

TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held at Loddon Hall Twyford on Wednesday 7th November 2007 at 7.45pm.

Present: - Mr J Bowley (Chairman) Mr D Hymers, Mr B Rogers Mrs K Peck, Ms S Doughty and Miss C La Trobe.

In attendance Clerk: Mr J March and two members of the police

1. Public Questions – The police asked if it would be possible to reinstate the lighting in the Youth Shelter to reduce the risk of illegal activities. It was explained that it has already been repaired a number of times but following continual vandalism of the installation it had been decided not to carry out any more repairs. Following discussion it was agreed that nothing would be done until the lighting installation associated with the skate park has been completed as this may provide sufficient light into the Youth Shelter.

2. Apologies – Mr R Mantel.

3. Declaration of interests in items on the agenda – none.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October 2007 – proposed Mrs K Peck, seconded Mr D Hymers – approved unanimously.

5. Matters arising and action points

5.1 The Clerk to write to the owner of 131 London Rd about the hedge. Completed.

5.2 The Clerk to contact Mr Loyd about the coppicing at Hurst Rd. Completed.

5.3 The Clerk to put a notice about bonfires on the notice board at Hurst Rd. Completed.

5.4 The Clerk to send the TPC artwork to Groundworks. Completed.

5.5 The Clerk to ask TRCA for permission to connect the electricity supply for the skate park lighting into Loddon Hall. Completed.

5.6 The Clerk to investigate if net supports can be provided for the goal posts. Supports can be obtained that can be bolted on to the posts. The solid steel version is £89 for a set of 4 and the tubular version £74.90 for a set of 4. Agreed the Clerk purchases a set of 4 of the solid steel version.

5.7 The Clerk to investigate storage containers for nets. The Clerk has purchased a rectangular garden incinerator basket at a cost of £12.99. This has been lined with a nylon bag to enable the nets to be stored neatly.

6. Clerk and Village Ranger's report on Parish Lands maintenance including:

6.1 Report on the work of the Village Ranger. Everything is in good order with all maintenance items up to date.

6.2 The fence adjacent to the burial ground is leaning over as posts have broken. The owners of the adjacent property have asked for it to be repaired. Several fencing contractors have been contacted but only one has provided an estimate. Clive Winton has quoted £225 to fit concrete spurs to support the broken post and refix the fence to the wall. Agreed the Clerk places an order for this work to be carried out.

7. Allotments

7.1 Hurst Rd. There are four tenants still to pay their rent. There are now a number of vacant plots and the Clerk is offering them to persons on the waiting list.

7.2 London Rd. All rents paid.

7.3 The council chairman has received a letter from the Horticultural Association regarding unkempt plots. Agreed Mr J Bowley and the Clerk to inspect the Hurst Rd site and the Clerk to send a letter to the relevant tenants giving them notice to tidy up their plots. Mr D Hymers to reply to the letter from the Horticultural Association.

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

8.1 Report on Burials – none.

8.2 Report on Memorials - John William Smith. Design approved by the Clerk.

8.3 Lighting supply to the Christmas tree. As TVCMI has undertaken to supply the tree and connect the lights it was agreed to take no further action at this stage.

9. KGVR

Skate Park – the Clerk reported on the setting out meeting that took place on 30th October. Work will start now start on the 12th November. The Clerk to check if Nigel Shaw of WBC has informed the local schools about the work.

Skate Park - painting skate park equipment – see Northern Area Youth Meeting report attached. Discussed and agreed that the Clerk will write to Nigel Shaw to point out that the equipment will pass into the ownership of the parish council on completion and no painting can be carried out without their permission.

KGVR reinstating light in Youth Shelter - see Northern Area Youth Meeting report attached. Discussed when question raised by the police under public questions.

Tennis Club – moss on court and nets. See enclosed e-mail. In view of the cost of cleaning the courts it was decided not to have this done again at present but to ask the village ranger to treat the affected area with moss killer and ask the tennis club to keep it swept. Further treatment work for the court surfaces will be considered for inclusion in next years budget. The Clerk to reply to the tennis club.

10. Stanlake Meadow

10.1 Cricket Club concrete strip for practice nets and storage box. To overcome excessive wear on the grass the club would like to install a concrete strip where practice nets would be installed. They would also like to install a small storage box adjacent to this to keep the nets in. The Clerk has had a site meeting with the club and agreed suitable locations for both these items. The club will cover the cost. Agreed subject to the location and specification of both items being agreed with the Clerk before any work commences.

10.2 Comets Football Club. The club have raised the issue of grass cutting during the winter months to keep the grass a suitable length for play. They have asked the council contractor for a quote, which is higher than that quoted by the contractor who cuts the grass for the cricket club and seek permission to use him. Concern was expressed about the number of cuts requested during the winter and the possibility of damage to the grass. In view of this the parish council would only want their appointed contractor to be used. There was also some doubt about what the correct length is for the grass. The Clerk to reply to the Comets and ask for them to provide information on the regulations relating to the length of grass.

11. Precept – discussions held on the anticipated expenditure to the end of this financial year and figures agreed for the items to be budgeted for next year.

12. Correspondence

12.1 Round Table –thank you letter received for allowing them to use the recreation ground for the Bonfire Carnival. Noted.

13. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 5th December 2007.

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm