

TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held at Loddon Hall Twyford on Wednesday 6th December 2006 at 7.45pm.

Present: - Mr J Bowley (Chairman), Mr D Hymers, Mrs J Robinson, Mr J Fort and Mr B Rogers

In attendance Clerk: Mr J March.

1. **Public Questions** - none
2. **Apologies** – Mrs G Wright.
3. **Declaration of items of interest on the agenda** - none
4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2006** – proposed Mr D Hymers, seconded Mrs J Robinson – approved unanimously.
5. **Matters arising and action points**
 - 5.1 The Clerk to find out the cost to have the white lines repainted in Loddon Hall car park. Waiting until surface repairs are complete.
 - 5.2 The Clerk to make enquiries about bat boxes and bird nesting boxes. Quotes obtained for the supply and installation of 10 bird boxes and 6 bat boxes at a cost of £281+ VAT. The WDC Countryside Service is prepared to give a grant of 50% of the cost. Proposed Mrs J Robinson, seconded Mr J Fort to install the boxes. Carried unanimously.
 - 5.3 The Clerk to reply to the Horticultural Society. Completed.
 - 5.4 The Clerk to place the order to have the Shrubs at Jubilee Corner pruned. Completed.
 - 5.5 The Clerk to write to Playground Facilities confirming the council want them to carry on with the repair to the whirlybird unit. Completed.
 - 5.6 The Clerk to place the order for the new/ replacement equipment in the children's play area. Completed.
 - 5.7 The Clerk to reply to Mr Bounds, ask the Ranger to tidy up round the Stanlake Meadow entrance near Paddock Heights and contact WDC regarding the path worn across the grass verge. Completed.
 - 5.8 Fence between the Scout Hut site and Polehampton Junior School. A reply has been received from WDC asking the council to reconsider making a 50% contribution to the cost of replacing this fence. Agreed the Clerk to reply to WDC indicating the council do not wish to contribute to the cost as they consider the fence is the responsibility of WDC.
6. **Clerk and Village Ranger's report on Parish Lands maintenance including:**
 - 6.1 Report on the work of the Village Ranger. All work up to date and everything in good order.
 - 6.2 Repairs to the surface of Loddon Hall car park are being carried out.
 - 6.3 The goal area of the pitch used by Ruscombe FC on KGVR is getting worn due to training being carried out in this area. The Clerk has asked Comets to avoid training in this area.
7. **Allotments**
 - 7.1 Hurst Rd. The Hazel Copse is being enlarged this week.
 - 7.2 London Rd. – nothing to report.
8. **Millennium Garden, Jubilee Corner, Burial Ground & War Memorial**
 - 8.1 Report on Burials – none
 - 8.2 Report on Memorials – none
 - 8.3 The bushes at Jubilee Corner have been pruned and the new bench installed.
9. **KGVR**
 - 9.1 Cleaning the surface of the tennis courts. A site meeting has been held with an expert from the LTA and the tennis club to discuss the problem of the slippery surface. The recommendation of the LTA is that the court surface should be treated for moss and weeds every year, every two years the surface should be pressure

cleaned and every five years the non-slip colour finish should be renewed. He gave details of companies who carry out this work. The Clerk has asked for quotes and to date one quote has been received to treat the moss and pressure clean all three courts. The cost is £875 plus VAT. Nigel Bailey from the tennis club was present and requested the work be carried out as soon as possible because players are continuing to slip and now the problem has been identified there are Health and Safety implications. It was agreed that due to the safety implications this work is urgent and need doing. Proposed Mr D Hymers, seconded Mrs J Robinson to **RECOMMEND** to the Full Council that this work is carried out up to a maximum expenditure of £875 + VAT subject to the Clerk obtaining alternatives quotes before placing an order.

- 9.2 Safety surfaces in junior children's play area. When companies were asked to quote for the replacement equipment in the younger children's area a quote was also obtained to clean moss off the safety surfaces, replace two damaged swing seats and fill the gaps in the safety tiles. The most competitive contractor was Playground Supplies who quoted £1300 +VAT for this additional work. It is now becoming urgent as the moss is starting to spread and create a slip hazard. This is an item that was picked up in last years ROSPA safety inspection so it need to be dealt with. Proposed by Mr B Rogers, seconded by Mr D Hymers that this work is carried out. Agreed unanimously.
- 9.3 A letter has been received from Mr G Robinson of 76 Wargrave Rd asking for permission to layer a further section of the hedge between his property and KGVR. Agreed.

10. Stanlake Meadow

- 10.1 Discussion held on the area near the railway boundary that is now waterlogged due to the recent rain. The Clerk has an action from the Planning and Amenities Committee to speak to WDC regarding the drainage ditch in Waltham Rd so it was decided to wait for the outcome of this before considering any other action.

11. **Precept 2007/8** – further discussions held on items to be included. A suggested increase of 3% to rents and charges was discussed and agreed with the exception of following three items. Proposed by Mr B Rogers that allotment holders over the age of 65 do not have to pay any allotment rental charges. Not seconded so motion lost. The rent charged to Yellow Brick nursery, which was referred to the Finance Committee for further consideration. The rent charged for Twycombe Lodge, where the Clerk is to check market rates for rental and what other companies would charge for administering the rental agreement.

12. **Correspondence** - None.

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 3rd January 2007

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm.