

TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held at Loddon Hall, Twyford on Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 7.45pm.

Present: Mr J Bowley (Chair), Mrs E Ashley, Mr M Bray, Mrs L Jarvis, Mr D Fergusson, Mr R Mantel, Mrs T Ramsden & Mr T Winchester.

In attendance: 6 members of the public.

1. Public Questions: None.

2. Apologies – none.

3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda – Mr M Bray, Mr D Fergusson, Mrs T Ramsden, Mr T Winchester declared an interest as allotment holders and withdrew from discussions on the allotment rent.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2016. Proposed Mrs L Jarvis, seconded Mr M Bray, carried unanimously.

5. Budgets – figures were discussed and amended. A 3% increase in burial charges and other rents and charges was approved. The allotment holders declared an interest and withdrew from discussions and voting on the allotment rents.

6. Matters arising and action points.

6.1 (16) Resident question - how the Council are protecting the green spaces in Twyford for the children. Where can they 'run wild with nature' close to Twyford?

6.2 (12.1) How will the cricket club co-exist with the Colleton School After School Club in the summer term. There is an overlap where the Colleton School ASC finishes at 6:30pm and the cricketers arrive at 6pm. Cricketers may be forced to change in the car park which would be inappropriate with children leaving the after school club.

6.3 (8.6) Clerk was asked to contact the pest control to enquire about prevention of foxes.

6.4 (8.3) Hurst Road quote for planting by brook to deter deer (to be carried forward) Agreed for the clerk to obtain a quote for Heras fencing along the length of the end of the plots, clearing of the bank to enable the fencing to be installed and planting of a blackthorn / hawthorn hedge which will be layered. Suggested the clerk contact National Trust property at Nuffield Place who have recently put up a large area of fencing.

6.5 Quote for improvements to entrance gates to allow them to be locked – approved the quote of £120 for a hook in order to allow the station end gate to be padlocked. Work complete subject to gate being locked. Mr Yeates reported that the allotment gate is dragging – the hinge needs adjusting. Agreed for the clerk to place a notice on the allotment noticeboard notifying allotment holders that the gate will be locked with effect from January.

6.6 (8.4) Request from TATA to let 2 plots which will be used to help encourage new allotment holders Agreed that TATA will forward their proposals for the idea on how it will work. TATA will need to sign the agreement and to provide their constitution.

6.7 (12.2) Car parking – clerk to re-circulate the quotes.

6.8 (13.4) Requests from The Colleton ASC – outside lighting, tables and chairs & various matters. The Council re-iterated that the tables and chairs should be placed back into the car park cupboard. They cannot be stored in the referee room. Clerk to obtain a quote for lighting on the pavilion (fenced area end).

Matters arising to be carried forward or awaiting a response:

6.9 Mr Yeates referred to allotment law that requires members and non-council members to manage the allotments. This will be checked.

6.10 The Cricket club had requested signage and will present the Council with suggestions for signage suggestions with size and layout.

6.11 Mr Downes (Twyford and Ruscombe Cricket Club) will draft some suggested changes to the 5 yearly agreement.

6.12 Aerial runway wire (sagging) – clerk to get a quote.

6.13 Twyford in Bloom - Mrs Ramsden agreed to provide photos of the Christmas tree festival and allotments to show all year round activity.

6.14 To consider a request for a skip to the Hurst Road allotments. TATA representative agreed that they could supervise the skip. Agreed to get a quote for a skip to be dropped and collected on the same day.

6.15 Jubilee Corner water feature –Twyford in Bloom / Twyford Together to consider a sculpture. The Committee will consider their suggestion if they provide information and prices.

6.16 Height bar - Incidences of height bar being clipped. Mr Bowley reported that the left hand post is still not secure despite it already being re-secured. He also explained the problem that the latch pin pops out when the bar is hit/bent slightly. Agreed for the clerk to contact the installers in the first instance as the post is not fit for purpose.

6.17 Colleton School lease / licence of use. Mrs Ashley had drafted some additions / amendments. Clerk to type up and circulate.

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

7.1 Village Ranger – further damage has been carried out to the Willow Tree at KGVR. The chain securing the Longfield Road gate onto KGVR has been cut. The ranger has re-secured the gate and checked all entrances to Parish Lands. Tents have been found in the copse at Stanlake Meadow - the ranger removed these along with litter found. The padlock has been removed from the footballers shed - this has also been replaced. The ranger has also reported moles at the burial ground.

7.2 Park Warden – the Park Warden continues to clear the litter and glass from the skate park area at the weekend. There continues to be regular amount of smashed glass from beer and wine bottles. It is very difficult to make this safe with glass embedded in the grass. Agreed for photos to be taken and regular reports made to the police. The committee approved the purchase of dog waste bags to hang on the bins.

7.3 Clerk's report – a new delivery of line marker has been received. The Stanlake Pavilion and Stanlake Meadow risk assessments were carried out on Monday and reports will be circulated in due course.

8.0 Allotments.

8.1 Hurst Rd – 16 plots available and 23 currently unpaid. Mrs Ramsden requested that she carry out research on other parishes and how they manage / maintain their allotments. This was agreed. Mrs Ramsden asked if she or a TATA representative could have a list of the available plots and show potential allotment holders around as she stated that the clerk doesn't have the time to show interested residents around. It was agreed that this is the clerk's role and the clerk confirmed that she has recently shown residents around both allotment sites.

