

# TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held at Loddon Hall, Twyford on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at 7.45pm.**

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

**In attendance:** 2 Cricket Club representatives, 1 Twyford Comets representative, 2 PCSO, 1 Youth Centre representative and 17 members of the public.

## **1. Public Questions:**

Mick Yeates asked how many allotment holders there are. The clerk will find this information out. [Note: There are 93 Hurst Road allotment holders & 24 London Road allotment holders.]

Charlie Ramsden asked what the sub committee was about. Mr Bowley reported on the formation of the committee in July under the powers of the Parish Lands committee and terms of reference are yet to be defined. The remit was to look at parking, how it effects residents and looking at provision/alternatives. Mr Ramsden asked if a non councillor would be co-opted to the sub-committee. Mr Bowley responded that this is possible but it is a decision to be made by the sub committee. Mr Ramsden asked if it was likely to discuss using allotment land. This is likely amongst the other options put forward.

Malcolm Bray asked in the event of other interested parties being involved in the sub committee how would the Council get these parties interested. Mr Bowley responded that there is no rush with the process which is likely to be a slow one. Mr R Mantel commented that 6 parish councillors have allotments and so allotment holders are already well represented on the Council.

Mick Yeates asked do the Council have any idea of the usage of the station car par at the moment. This will be considered by the sub committee.

Terry Jones asked if the Council's remit was to look at the Twyford Parish or the Wokingham Borough. Mr Bowley responded that the Council will be representing people who live and work in Twyford and users of the village have to be considered. The Council have to consider the impact on users of Twyford on the residents. The sub committee will report back to the Parish Lands committee.

Gerry Wise asked will the committee give equal credence to road infrastructure and car park use. The committee will have a wide remit.

John Wilson asked if the Council have a legal right to convert the allotments. Mr Bowley responded that the sub committee will look at this.

Malcolm Bray requested a skip for waste at the allotments. To be considered at the next Parish Lands meeting.

Mr McKay of Orchard Estate reported that a Virgin Media box had been left unlocked. It has been reported to Wokingham Borough Council.

## **2. Apologies – none.**

## **3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda – none.**

## **4. Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016.** Proposed Mrs E Ashley, seconded Mr T Winchester, carried unanimously.

## **5. Questions by the sports clubs & to discuss item 13.5.**

Nic Downes spoke on behalf of the Cricket Club. Pavilion usage issues have been addressed. Other items discussed were waste bins for cloakrooms and kitchen, a request for additional picnic tables & a request for signage. He reported that they are happy with the condition of the grounds and would welcome the idea of a joint venture to extend the pavilion although the cricket club would be looking for more than just a meeting room. Mr Bowley asked Mr Downes to put forward ideas for the location of picnic benches and details of signage.

Steve Green represented Twyford Comets. He also expressed support for a scheme

to extend the pavilion for better use. He raised parking issues along Stanlake Lane and in the Stanlake Meadow car park and suggested that parking via the far gate, or with an entrance and exit system could be considered. Agreed for the Council to consider at their next meeting. Mr Bowley suggested petitioning Wokingham Borough Council to provide parking along the edge of Stanlake Lane. Steve also raised the condition of the goal posts which need replacing. Agreed he will let the clerk know how many goal posts are required. He commented on the really good condition of the pitches.

**6. Youths request to have a bin placed in the Youth Shelter.** Sophie from the Youth Centre represented the youths who had requested a bin in the youth shelter. There is an issue with rubbish and broken glass and the youths felt that an extra bin would be a solution. PCSO Simon Botham commented on the positive step from the youths to come up with the solution. He reported on an increase in antisocial behaviour including smashing glass and drug use. Last year the police ran a successful drug operation. They have powers to disperse youths if there is persistent antisocial behaviour. With Halloween approaching they have approached shops asking them to consider who they are selling eggs to. Agreed that the Council will look at the price of a new bin and also to consider more regular emptying. The existing collection of waste costs £126 per month for KGVR and Stanlake Meadow. Sophie will consult with the youths about the location of the bin.

**7. Matters arising and action points.**

7.1 (10.3) Resident access gate – a Brook Street resident has put a gate access onto the burial ground. Agreed for the clerk to send a licence agreement allowing access to be signed

7.2 (10.4) Problems with graveside rubbish being dumped on the St Mary's side. Agreed to review next month

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

7.4 Resident phone call about the KGVR hedge – discussion took place on whether to increase the frequency of cuts. Agreed for Mrs Jarvis to take a look. The hedge has now been cut. Mick Yeates reported that it is an offence under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981 to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. Hedges should therefore not be cut between March and August.

7.5 (13.1) Toilet – soap dispenser / paper towel dispenser / bins. Carried forward pending a quote for a Dyson dryer

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

8.1 Village Ranger – Usual litter picking and broken glass clearing at KGVR. In addition the bins are being set on fire. Due to the mild weather the grass is growing well at the KGVR playpark and the burial ground. Outstanding jobs include Jubilee Corner paintwork on lamppost and benches, Jubilee Corner brickwork, spring on KGVR gate, moving wire guards to protect Community Orchard trees, remove stones from Stanlake Pavilion drains.

