

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held at Loddon Hall, Twyford on Tuesday 11th February 2020 at 7.45pm.

Present: Mr J Bowley (Chairman), Mr M Bray, Mr R Abeywardana, Mrs E Ashley, Mrs J Duffield, Mrs L Jarvis, Mr R Mantel, Mrs T Ramsden, Mr T Winchester & Mrs S Wisdom.

In attendance: Mrs A Cowdry & Mr J Henderson - Twyford Tennis Club.

Clerk: Mrs L Moffatt.

1. Public Questions. None.

With agreement from the committee item 13.4 was brought forward for discussion. Mrs A Cowdry and Mr J Henderson were attending to talk about tennis club proposals.

13.4 Tennis Club

13.4.1 Proposals for future development – Mr J Henderson reported that the club have previously put in a bid to the Lawn Tennis Association but they retracted funding. Would the Council consider granting a loan? He spoke about the tennis club desire for an extra court, lighting and fencing (costing circa £90,000) and new clubhouse with wifi, disabled access, toilets, kitchen, storage and awning. They are looking to increase their membership currently 180 to 250. They have a steady coach who shares profits with the club and in 2019 made a profit of £6000. Their forecasted income could be between £9,000-£9,500 plus £2,000-£3,000 from coaching. A new clubhouse could also have potential for rental income. Mr J Henderson asked whether the Council would be looking to own the new building, courts and lights or whether the tennis club would own the building. Would there be any advantages to funding the project through the Parish Council? The tennis club have £60,000 in funds towards the project. The committee asked for a documented proposal including detailed costings and business plan.

13.4.2 overgrowth from Sycamores – quote for stump grinding to be obtained.

13.4.3 flooding at the tennis club entrance gate – agreed for a quote for remedial work to be sought.

Mr J Henderson also reported that the recent cleaning of the courts has caused lifting and there are holes in the surface. Agreed for the clerk to arrange a meeting with Kevin from Chiltern Sports at the tennis courts.

Mr J Henderson & Mrs A Cowdry left the meeting.

2. Apologies. None.

3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda. Mrs T Ramsden & Mr M Bray declared interest as allotment holders.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2020.

Approval of the minutes as a true and accurate record proposed Mrs S Wisdom, seconded Mrs T Ramsden, motion carried nem con.

5. Matters arising. None.

6. Monthly reports on Parish Lands maintenance (to note):

6.1 Village Ranger - usual litter picking and maintenance.

Ranger incident with dogs – Stanlake Meadow – reported to police 23.01.20 crime report number - 23012020447

6.2 Park Warden – no items to report.

6.3 Clerk's report

- Membership information from tennis club & Cricket club (circulated 20.01.20). Mr Mantel requested sports club adult membership information and for tennis club information to be circulated.
- Burial ground fence repair work scheduled for 12.02.20
- Suggestion of honeycomb style planter filled with bee friendly plants – agreed to be a good idea. Clerk to bring costings to the next meeting.

7. Tree risk assessments – circulated 19.11.19 & further information 08.01.20

7.1 Report from Mr M Bray & Mrs T Ramsden on tree review. Mr M Bray reported on a number of trees that hadn't been listed on the risk assessment that he felt needed felling. He asked who will remove the ivy that was listed to be removed

before the next inspection. On the whole Mr Bray and Mrs Ramsden agreed with the works highlighted on the risk assessment.

- 7.2 To consider quotes – 4 contractors had been asked to quote for the works at all sites. Not all the quotes had been received but the clerk asked the committee to consider the Stanlake Copse works in order that the Conserve Reading on Wednesdays (CROW) group can carry out their planned works using the logs and debris.

Three quotes had been received for the Stanlake Copse works.

Proposed Mr T Winchester, seconded Mrs S Wisdom to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** up to £1,900 on quoted tree works. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **Climate emergency action** – Mr J Bowley reported on his meeting with Mrs B Ditcham. Actions they agreed are:

- An audit of where we are now – Mr Bowley asked for an excel list of the outstanding actions for all committees (not just climate relevant)
- Mr Bowley & Mrs Ditcham will then look at the current position with regard to the Council's Climate relevant activities.
- Mr Bowley & Mrs Ditcham will then consider additional items each committee can do and will make a list for each committee.

