playground – update. The map attached to the information received from Havebury Housing Partnership showed only part of the whole playground area. The Clerk had been informed that the remainder of the playground was owned by Suffolk County Council. The Clerk was instructed to carry out further investigation.

7. Tree Warden’ Report

7.1 Jubilee Oak. This had been delivered to Cllr. Sammons. Cllrs. suggested that Wickhambrook Primary School be approached to see if a group of children would be willing to assist in planting the Oak and possibly provide some aftercare.

8. Cemetery

8.1 Safety Inspection. Reports were handed in.

8.2 Aftercare of a grave by a funeral director. A funeral director had suggested that a load of topsoil be placed in the corner of the cemetery for easy filling of sunken graves and that a time limit should be agreed for aftercare. Cllrs. did not favour the topsoil suggestion and felt that 6 months could be a reasonable period for aftercare.

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Chairman

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Date

EC200

8. Cemetery (continued)

8.3 Painting of iron gates. Shot blasting and treatment had been completed. John Crysell had replaced the broken posts and was waiting for the weather to improve before he could continue painting.

9. Churchyard

9.1 Safety Inspection. A report was being prepared.

10. Teen Project

10.1 Safety Inspection. There were no new concerns.

10.2 Meeting with skate park users. Cllrs. Sammons and Walker met representatives in January.

Suggestions for improvements were awaited.

10.3 'Wos Up' response. (circulated 17.12.12) Cllrs. were concerned about the lack of detail in this response and would need convincing of the benefits before considering any further sponsorship.

11. Six Acres

11.1 The inspection report was being prepared. Cllr. Merritt had noticed tyre tracks across the football pitch and elsewhere. Cllr. Walker would discuss possibilities for preventative action with the MSC. Lockable bollards at all entrances were suggested.

11.2 Irresponsible dog owners. Cllr. Merritt and the Clerk would erect the new '£1000 fine' notices at all four entrances to the playing fields. Cllr. Walker offered to remind the MSC about the possible use of temporary chalk stencils which place a similar warning message on the grass.

12. Village Greens

12.1 Reports were handed in. The ditches had been cleared at Genesis Green and the blackthorn copse had been uprooted to allow access. David King had been asked to clear the vegetation around the pond at Attleton Green to allow the snowdrops and daffodils to flourish.

13. Next village litter pick

Cllrs. agreed on the date of Sunday March 24th. The usual arrangements would apply. Volunteers should gather in the MSC Pavilion at 10.30am and coffee and biscuits would be provided at midday. The Clerk would ask the Police for support.

The Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Next Meeting Tuesday 9th April 2013 in the MSC Pavilion.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th February 2013.

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Chairman

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Date