

TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held at Loddon Hall Twyford on Wednesday 9th January 2008 at 7.45pm.

2. **Present:** - Mr J Bowley (Chairman) Mr D Hymers, Mr R Mantel, Mr B Rogers, Mrs K Peck, Ms S Doughty and Miss C La Trobe from item 5.3.

In attendance Clerk: Mr J March

1. **Public Questions** – None

3. **Apologies** – None

4. **Declaration of interests in items on the agenda** – None.

5. **Minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2007** – proposed Mrs K Peck, seconded Ms S Doughty – approved 5 for, 1 abstention.

6. **Matters arising and action points**

5.1 The Clerk to inform Comets about the proposed grass cutting arrangements.
Completed

5.2 The Clerk to seek advice about reinstating the hedge on the Waltham Rd boundary of Stanlake Meadow. Discussed with WBC Countryside Service who suggested waiting until the spring to see how much of it is still alive. Suggestions discussed were either layering, which is quite expensive, or infilling with new plants where there are large gaps. Discussed and agreed the Clerk obtains proposals and prices for layering the section from the railway bridge to the pavilion gate.

5.3 The Clerk to write to Nigel Shaw about the location of the ballpark. Completed.

5.4 The Clerk to write to Groundworks about proposals for CCTV on the skate park.
Completed.

5.5 The Clerk to write to the resident in Sycamore Drive to ask them to cut their hedge. The Clerk arranged for the footpath to be closed and the resident has carried out the work.

6. **Precept** –figures for expenditure and income discussed and agreed no changes required.

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

7.1 Report on the work of the Village Ranger. Everything is in good order with all maintenance items up to date. More hedge cutting and clearance has been carried out in the burial ground. New posts have been purchased and the notice board in Broadwater Rd has been re-erected.

7.2 Woods Yard do not hold the same stocks as they have in the past so the Ranger has to make more visits to collect items after they are ordered. Various possible alternative suppliers discussed. The Clerk to investigate the Travis Perkins branch in Woodley to see if it is suitable and if an account can be set up.

8. **Allotments**

8.1 Hurst Rd. Nothing has been heard from the tenants whose rental agreements were terminated for non- payment of rent so the Clerk will offer these as vacant plots when enquiries are received. Out of the seven tenants who were written to regarding unkempt plots four have replied so they will be allowed to continue. One has given up their plot and two have not replied so their tenancies will be terminated.

8.2 Hurst Rd. The Friends of Ruscombe Wood have coppiced the older part of the Hazel Copse and left the cuttings to be used as pea or bean supports by tenants. They have asked for a donation towards their costs. Proposed Mr B Rogers, seconded Mr D Hymers that a donation of £100 be made. Agreed unanimously.

8.3 Hurst Rd. The clearing work to create additional plots has displaced rats and the Clerk has had reports of rats under sheds and in compost heaps towards the centre of the site. He has spoken to the pest control company who will place more bait in this area.

8.4 Hurst Rd. Mrs C La Trobe asked if the bench adjacent to the entrance could be cleaned. The Clerk has already spoken to WBC about this. He will follow this up.

8.5 London Rd. Nothing to report.

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

9.1 Report on Burials – none.

9.2 Report on Memorials -none.

9.3 The fence adjacent to the burial ground boundary that was leaning over has now had spur supports put on the main posts at a cost of £180.

10. KGVR

Skate Park – there is a meeting proposed for 24th or 25th January to discuss the problems identified as a result of part of the site having been used for land fill. Mr J Bowley and Mr D Hymers hope to attend.

Twyford and Ruscombe FC have asked if their pitch can be rolled. The Clerk has spoken to the contractors and the cost to roll both pitches will be £160. Due to the cost to bring equipment to site there is very little difference to have just one pitch rolled. Mr B Rogers asked if the small-sided pitch used by Comets could also be rolled. Agreed the Clerk to arrange for all three pitches to be rolled.

11. Stanlake Meadow

11.1 Comets have agreed to make arrangements so the pitch nearest the pavilion can be weed treated and seeded in April. They have asked about the implications for the cricket club as this covers part of their outfield. The Clerk to speak to the cricket club. Comets have asked for the use of the field on 14th June for a Fun Day. Agreed. They also raised the problem of dog fouling. Discussed and it was mentioned that this is also a problem at KGVR. Agreed that temporary notices will be placed on the entrances to both grounds to ask dog owners to pick up after their dogs and remind them that it is an offence to fail to do so. The Clerk to prepare a draft notice for approval and Mrs K Peck to arrange for them to be encapsulated. The Clerk to speak to the Park Wardens about having high visibility jackets and to ask them to be stricter and to enforce penalties for any offenders caught by them. Comets also mentioned the fairs that come on to Stanlake and the damage caused to the surface of the small-sided pitch. Discussed and agreed that Stanlake Meadow is a multi-use field and fairs should be allowed to come if requested. The Clerk to inform Comets.

12. Correspondence - None

13. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 6th February 2008.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.