9. **To agree terms of reference & additional working group members for the Twyford Green Taskforce** (circulated 29.01.20)

The working group is responsible for bringing organisations together to keep Twyford clean, healthy and green.

- i. To work with local organisations creating projects within the working group remit.
- ii. To obtain funding to run the projects.
- iii. To market the projects and organise launch events.
- iv. To liaise with experts.
- v. To give consideration to health and safety and review the risk assessment before events/projects.

Approval of the Twyford Green taskforce terms of reference proposed Mrs T Ramsden, seconded Mrs E Ashley. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional members added to the working group are: Ms C Scull - TPC, Fiona Price – Berkshire Age UK, Natalie Burton – TATA, Duncan MCKay - trustee of the Oxford centre of sustainable healthcare & Prabha Lacey – NHS. Proposed to add these members Mr T Winchester, seconded Mrs T Ramsden, motion carried nem con.

- 9.1 Green prescriptions – funding & work with local organisations.

Mr R Abeywardana reported that the clerk has looked into funding opportunities and he has made contact with Annabelle Padwick, Life at number 27. Mr Abeywardana is also in contact with Jo Barrett, Twyford Surgery Practise Manager and hopes to meet Jason the new social prescriber early on in his role. Agreed for the clerk to establish contact with funding organisations and see whether they may be interested in assisting with funding the project.

10. Allotments.

10.1 Hurst Rd.

10.1.1 Hurst Road plot availability – 7 plots available. Noted.

10.1.2 Request for skip 12 yard - £359 – unanimously approved – within budget.

10.2 London Rd.

10.2.1 London Road plot availability – 1 available. Noted.

10.2.2 Twyford & Ruscombe Horticultural Association (TRHA) request to replace the fence. The committee considered three quotes and agreed on 3mm galvanised wire. Proposed Mr T Winchester, seconded Mr M Bray to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** to approve the quote for £1,891. Motion carried unanimously.

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

11.1 Report on cremations & burials – none.

11.2 Report on memorials – none.

11.3 Options for woodland remembrance garden and book – report on comparison of charges. Charges to scatter cremated remains are: St Marys £165, Easthampstead crematorium £188 and Earley £95. Clerk to find out costs of inscription in a remembrance book and to check feasibility.

11.4 Book swap cupboard – no update. Clerk to follow up.

11.5 To consider online mapping of burial ground information – to consider quote (circulated 17.01.19) Clerk to circulate the link to www.parish-online.co.uk (circulated 12.2.20).

11.6 Field Maple tree and hawthorn – to consider quote £250 (photos circulated 22.11.19) Proposed Mr M Bray, seconded Mrs S Wisdom to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** to approve the quote for £250 to reduce the height of the three trees. Motion carried unanimously.

11.7 To consider plan for tree wood and brash after tree works - suggestion to build a dead hedge as an informal barrier at the end of the copse before the brook – the committee were not in favour.

12. Bell Corner & Polehampton Corner – no items to report.

13. King George V Recreation Ground.

13.1 CCTV – link to 3 quotes circulated 03.09.19 Awaiting feedback from GCD Security following camera test in darkness on 10.02.20.

13.2 Playground reports and quotes for repairs KGVR & Stanlake Meadow (link circulated 25.04.19) The 2020 inspection will be carried out w/c 24th February. Agreed to wait and review the new report.

13.3 To consider a quote to plant a new hedge parallel to Longfield Road hedge and also to consider possible school involvement. Committee to consider practicalities of management of old hedge. Agreed it would be a good idea to involve the schools if there is interest. Agreed for the clerk and Mr Bowley to meet with the contractor to agree the line of the new hedge – the committee would like this to be as close as possible to the old hedge. Proposed Mr T Winchester, seconded Mr M Bray to approve the quotes of £985 for labour to plant the new hedge and £480 for the new hedge plants. Work to be carried out in Autumn 2020 from the 2020 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

13.4 Tennis Club

13.4.1 proposals for future development – Jamie Henderson to attend

13.4.2 overgrowth from Sycamores – quote for stump grinding

13.4.3 flooding at the tennis club entrance gate – agreed for a quote for remedial work to be sought.

