

EC167

**Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee  
1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion**

**Present**

Cllrs. J. Walker (Chairman), K. Merrit and K. Sammons  
Peter and Pam Miller and M. Cowan.  
R. Medley (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mayes. The Chairman referred to the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May, and the re-appointment of committees, and asked the co-opted members if they were willing to continue for another year. They were all happy to do so.

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

None declared

**3. Minutes of the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

After Pam Miller's name had been added to Item 3 Apologies and 'a yew tree' had been substituted for 'two trees' these were signed as a correct record.

**4. Matters arising**

All matters arising would be covered by agenda items.

**5. Correspondence**

5.1 A letter had been received from 1<sup>st</sup> Wickhambrook Scout Group asking for permission to use the 'Six Acres' and youth facilities for activities. On request a copy of their public liability insurance had been provided. Cllrs. gave their full approval.

**6. Tree Warden' Report**

6.1 Cllr. Sammons reported that a tree preservation order had been approved for some of the mature trees in the area of the possible development site on Cemetery Road

6.2 Cllrs. discussed safety concerns with the ash tree opposite the 'Greyhound'. A large dead limb had dropped to the ground recently and there were others in a similar condition. The Clerk was having difficulty in tracing the owner of the land. The Clerk was instructed to ask David King to carry out a risk assessment.

**7. Cemetery**

7.1 Safety Inspection. Marion Cowan had carried out weekly checks and handed in the safety inspection. The Clerk was instructed to request that funeral directors repair the sunken grave.

7.2 Rating of Chapel. The lowering of the rateable value (to £700 from £1300) had been confirmed. The recent rate statement from St Edmundsbury showed that the surplus from overpayment in 2009/10 was sufficient to cover the amount owing for 2010/11. The Clerk was instructed to arrange an increase in the annual donation from the Players of £25.00.

7.3 Changes to Regulations. A funeral director had pointed out that the recommended dimensions of a memorial base was insufficient to meet NAMM/BRAMM standards. Regulations would be altered to incorporate the necessary changes.

7.4 Payments for electricity. The fixed price business plan for 2010/11 had been received and charges appeared to be lower than in 2009/10.

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**Chairman**

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**8. Churchyard**

8.1 Inspection report had been handed in.

**9. Playground**

9.1 Inspection reports. Inspections had been carried out on a weekly basis and a cumulative report was handed in. A small sign had been damaged and the Clerk was instructed to arrange a replacement.

The Annual Inspection had been received and this would be circulated. The Clerk was instructed to let the Borough know that the scramble net had been removed for safety reasons.

9.2 Donations. The Playground Improvement Fund had received an anonymous donation of £400 and the proceeds from the Gifford's Hall Open Garden on 6<sup>th</sup> June had also been offered.

9.3 Progress on playground improvements. Cllr. Taylor was awaiting a second design proposal.

**10. Teen Project**

10.1 Safety Inspection. The reports were handed in. Peter Miller had replaced some wood in the goal in the ball games area. The top of the litter bin had suffered some burn damage.

10.2 Graffiti. Cllrs. resolved that if the graffiti was racist, personal or very offensive it would be overpainted as a priority. Inspections were carried out weekly.

The Clerk and Peter Miller would agree wording for a larger sign explaining the responsibilities of both the Parish Council and users of the Youth Facilities.

**11. Six Acres**

11.1 Safety inspection. This was handed in.

11.2 Metal Pipe. A recent risk assessment carried by the Scout Association identified an upright metal pipe. This was thought to be a hazard and Cllrs. resolved that the Scout Association be allowed to remove it.

**12. Village Greens**

12.1 Safety Inspection. This was handed in.

12.2 Easement across Coltsfoot Green. The current situation was summarised. A response was awaited from NALC.

**13. Stand at Village Show.**

It was hoped that a shelter and a display could be borrowed from Cllr. Claydon. Display materials included the parish map, the definitive map, the Ordnance Survey map, the hedgerow survey, and the Parish Plan questionnaire. Cllr. Sammons hoped that money could be raised from can crushing.

**Date of next meeting.**

This would be held in the MSC Pavilion on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2010.

**Meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.**

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**