8.2 London Rd – 1 plot available and 10 unpaid. A request for a plot from 2 x Ruscombe residents was considered. Agreed that they may be offered plots at Hurst Road but not London Road.

8.3 Hurst Road quote for planting by brook to deter deer – information circulated on fencing / experience of Wokingham Town Council. A deer proof fencing quote that Wokingham had sought amounted to £5,580. This would be a similar length of fence required to go along the side of the brook. It was agreed that fencing is required to go along from the Orpington Close back gardens to the brook. A quote will be sought for Heras fencing to go along this area. Mr Starkie will provide the clerk with his contact for Heras fencing. TATA will consider erecting the fencing and

requested additional panels to direct the deer away down the brook.

8.4 Request from TATA to let 2 plots which will be used to help encourage new allotment holders – plans for a group plot and constitution have been circulated. Proposed Mrs T Ramsden, seconded Mr M Bray to approve letting two plots free of charge to the TATA. Motion carried unanimously. The committee agreed that plots located near to the car park may be more appropriate and after discussion considering the potential talks on a commuter car park it was agreed that the plots on the right hand side will continue to be let.

8.5 Osier bed banner request – information circulated by email. The committee had no objections to the banners subject to permanent review.

8.6 London Road allotment holders – increasing damage being done by foxes digging holes. Quotes to shoot or trap foxes had been obtained - £170 to shoot or £120 to trap plus £60 per visit on top. After some discussion it was agreed that some residents would object to the foxes being killed and that the allotment holders should just continue to fill in the fox holes.

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

9.1 Report on cremations & burials – none.

9.2 Report on memorials – none.

9.3 Resident access gate – the committee authorised the clerk to sign the agreement on behalf of the Council.

9.4 Jubilee Corner tree works – to consider quote for tree works

Work has been recommended by Stephen Loyd FORWOOD Quote for works – £375 only if carried out at the same time as KGVR work see 11.3. Both tree works were considered at the same time at a total cost of £525. Proposed Mr D Fergusson, seconded Mrs L Jarvis, carried unanimously.

10. Bell Corner

10.1 Request for permission to hold Scout event – Friday 16th December renew of promises to mark the centenary of the Cubs. Approved.

11.0 KGVR

11.1 Resident gate access – no report.

11.2 Children's play park (toddler side) – carried forward.

11.3 Sycamore tree works – to prevent resting on swings. To consider a quote for works. Quote: £150:00 if carried out at the same time as the Jubilee Corner works. [Approved under item 9.4]

11.4 Youths request to have a bin placed in the Youth Shelter – Bin cost was approved at £661 however the cost has increased to £700. Order placed - additional £39 was approved.

11.5 Repairs to KGVR gate by Hermitage Drive – Mrs L Ashley proposed to accept a quote of £180 to replace the missing bar in the gate, seconded Mrs L Jarvis, motion carried unanimously.

12. Stanlake Meadow.

12.1 Points raised by the cricket club - How will the cricket club co-exist with the Colleton School After School Club in the summer term. There is an overlap where the Colleton School ASC finishes at 6:30pm and the cricketers arrive at 6pm. Cricketers may be forced to change in the car park which would be inappropriate with children leaving the after school club. The committee commented that the cricket club will either need to arrange for their members to change at home before arriving for cricket or will need to start their games after the after school club has finished.

12.2 Car parking – quotes previously sought have been circulated. Agreed the costs of increasing the car parking is too cost prohibitive Agreed no action.

12.4 Wildflower area – A quote of £590 for annual cut / rotivate / seed was considered. Agreed to seek the advice of Stephen Loyd from Friends of Ruscombe Wood. Agreed to ask timescales as to when seeding would be appropriate.

13. Stanlake Pavilion

13.1 Toilet – hand dryer. A quote amounting to £1500 for 3 handdryers and electrical Works was considered. Agreed no action.

13.2 Colleton School lease / licence of use – authorise clerk to sign agreement. To consider emergency contact. Agreed for the clerk to sign, on behalf of the Council, and return the lease agreement. Mr Mantel and Mr Bowley agreed to be out of hours emergency contacts. The clerk will arrange for them to have sets of keys.

13.3 To consider a scheme to augment an extension to Stanlake Pavilion to include a meeting room. Agreed to hold off discussing this item until the Cricket club have responded with their ideas.

13.4 Requests from The Colleton ASC – outside lighting. Proposed Mr R Mantel, seconded Mr D Fergusson to accept the quote for 3 LED bulk head lights to be fitted on the playground end of Stanlake Pavilion at a cost of £144.00. Motion carried unanimously.

14.0 Family Picnic sub committee- no matters to discuss.

15.0 Parking sub-committee – next meeting 7pm 13th December 2016 Mrs Ramsden asked if a member of TATA could be co-opted onto the sub committee. Mr J Bowley confirmed that sub-committees have the powers to appoint non-councillors.

16.0 Resident question - how the Council are protecting the green spaces in Twyford for the children. Where can they ‘run wild with nature’ close to Twyford? The committee discussed the open spaces. King George V recreation ground is in Trust and Stanlake Meadow has a condition that it cannot be sold and needs to remain as an open space. The Nature Reserve and Dinton Pastures are used and protected.

17.0 Correspondence – none.

18. Date of next meeting – 10th January – Stanlake Pavilion

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm