

**Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee  
12<sup>th</sup> June 2012 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 and re-appointment of lay members.**

There were no apologies. M. Cowan and J. Norton expressed their willingness to continue as members of the committee.

**2. Declarations of interest in agenda items**

None was declared.

**3. Minutes of the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

These were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising**

4.1 Item 5.1 of previous meeting. The Parish Council had agreed to make a donation of £50 towards the additional insurance needed for the 'Wickhambrook Discovers Its Past' exhibition.

4.2 Item 11.2 of previous meeting. The offer of Giffords Hall opening the gardens for a Jubilee event had not been progressed because of insurance complications and the lack of support.

**5. Correspondence**

5.1 The Clerk had received a letter from a resident requesting additional equipment on the skatepark and some form of cover. The resident offered to investigate costs and sources of funds and report back.

**6. Playground**

6.1 Safety Inspection. The monthly summaries were handed in. Marion Cowan reported slight deterioration on one of the benches.

6.2 Playground Improvements – next moves. The meeting with Richard Howard of Miracle and committee members took place on 1<sup>st</sup> May. Cllr. Sammons was investigating the possibility of sponsored display seats. There was concern that the proposed start date was September yet only £68,000 of the required £90,000 had been raised and the lead time for the equipment was twelve weeks. The Clerk was instructed to find out under what circumstances, if any, the funders would release funds prior to the full amount being raised. Cllr. Walker explained that Memorial Social Centre Management Team was struggling to find the evidence of ownership required by lawyers. Without this proof a lease could not be drawn up and the estimate of solicitor's costs was likely to increase.

6.3 Playground on Bury Road. There was no further news about the arrangements for handover. A further reminder was sent on 21<sup>st</sup> May.

**7. Tree Warden' Report**

7.1 Site for commemorative oak tree for Diamond Jubilee. A tour of possible sites was carried out by parish council representatives and one MSC member on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April. One favoured site was on MSC land so the Chairman offered to take the matter forward.

7.2 Inspection of Parish Council trees. The inspection report from Acacia Trees had been circulated to all members. An unpriced version of the same report had been sent to Suffolk Tree Services, Mike Wallman and David King of 6<sup>th</sup> June with the request that quotes be received in time for the next Parish Council Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**

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**8. Cemetery**

8.1 Safety Inspection. Inspection reports were handed in. John Norton commented favourably on the repairs to both sets of gates.

8.2 Cemetery Management course. The details would be circulated again prior to the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October. This would give time for any changes to be introduced and circulated before the end of the year.

8.3 Denoting the war memorial area. Cllr. Merritt explained that it had been agreed that an octagonal area five metres from the base of the memorial be marked out using paving stones some of which could show the points of the compass. Saxon Monumental had been approached. Cllrs. asked that the improvements be completed before Remembrance Sunday.

8.4 Recent Repair. John Crysell had re-hung the wooden memorial gates and replaced the concrete at the bottom of the handrail. This, together with repairs to the Clopton Green notice board, had resulted in an invoice for £102.72. He had also made the necessary adjustments to the iron gates resulting in an invoice for £127.00.

**9. Churchyard**

9.1 Safety Inspection. The next quarterly report was due in July.

**10. Teen Project**

10.1 Safety Inspection. Reports were handed in. There had been several instances of vandalism of the litter bins and attempts at lighting fires. The new lockable litter bin had been re-fitted by Ian Cowan. The Chairman asked that appreciation be passed onto him for his regular offers of assistance. The grindrail had been 'freed' and the back of one of the games area seats had been taken off and moved to the skatepark. Cllr. Merritt had put everything back in place. He suggested that a notice be placed in the area saying that any further tampering with equipment would result in its removal.

10.2 'Wos Up' Youth Project. The scheme had been running on Tuesday evenings between 5 and 7pm since the beginning of May and would continue until mid July. The Clerk understood that the visits were receiving good support.

**11. Six Acres**

11.1 The inspection report was being organised.

11.2 Use by Beaver Group. A campfire sing-song had been arranged for 17<sup>th</sup> July.

**12. Village Greens**

12.1 Reports were handed in. Grass cutting had been delayed because of long period of wet weather.

12.2 Litter Pick on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May. The number of helpers had dropped but the group was joined by members of the Beaver Group who tidied the whole of the playing field area. Future litter picks would be organised for Spring and Autumn when the undergrowth would not be so luxuriant.

12.3 Protection of Moor Green. Cllr. Girling explained the arrangements agreed with the developer at Meeting Green. The Clerk was asked to determine the width of mower used to trim the grass.

**13. Village Notice Board.** The Clopton Green notice board had been repaired. John Crysell offered to look at the Shop notice board but it was unlikely that repairs would be practical.

**Date of next meeting.**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2012 in the MSC Pavilion.

**Meeting closed at 8.56 p.m.**

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**