

TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held at Loddon Hall, Twyford on Wednesday, 8th October 2003 at 7.45pm.

Present: - Mr M Stillman, (Chairman), Mrs J Robinson, Mrs G Wright, Messrs D Hymers, K Hogg, J Bowley, B Rogers.

In attendance Clerk: Mr J March

1. Apologies- Mr R Mantel

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda-none

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2003-

Proposed, Mrs Wright seconded, Mrs J Robinson. Agreed unanimously and signed.

4. Matters arising and action points

4.1 Area at KGVF by the Wargrave Rd entrance. The clerk has contacted the companies who provided the original quotes and only one was prepared to re-quote for a cheaper job. Twyford Landscapes are prepared to carry out a basic job including a new surface for £3000. The details of the proposed work were discussed and concerns expressed about how long the surface will last and possible damage by lorries. After some discussion it was agreed that the above quote is **RECOMMENDED** to the main council for acceptance subject to the clerk making further enquiries about the life of the surface and any guarantees given by the installers. The clerk will also investigate the cost of installing a suitable barrier or bollards to limit the access to small vehicles.

4.2 Quotations for CCTV. New quotations requested but not received to date.

4.3 Allotment fence adjacent to surgery. A reply has been received from the surgery accepting responsibility for the fence but refusing to either increase the height or add a strand of barbed wire on the top. The clerk has replied pointing out the unsafe condition of the fence, as there are several broken posts and asked for the surgery to have it repaired.

4.4 Repair of roof at Stanlake Pavilion. The insurance company have approved the quotes and repair work is in hand.

4.5 Repairs –gate at Hermitage Drive, gate at entrance by Loddon Hall and mesh on vehicle gate at play area. All being worked on at present and due for completion in the near future.

4.6 Access path at Burial Ground. The clerk has looked at this and the base under the chippings seems quite sound so he suggested that on a trial length the excess chipping are removed to create the right type of surface for disabled access. If this stands up to use the rest of the path will be dealt with in the same way. This was agreed and the Clerk was asked to arrange for a wheelchair user to check out the suitability of the modified surface.

4.7 Clearing ditch at Hurst Rd allotments – awaiting for availability of labour to assist the village ranger

4.8 Planting bulbs at Jubilee Corner and Millennium Garden. Daffodils and tulips have been purchased. Waiting for rain to soften ground so they can be planted.

4.9 Web cam at Stanlake. The clerk has investigated the feasibility of this and technically it is possible but rather complicated to set up. However, the quality of the image would be quite poor. A check was made on site and

there are no suitable windows that the camera could be set up to view through because the window glass obscured by the security grill on the outside. It was agreed not to pursue this option and various alternatives such as CCTV, security lighting and reducing the height of the hedge were discussed. It was agreed that the clerk speaks to the Crime Prevention Officer to find out the best measure to take and obtains quotes for this.

5 Clerk and Village Ranger's report on Parish Lands maintenance including-

- 5.1 Temporary Village Ranger. The clerk reported on the temporary village ranger. His work is of a high standard and he has completed all the tasks he has been set in a speedy and efficient manner. He has made himself known around the village and gets on well with everybody. The clerk is completely satisfied with him and considers him a suitable candidate for a permanent appointment. He has indicated he would be willing to take on the job on a permanent basis. Agreed that it would nevertheless be proper for the post to be advertised on the council notice boards and around the village and the temporary ranger is asked to apply. Mr M Stillman, Mr B Rogers and the clerk delegated to carry out the interviews.
- 5.2 Graffiti at Stanlake Meadow. There have been two attacks in recent weeks. The first was quite severe and cost £430 to remove. The second was lighter and cost £170 to remove.
- 5.3 Safety Inspection of children's play area –remedial work required. The ranger has already completed some of the recommended items and others will be carried out in the near future.
- 5.4 Rubbish in garden of Twycombe Lodge. The tenants have been spoken to and asked to have it removed as soon as possible.
- 5.5 Twycombe Lodge. The clerk has met the carpet company who supplied the original quote on site and arranged for a current quote to include a vinyl covering for the kitchen and dining area. Whilst on site he checked the decoration etc. The hall stairs and landing walls are scruffy and could do with a clean and re-paint. The dining room door does not close correctly and probably needs adjustment to the catches. There is mould on the bathroom ceiling and around the bath and the paint is peeling on the wall. The tenants reported a very poor signal from the television aerial. The tenants have purchased an electric shower and asked if the council will be prepared to install it if they donate the shower to us. Clerk to check the requirements in the tenancy agreement, check the ventilation in the bathroom and arrange quotes for redecoration of the bathroom, installation of the shower and fixing the dining room door. He will arrange for the television aerial to be checked if the tenancy agreement indicates it is our responsibility.
- 5.6 Vandal Damage to waste bin in children's play area. The plastic bin has been pulled off its fixings and damaged beyond repair. Agreed the clerk purchase a replacement metal vandal proof bin.
- 5.7 Fence alongside footpath at NE entrance to KGVR. The ranger has been approached by residents asking if this could be removed as it does not appear to serve any purpose and it prevents the grass and hedge being cut in that corner of the field. The ranger reports part of it is in poor condition. Committee members will look at this prior to discussions at the next meeting.
- 5.8 Stanlake Pavilion. The showers need repairing. Clerk to obtain quotes.

5.9 Fence alongside path at the rear of the Catholic Church. This is broken in several places. Clerk to arrange for the ranger to carry out repairs.

6. Allotments-

6.1 Possible use of part of Hurst Rd for car parking. Clerk to contact Stephen Conway to tell him the council are prepared to enter into discussions on the possibility of using some of the unused land in the NW corner of the Hurst Rd allotments for car parking.

6.2 Following reports in the press several tenants have expressed concern about this proposal. Clerk to draft a letter to send to the tenants.

7. Millennium Garden, Burial Ground Jubilee Corner & War Memorial

7.1 Report on burials. Cremated remains of Mr William Sidney Saunders 23 Bolwell Close on 23rd September.

7.2 Report on memorials-none.

8. Correspondence:

8.1 Letter from Youth Centre regarding hard play area. Noted, this has now been superseded by item 8.2

8.2 Telephone call from WDC Arts and Leisure regarding skate park on KGVR. The clerk received a call asking for details of the current position on this and following discussions with Mr Stillman he gave WDC details of the background to this project. It was reported that WDC are interested in reviving the scheme and Trudi Collis from the Youth Centre has been asked to convene a meeting of all interested parties to discuss the issues involved. Mr M Stillman to attend on behalf of the council.

8.3 Letter from Wokingham Area Access Group. Noted, suggested details are put in the next parish magazine.

9. Date of next meeting - Wednesday 5th November 2003

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.58 pm.

