

EC183

**Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee  
18<sup>th</sup> October (postponed from 11<sup>th</sup>) 2011 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. Welcome to new member.** The Chairman welcomed Julian Girling as a new Parish Councillor representative.
- 2. Apologies for absence.**  
Apologies were accepted from Cllr. Taylor.
- 3. Declarations of interest in agenda items**  
None was declared.
- 4. Minutes of the meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> August 2011**  
These were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.
- 5. Matters arising**  
There were no matters arising.
- 6. Correspondence**  
6.1 Playground on Bury Road. Havebury Housing Association had requested that the Parish Council take over responsibility for the small play area on Bury road. Some new equipment would be provided before any transfer. Cllrs. were willing to consider the proposal but awaited further details.
- 7. Playground**  
7.1 Safety Inspection. The monthly summaries were handed in. Weaknesses in the safety surfaces were being monitored.  
7.2 Fundraising and Publicity for improvements. Havebury Housing Association had promised £5,000 towards the refurbishment. An application for £5,000 had been made to Suffolk Housing and an application for £10,000 from St Edmundsbury Borough Council was about to be made.
- 8. Tree Warden' Report**  
8.1 Possible planting of small group of native trees on the 'Six Acres'. Cllrs. were in favour of supporting the Scouts in this project but would wait to hear if the offer was repeated before making a final decision.  
8.2 Tree Inspection in the Cemetery. Cllrs. supported Cllr. Taylor's suggestion that mature trees in the cemetery be inspected regularly. The Clerk was instructed to contact David King.
- 9. Cemetery**  
9.1 Safety Inspection. John Norton was preparing the October report.  
9.2 Various updates. Cllrs. thanked John Norton for the new memorial bench. The flycatcher boxes had been put in place in both the cemetery and the churchyard. No rates were due on the Chapel until 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012. A smart meter had been fitted inside the Chapel on 12<sup>th</sup> October. An order had been placed with Saxon Monumental Craft for cleaning of the war memorial.  
9.3 Care of memorial gates. Derek Pope had asked that the Parish Council accept responsibility for the 'cleaning and oiling of the oak gates'. John Norton offered to take on this duty.

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**Chairman**

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- 9.4 Fallen tree. The mature ash which had fallen into the field opposite the Cemetery would be cleared for firewood and it was hoped that no charge would be made. Once this task had been completed Cllrs. would need to arrange a replacement for the crushed gate.
- 9.5 Care of iron gates. These appear to have dropped and were difficult to open and close. Cllr. Sammons offered to contact Adrian Lee to discuss what action could be taken.
- 9.6 Cemetery Management. Cllrs. gave approval for the Clerk to attend the Cemetery Management day on 15<sup>th</sup> November at a cost of £80.00 plus vat.
- 9.7 Funeral bier. Cllrs. resolved to use Manders Auctioneers to sell the wheeled bier. Cllr. Walker offered to deliver the bier in time for the next appropriate auction.

**10. Churchyard**

- 10.1 Safety Inspection. The quarterly report had been provided.

**11. Teen Project**

- 11.1 Safety Inspection. Reports were handed in. The screws of the bench seats in the games area needed tightening and those at the bottom of the ramp of the fun box were working loose.
- 11.2 'Wos Up' Mobile Youth Project. The programme of summer visits had been completed. Simon Pickering, Development Officer, had offered to visit and discuss the success of the project. Cllrs agreed that he be invited to a future Parish Council meeting.

**12. Six Acres**

- 12.1 Inspection reports were handed in. There were no concerns.
- 12.2 Resurfacing of tennis courts. The surface had been replaced at a total cost of £17,690 plus vat, (£21,228). An initial payment of £14,152 plus vat (£16,982) had been made on 29<sup>th</sup> September and the remainder (£3,538 plus vat giving a total of £4,245.60) would be paid on 27<sup>th</sup> October. Contributions from the Tennis Club had amounted to £10,000 on 12<sup>th</sup> September with another £5,000 promised.
- 12.3 Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. The Clerk was instructed to make further contact with those organisations who had expressed interest in supporting an event on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

**13. Village Greens**

- 13.1 Reports were handed in.
- 13.2 Litter Pick planned for Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. The Pavilion had been booked and paid for. Cllr. Merritt offered to ask his wife to organise the tea and biscuits. The equipment provided by the Borough - litter picks, hazard jackets, rubbish bags - would be delivered on 19<sup>th</sup>. A Police presence had been requested. The Clerk would choose and mark litter pick areas on a map of the village centre and provide several copies. The Chairman would welcome those attending and give the initial briefing.
- 13.3 Bench at Attleton Green. John Norman had re-proofed the seat and had noted that the Genesis Green seat needed similar treatment.
- 13.4 Dog Bin use. The new dog bin at Coltsfoot Green was in regular use but the Attleton Green bin was hardly used. Cllrs. would monitor usage and, if necessary, consider a change of site.

**14. Meeting dates for 2012.** Tuesdays 7<sup>th</sup> Feb., 10<sup>th</sup> April, 12<sup>th</sup> June, 7<sup>th</sup> Aug., 9<sup>th</sup> Oct. and 4<sup>th</sup> Dec.

**Date of next meeting.**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in the MSC Pavilion. Cllr. Sammons offered her apologies.

**Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.**

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**