

EC155

**Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee
19th May 2009 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion**

Present

Cllrs. J. Walker (Chairman), K Merritt, K. Sammons and E. Taylor.
R. Medley (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Pam and Peter Miller and P. Bayman.

2. Declarations of interest in agenda items

None declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting of 10th March 2009

These were signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising

All matters would be covered by agenda items

5. Finance

5.1 Receipts

5.1.1 Football Club payment for 'ground rent' £10.00

6. Tree Warden' Report

Cllr. Sammons was not receiving the relevant information. The Clerk was instructed to check that the Borough had the updated contact details and, if necessary, remedy the situation.

7. Cemetery

7.1 Safety Inspection. P. Bayman had handed in the latest inspection report.

7.2 Headstone Safety. Eight of the oldest memorials, some dating back to the end of 1800s, had been repaired by Saxon Monumental Craft at a cost of £1,150.00.

An update published in January 2009 had eased the safety recommendations. This document would be circulated. The Chairman and Clerk would inspect the remaining headstones and agree what further action was needed.

7.3 Damage to Chapel door locks. The Clerk was instructed to seek advice on making the doors secure. The 'Players' had offered to contribute to any necessary repairs.

7.4 Appeal against rating of Chapel. This had been lodged on 23rd April.

8. Churchyard

Saxon Monumental would be asked to advise on the three damaged graves when next in the area.

9. Playground

9.1 Inspection reports had been handed in. The bench seat needs attention, a seat on the senior swings needs replacing and the roundabout seats need urgent replacement.

9.2 Damage to playground fence. This had been repaired and the safety gates are in use

9.3 Short Term repairs. See above.

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Chairman

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9.4 Longer Term Improvements. Cllr. Taylor had collected background information and made contact with Stephanie Edmans – the Borough Playlady. A condition of grant funding is that potential users should be consulted so Cllr. Taylor intends to visit the three local schools covering the age range. She also intends to organise one village meeting. Once the consultation process is complete she will contact companies for design advice. The total cost could exceed £50,000 so three quotes would be required. Cllrs. approved these suggestions.

10. Teen Project

10.1 Safety reports had been handed in.

10.2 Graffiti and grindbox. Cllrs. suggested the use of black stain on the wooden fences to discourage graffiti. They favoured fixing the grindbox once more and if further tampering took place this piece of equipment should be removed. A warning notice should be displayed prior to taking this action.

11. Six Acres

11.1 Inspection reports were up to date.

11.2 Possible barrier at ‘Six Acres’ entrance. Cllrs. agreed that a barrier was not necessary at the moment. The situation would be monitored and the Clerk was asked to organise a sign to discourage vehicles from using the ‘Six Acres’ area.

11.3 Cllrs. agreed that the ‘hedge’ between the School and the tennis courts would need tidying in the Autumn.

12. Village Greens

12.1 Safety inspection reports were up to date.

12.2 Coltsfoot Green. Cllrs. approved of the recent improvements but queried the presence of the dead Hawthorn tree. The Clerk was instructed to request removal.

12.3 Damage to Coltsfoot Lane. The Borough had carried out exploratory excavations and were now considering whether the budget would allow them to carry out the required improvements.

13. Hedges

The hedge on the B1063 remained untouched. The Clerk was instructed to remind Highways.

14. Bus/community shelter

Details of MSC plans were awaited.

15. Date of next meeting

This would be held in the Pavilion on 14th July 2009.

Meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 19th May 2009.

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Chairman

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Date