Items had been discussed earlier on in the meeting. Further discussion took place on the different options. Councillors would like an options paper to consider pros and cons & vat implications. In the first instance they would like a business case from the tennis club to include forecasted use and why they would feel the need to expand.

13.5 Twycombe Lodge rent review information awaited from Ballards.

13.6 Wildflower areas & logger – request to extend areas and consider herbicide use. Additional wildflower areas were approved although it was agreed to keep the grass short at the edges. Loggery was approved. Suggested asking again for bluebell bulbs in the Autumn and requested schematics for the information board. Herbicide use was discussed. At present glyphosate is used to spot spray in order to control weeds on hard standings (paths, parking areas and gutters). An annual application of herbicide is used around park furniture and at the base of hedges but not around trees or fitness trail. Selective herbicide is applied by boom spray to control the broad leaves on the sports pitches. Agreed no change.

13.7 To consider making a contribution of £15 seeds for Loddon Hall area. Approval proposed Mr R Abeywardana, seconded Mrs T Ramsden. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Stanlake Meadow.

14.1 Cricket club agreement – The Cricket Club were not happy with the changed wording. They have been asked to suggest some alternative wording. Possible wording could include 'of no more than x days' or 'not consecutive weekends'.

14.2 Copse project update

14.2.1 Twyford forest update – the project has raised over £1,400 so far.

14.2.2 to consider a quote for lectern sign – proposed Mrs T Ramsden, seconded Mrs E Ashley to approve the sign cost of £1,924 within 2020 budget. Motion approved unanimously.

14.2.3 To consider quote for copse tree works – dealt with under item 7.2.

14.2.4 To consider purchasing rustic bird boxes £30, RSPB robin box £14, rustic bug boxes £18, RSPB Tawny Owl box £95, RSPB tit box £16
It was agreed a Tawny Owl box would be a good idea. Clerk to speak to Stephen Loyd as to which other box would be most appropriate.

14.2.5 To consider quote for copse tree works – dealt with under item 7.2

- 14.2.6 Planting day – Saturday 28th November – carried forward
- 14.2.7 Friends of Stanlake Copse working group – carried forward
- 14.3 To consider using the JAC service to engage with youths – to consider proposal & quote – carried forward
- 14.4 To consider summer watering for the new trees – quote for tap – proposed Mr T Winchester, seconded Mr M Bray to approve the cost of £204 for Thames Water to consider the cost to install an extra water supply. Motion carried unanimously.
- 14.5 Hedge Laying - to consider quotes – carried forward.
- 14.6 To consider a Green Cemetery (SW) – carried forward.
- 14.7 To agree a wildflower expanse of long grass – railwayline end – carried forward.
- 14.8 Fitness group request for permission to use Stanlake Meadow. This is a group of school parents with a small charge for refreshments – agreed free of charge subject to review.
- 14.9 Football pitch drainage – possibility to move pitch? To consider quote – carried forward.
- 14.10 Cowl over padlock – carried forward.
- 14.11 Beer Festival – Marquee to be collected on the Monday – approval requested – carried forward.
- 15. Stanlake Pavilion.**
 - 15.1 Colleton After School Club – request for an amended contract and price for 4 days Monday – Thursday – carried forward.
 - 15.2 Citizens Advice request for use of the pavilion – carried forward.
 - 15.3 WBC request for use – elections - 7th May 2020 – approved.
- 16. Correspondence –**
 - 16.1 Resident correspondence – paramotor – carried forward.
 - 16.2 Beat Blue Monday and plan your summer Have a Field Day picnic today (circulated 20.01.20). Noted.
 - 16.3 Resident correspondence – Have the Council considered installing a path around the whole of the perimeter of KGVR? Response made 04.02.20 – carried forward.
- 17. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 10th March 2020 at Loddon Hall.**

The meeting closed at 22:12 pm