8.2 Park Warden – the warden has been clearing the glass and rubbish at KGVR on Saturday and Sunday mornings as requested.

8.3 Clerk's report. Checks have been made on the burial ground. The Ranger tends to cut the grass in quarters which means the whole grounds never look completely neat. It has also become apparent that the Ranger should have a 'spraying licence' to use the weed killer along the public paths. The ranger has been instructed not to use weed killer and a quote has been requested from the maintenance contractors. The maintenance contract is due to be reviewed. It was agreed this is something that can wait pending recruitment of admin assistance. Gerry Wise reported the need for weed control at Chapel Row. This is Wokingham

Borough Council's responsibility. It was agreed to look at improvements of the wildflower area. Clerk to contact the contractors to speak about this.

#### **9.0 Allotments.**

9.1 Hurst Rd – 17 plots available, 33% have made payments. A let to a Charvil resident was approved.

9.2 London Rd – 3 plots are available, 50% have made their payments.

9.3 Hurst Road allotment fencing & lockable gates at entry – request from allotment holders & correspondence from TATA. A discussion took place on fencing the perimeter of the allotments. This was thought to be difficult at the brook. Consideration was given to Heras fencing or electric fencing. It was agreed to consider planting that would deter the deer. Agreed that the clerk would obtain a quote.

9.4 Correspondence from allotment renewals reporting theft, damage & deer. Noted.

9.5 Correspondence re the discussions on using part of the allotment land for parking. To be referred to the sub committee.

9.6 Quote for improvements to entrance gates to allow them to be locked – carried forward.

#### **10.0 Millennium Garden, Jubilee Corner, Bell corner, Burial Ground & War Memorial.**

10.1 Report on cremations & burials – none to report.

10.2 Report on memorials – none to report.

10.3 Resident access gate – carried forward.

10.4 Problems with graveside rubbish being dumped – carried forward.

10.5 Notices displayed at the burial ground. Noted.

10.6 Burial ground maintenance – The clerk reported on the grass cutting and the need for a spraying licence to apply weed killer to the gravel path. For the Ranger to attend a course qualifying him to do this it would cost £480. It was also agreed to consider adding the burial ground grass cutting to the contract.

10.7 Use of Jubilee Corner for TATA stall 22/23 or 29/30 Oct. Agreed for 22 or 29/30<sup>th</sup> October. The Jubilee Corner garden maintenance will be carried out on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Agreed for the clerk to make arrangements with the Round Table for the garden waste to be collected for the bonfire.

#### **11.0 KGVR**

11.1 Resident gate access – no matters to report.

11.2 Children's play park (toddler side) – final quote has been circulated for approval. Carried forward following a change of staff dealing with the project. It was agreed for the ranger to remove the apple tree that is in the centre of the play area. This will clear the way for the new equipment. It was also agreed for the clerk to get a quote for the trees overhanging the swings to be cut back.

11.3 Youth Centre – sub lease update – ongoing.

11.4 Resident correspondence – antisocial behaviour at KGVR. Antisocial behaviour was also reported at Jubilee Corner. Clerk to respond to the resident.

#### **12. Stanlake Meadow.**

12.1 Cricket club agreement – points raised by the cricket club. Carried forward.

12.2 Height bar - Incidences of height bar being clipped. Mr Bowley agreed to have a look at the bar.

12.3 Woodland Trust tree packs – agreed to pass the information onto the Twyford in Bloom organisers.

#### **13. Stanlake Pavilion**

13.1 Toilet – soap dispenser / paper towel dispenser / bins / Kitchen bin. Quote amounting to £110.96 was approved unanimously. Order to be placed.

13.2 Door mat – order placed.

13.3 Colleton School lease / licence of use – agreed for Mr T Winchester and Mrs E Ashley to look through the leases and prepare comments for the next meeting.

13.4 Pressure relief pipe damage – suggestion of wire cage protection. Carried forward awaiting quote.

13.5 To consider a scheme to augment an extension to Stanlake Pavilion to include a meeting room. The general agreement was that there are not any facilities for events / activities in the South side of the village. Agreed to carry forward for further discussion.

13.6 Steel security door – work complete. Noted.

13.7 Glass key box to be put up.

13.8 Requests from The Colleton ASC – outside lighting & tables and chairs. The Council were unsure what lighting was being requested as there are two street lamps and lighting on the front of the building. Lighting on the approach from the Waltham Road would be the responsibility of Wokingham Borough Council. The Council approved use of the Council's tables although they will need to be kept in the car park end storage cupboard. The after school club can use these although any damaged ones will need to be replaced. The school will need to accept that any tables purchased and kept there will be for general usage.

13.9 Cleaning holiday cover – it was agreed to budget for holiday cover.

#### **14.0 Family Picnic**

A proposal from the Family Picnic sub committee for a Family Picnic 2017 budget of £8,829 was discussed. Proposed Mr T Winchester, seconded Mrs L Jarvis to

**RECOMMEND to Full Council** a budget of £8,829 less any income received for the 2017 Family Picnic. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **15. Correspondence –**

15.1 Fields in Trust - Clinging on to our parks and playing fields – circulated by email. Noted.

#### **16. Date of next meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**The meeting closed at 10.00 pm**