

EC163

**Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee
12th January 2010 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion**

Present

Cllrs. J. Walker (Chairman), K. Sammons, V. Mayes and K. Merritt.
R. Medley (Clerk)
One member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Taylor and Pam and Peter Miller.

2. Declarations of interest in agenda items

None declared

3. Minutes of the meeting of 17th November 2009

These were signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising

4.1 Item 5.3 of previous minutes. A letter of appreciation had been sent to Peter Bayman and notices advertising the lay member vacancies had been displayed in the 'Scene' and on notice boards.

5. Correspondence

5.1 An invoice from the County Council for grass cutting in the 2009 season had been received. Total charges were £1,179.95 (plus vat) against a quote of £1,192.60 (plus vat). One cut in Sept/Oct was not required. Cllrs. approved this invoice.

5.2 The County Council quote for the 2010 season was £1,252.00 (plus vat) for the full 16 cuts. Cllrs. approved this quote.

6. Tree Warden' Report

6.1 Tree Planting. St Edmundsbury Borough Council are offering whips of native species, plus canes and guards, providing requests are placed before 5th February 2010. Cllrs agreed that this possibility should be considered by the full Parish Council.

6.2 Survey of Suffolk Orchards. Cllr. Sammons would attend a meeting to be held on 6th February at Lackford Lakes on how best to approach this investigation.

7. Cemetery

7.1 Safety Inspection. The Clerk agreed to complete the outstanding inspection.

8. Churchyard

8.1 No progress had been made on the 'trip hazard' repair.

9. Playground

9.1 Inspection reports. These had been completed but not handed in.

9.2 Progress on playground improvements. A second meeting had been held with the design company and a provisional quote was awaited.

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Chairman

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9.3 Finance for the playground improvements. Steve Taylor had promised a donation of £70; this being half of the profits from Christmas Celebration event. The clerk was instructed to send a letter of thanks and copy it as an 'open' letter to the publishers of the 'Scene'.

Cllrs. resolved that a separate account be opened for the playground improvement money and that this be achieved by moving the contents of the No.2 account (Skatepark monies) across to the No.1 account as an additional separate column.

10. Teen Project

10.1 No report available

11. Six Acres

11.1 No report available

12. Village Greens

12.1 No report available

13. Hedges

13.1 Hedge on the B1063. This had been cut back and Cllrs. had noted a marked improvement.

13.3 Other overhanging hedges. Letters had been sent to landowners along the Duddery, opposite the end of Thorns Close and at Boyden End. Where necessary EDF had been contacted to assist with hedge trimming.

14. Budget 2010/2011

All budget figures suggested by the Committee had been accepted by the Parish Council.

15. Vacancies on Estates Committee.

Marion Cowan had expressed interest in becoming a lay member of the Committee and had attended this meeting. She was invited to join, accepted the offer, and agreed to take on responsibility for inspecting the Cemetery.

16. Date of next meeting.

This would be held in the Pavilion on Tuesday 16th March 2010.

Meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 12th January 2010.

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Chairman

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Date