

TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held at Stanlake Pavilion Twyford on Wednesday 9th July 2008 at 7.45pm.

Present: - Mr J Bowley (Chairman), Mr C Tennant, Mr R Mantel and Mrs K Peck

In attendance Clerk: Mr J March.

1. Public Questions – Mr R Thomas spoke to the meeting about the bench in London Rd by the allotments. WBC grass cutting contractors damaged it and he has spoken to WBC who are contacting the contractor about having it replaced. He is happy to follow this up. The committee thanked him for his efforts and asked him to contact the Clerk if there are any problems.

2. Apologies – Miss C La Trobe, Mr D Hymers and Ms S Doughty.

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

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2008 – proposed C Tennant, seconded – Mr R Mantel and approved unanimously.

5. Matters arising and action points

The Clerk to obtain prices for repairing the damaged kerbs and replacing all the kerbs in Loddon Hall car park. Quote obtained from WBC nominated contractor Balfour Beatty. To replace damaged kerbs and make good £604.53 +VAT, to replace all kerbing and make good £2047.92 +VAT. Agreed to proceed with replacing just the damaged kerbs.

The Clerk to obtain a price for pressure washing the paving slabs in Jubilee Corner. Clerk still trying to find a contractor who can carry this out.

The Clerk to arrange for the tree branch in Waltham Rd ditch to be cut up and removed. Prices obtained to cut up and remove, remove rest of tree to make safe, remove unsafe tree in KGVR and grind stump to below ground level. Beechwood Tree Care £606.04 +VAT, Clive Winson £600. Agreed to have this work carried out by Beechwood Tree Care, as they are a contractor who has carried out work for the council before.

The Clerk to put charges for burial of cremated remains on the agenda of the July meeting. Completed.

The Clerk to contact WBC about the mounds adjacent to the skate park. Completed.

The Clerk to obtain details about the ROSPA inspection of the Skate Park. This is included in the main contract terms so it will be carried out prior to handover.

The Clerk to obtain costs for insuring the skate and ballpark equipment. Quote obtained for cover for skate and ballpark equipment to a value of £85,618 premium £386.56 and cover for tarmac surfaces at a value of £10,000 premium £45.15. The existing public liability cover will include both the skate and ballpark without any additional premium providing an annual inspection is carried out.

The Clerk to contact the Youth Worker about an opening ceremony for the skate park. Arrangements put in hand for an opening ceremony on 19th July. Details circulated. A formal invitation has been sent by TVP to the Full Council.

The Clerk to arrange the purchase of replacement tennis nets. Tennis club asked to arrange purchase and submit invoice to council for payment.

The Clerk to draft a letter to the cricket club about others using their facilities. Completed.

The Clerk to reply to Yellow Brick Nursery about a grassed play area. Reply received together with sketch of proposed size and location. The committee went out on to Stanlake Meadow to look at the proposed location. Yellow Brick have agreed to pay for the installation costs and to take responsibility for maintenance. Agree to grant permission subject to the additional condition that if Yellow Brick stop using the pavilion they will be responsible for removal of the fencing and reinstating the area.

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. The Ranger was on leave for two weeks and then on sick leave for the following week and the Clerk expressed his concerns about cover for emergency repairs when the Ranger is not at work for such a long period. Neighbouring Parishes have been contacted but are unable to assist. Discussed and agreed that in this situation it may be necessary to find a local contractor and pay the costs involved. Mrs Peck suggested the possibility of using a school caretaker if they have time available. She will speak to the Polehampton Junior School caretaker.
- 6.2 Clerk's report. He noticed the mechanism on shutter on Stanlake Pavilion is noisy and appears to be loose when it is opened. It has not been serviced for over two years. Agreed the Clerk to arrange for it to be serviced.
- 6.3 Bench adjacent to allotments in London Rd. Discussed under Public Questions. Following further discussion agreed that if WBC does not replace it the parish council would buy a replacement. The Clerk to monitor the situation.

7. Allotments

- 7.1 Hurst Rd. – Hedge on southern boundary and spring that has started adjacent to southern access road. The owner of the adjacent property accepts that the hedge is probably her property and has no objection to the council trimming the allotment side providing the top is not cut down. Agreed the Clerk to speak to contractors about practicalities and costs for trimming the hedge. The Clerk has spoken to WBC Drainage Maintenance Manager and asked him to investigate the drainage in the road to see if this might be the cause of the spring that has started.
- 7.2 London Rd. The pest control contractor has reported that a number of bait boxes are missing from the site for no apparent reason. He has agreed to replace them.

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

- 8.1 Report on Burials – Mr A G Jones.
- 8.2 Report on Memorials - None
- 8.3 Charges for burial of cremated remains. Following the change in the regulations to allow double depth plots for cremated remains a charge needs to be agreed for the charge for the interment of a second set of ashes. Discussed and agreed the charge be set at £170.

9. KGVR

- 9.1 Skate Park – Mr J Bowley gave details of the items picked up on the snagging inspection. The main issue is that puddles still form on the skate park and ballpark surface. These have been reported to the main contractor UAC for remedial action to be taken. The Clerk is still investigating the signage required on the equipment to meet safety and insurance requirements. There is a problem with litter being left around the site. Agreed the Clerk obtains prices for an additional two litterbins. He raised the point that consideration will need to be given to the additional workload created for the Village Ranger.
- 9.2 Training for staff to carry out routine inspections of equipment. Staff need to be trained to make sure they are inspecting the items correctly. The Clerk has spoken to a local trainer who is qualified to train staff carrying out inspections and he can provide a half day training course for £500. This would cover up to 5/6 persons. Agreed the Clerk arranges for this to be carried out. Training to be provided for the Clerk, Village Ranger, Park Wardens, Mr J Bowley and Mrs K Peck.
- 9.3 ROSPA safety inspection of Children's Play Area. There are two items requiring attention. Cut down fixing bolts on rocking horse footplates. The Village Ranger has been asked to carry this out. Repair gaps in safety tiles under log multi-play unit. This work has been carried out a couple of times and has failed each time. The only permanent solution is to renew the safety surface. The Clerk to obtain prices for this work.

- 9.4 Request from owner of 76 Wargrave Rd for access to new property. Request discussed and agreed that this will not be possible due to problems associated with the trust on KGVR and car park access.
- 9.5 Tennis Club – re-colouring tennis courts. Agreed the Clerk places the order for this to be carried out.
- 9.6 Hollow near Youth Shelter. The Clerk has noticed this has got deeper. It is not a safety hazard at present. Agreed the Clerk monitors the situation.
- 9.7 Problem with smell from dog-waste bin at rear of 59 Hermitage Drive. A complaint has been received by the Clerk from the resident of this property. The Clerk has investigated and the smell is not coming from the bin as the seal is intact and the bin is emptied regularly. He has spoken to the resident about this.

10. Stanlake Meadow

- 10.1 Proposal from Round Table to install sports related equipment. Mr J Bowley reported that the Round Table had approached him with this proposal and has suggested something like a basketball net. The idea was agreed in principle but a basketball net was not felt to be practical without a surfaced area to play on. The value of the proposed donation is not known. It was suggested some form of outdoor fitness equipment would be more appropriate. Agreed the Clerk obtains details and costs for equipment for discussion at the next meeting.

11. Correspondence - None

12. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 3rd September

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.