

EC165

**Minutes of the inquorate meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee
16th March 2010 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion**

Present

Cllrs. J. Walker (Chairman) and K. Merritt.
Peter Miller and M. Cowan.
R. Medley (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Sammons and Mayes.

2. Declarations of interest in agenda items

None declared

3. Minutes of the meeting of 12th January 2010

These were signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising

4.1 Item 9.3 of previous minutes. The Clerk had written a letter of thanks to Steve Taylor but had omitted to put a copy in the 'Scene'. An open letter would be put in the next copy of the 'Scene'.

5. Correspondence

5.1 David King had suggested that there would be no increase in charges for Grounds Maintenance for the 2010 season and that fees would remain at the current level of £5,838.98.

6. Tree Warden' Report

6.1 No report was presented.

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 a sunken grave.

7.2 Rating of Chapel. The Clerk summarised the current situation. Cllrs. felt that the offer to lower the rateable value (from £1300 to £700) should be seriously considered. The Clerk was instructed to ascertain if this offer could be withdrawn.

7.3 Offer from History Society. The History Society, under the guidance of Paul Bevan, had offered to place the records of the Cemetery and the Churchyard on a site linked to Wickhambrook website. This offer was gratefully accepted.

7.4 Reserved plots. A resident had tripped on one of the marker pegs. Cllrs. agreed that these be replaced by small paving stones or bricks placed level with the surface.

8. Churchyard

8.1 The 'trip hazard' had been repaired.

9. Playground

9.1 Inspection reports. Inspections had been carried out on a weekly basis and a cumulative report was handed being prepared. The roundabout seats would be varnished, brambles would be clipped and two small trees which posed a hazard in the corner would be removed. Marion Cowan offered to take on responsibility for inspections when the Millers were not available.

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Chairman

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Date

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- 9.2 A bank account had been opened to hold donations to the Playground Improvement fund.
- 9.3 Progress on playground improvements. Cllr. Taylor was currently seeking additional designs and quotes and would then be in a position to make comparisons. Cllrs. were reminded that the remaining 'window' for grant applications under the 'Playbuilder Grants for Play Spaces in Suffolk' closed on 31st May 2010.

10. Teen Project

10.1 Safety Inspection. A completed report would follow. The estimated cost for treating all walls with anti-graffiti paint would be about £1000. This would not include ramps. Metal areas could be easily cleaned.

11. Six Acres

11.1 Safety inspection. This was handed in. Some maintenance was needed on the 'No Authorised Vehicles' sign

12. Village Greens

- 12.1 Safety Inspection. This was handed in.
- 12.2 Easement across Coltsfoot Green. The current situation was summarised. Cllrs. were concerned about the potential costs of determining a legal solution and instructed the Clerk to contact the applicants and ask if they had considered all other possibilities.

13. Date of next meeting.

This would be held in the MSC Pavilion on 1st June 2010.

Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 16th March 2010.

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Chairman

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Date