

EC122

**Minutes of a meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee  
7<sup>th</sup> November 2006 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion**

**Present**

Cllrs. J. Walker (Chairman) P. Bevan, A. Harrison, K. Merritt and S. Sumner.  
Pam and Peter Miller and P. Bayman.  
Clerk R. Medley

**1. Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies.

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

P. Bayman declared an interest in Item 8.4

**3. Minutes of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> September 2006.**

The minutes were taken as read and signed.

**4. Matters arising**

12.5 The Clerk explained that the information he had been asked to pass on to the MSC, i.e. the legality of banning of dogs from the Recreation Ground, had been received from the MSC.

**5. MSC Representative/s.**

No MSC representatives attended. It was agreed that this item be dropped from future agenda.

**6. Finance**

6.1 The following payment was approved.

6.1.1 001283 E. of E. Regional Assembly. Training Course for Cllr. Bevan. £88.13

**7. Tree Wardens Report**

7.1 Cllr. Bevan updated the 'sickly' chestnut tree situation. The Clerk was instructed to write to the complainant and the MSC, since the tree is on their land, to make them both aware of the current situation.

7.2 The Clerk was instructed to contact the County Council about the overgrown willow tree at Nunnery Green.

**8. Cemetery**

8.1 Safety Inspection. P. Bayman felt that the war memorial needed cleaning before Remembrance Sunday and he had noted a slipped slate in the north side valley of the Chapel. The Clerk had offered to do the necessary cleaning.

8.2 An extract of Newmarket Cemetery's regulations had been circulated with the agenda. Cllrs. felt that some regulations should be incorporated into Wickhambrook Cemetery regulations but wished for more time to consider which. This item to be raised again at next meeting.

8.3 Cllr. Bevan explained that gravestone testing, recent legislation which could not be ignored, may reveal a 10% failure rate of headstones in the Cemetery. He recommended consideration of a '5 year lease' arrangement on new graves and that some money be put aside for 'making good' any failures. It was agreed that the figure in the precept budget for cemetery maintenance be increased from £300 to £500.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date

**EC123**

8.4 Wickhambrook Players use of Chapel. The cost of modernising the electrics was likely to be in the region of £500. A breakdown of these costs had been requested from the Players and an independent electrician. Members approved, in principle, a 50:50 split of the costs. All equipment used by the Players should be PAT tested.

**9. Churchyard**

No changes were reported.

**10. Playground**

10.1 Safety Inspection. Three fence slats needed replacing. Cllr. Walker offered to do this. Pam and Peter Miller would be away until the end of the month. Cllr. Walker offered to continue inspections.

10.2 Maintenance. Peter Miller had completed a fibre glass repair to the handrail.

10.3 Grant for path to playground. The Clerk explained that completed grant application forms for Havebury and St Edmundsbury were available for signing. But he was confused about statements made at the last Parish Council meeting which gave the impression that the County Councillor was favouring the village hall improvements. The Clerk was asked to check before further action was considered.

**11. Teen Project**

11.1 Safety inspection. The completed forms were given to the Clerk. A new outer for the litter bin had been purchased and Peter Miller hoped he could re-use the firecheck plate.

11.2 Progress on securing the grindbox. P. Miller and John Crysell had met to agree the required position but there had been no progress since. The Clerk was instructed to check the situation.

11.3 Graffiti. The Millers had purchased a kit for removal of graffiti and this seemed to be effective.

11.4 Notice. The replacement regulations notice was now in place.

11.5 Litter. The County Councillor had expressed concern at the last Parish Council meeting about assorted litter in the skatepark area. The Clerk offered to contact the Council cleaning gang which visits the village regularly.

**12. Six Acres**

12.1 Safety inspection. Completed reports were given to the Clerk.

12.2 Letter to Football Club. An updated map and covering letter had been sent on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

12.3 Concern was expressed that the 'faulty' goalposts were still being used on Parish Council land. The Clerk was instructed to check the situation with the Environmental Health Department.

12.4 Two additional dog litter bins had been ordered and should be in place by mid December.

12.5 Fairground on Six Acres. Cllr. Sumner said that MSC had given permission without realising that the Six Acres was being used. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the MSC asking for advance notice of future visits and if the Six Acres was used any income be passed to the Parish Council.

**13. Village Greens**

13.1 Safety inspections. These had been completed. A new rut had been noted on Genesis Green. The situation would be monitored. Enthusiastic locals were taking some responsibility for Attleton Green.

13.2 Progress on 'Grounds Maintenance' quotes. Of the 7 people contacted, 4 had responded by saying that the undertaking was too big. The Clerk hoped to obtain quotes from the remaining 3. The Clerk was instructed to ensure that David King was given the opportunity to quote.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date

**EC124**

**14. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2007. 7.30 p.m. in the MSC Pavilion.

**15. Dates of subsequent meetings.**

Tuesdays 13<sup>th</sup> March and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2007 in the MSC Pavilion.

**Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.**

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2006

.....  
**Chairman**

.....  
**Date**