

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held on Zoom on Tuesday 13th October 2020 at 7.30pm.

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: Mr J Henderson (Twyford Tennis Club) & Mr M Higgins (Twyford & Ruscombe Cricket Club).

Clerk: Mrs L Moffatt.

1. **Public Questions are invited in advance of the meeting via email, telephone or in writing.** No questions.
2. **Apologies.** None.
3. **Declaration of interest in items on the agenda.** Mr M Bray, Mrs Ramsden &
4. Mr Abeywardana declared an interest as allotment holders and members of TATA.
5. **Minutes dated 8th September 2020.** Approval of the minutes as a true and accurate record proposed Mr M Bray, seconded Mr R Abeywardana, motion unanimously.
6. **Matters arising.** None.
7. **Sport clubs –** Jamie Henderson reported that the tennis club has 240 members -this is the highest figure since 2012. Coaching is going well for both juniors and adults. Berkshire County Sports have permission for floodlights and this may have an effect on membership and retaining the coach. The club appreciated the adjustment in rent due to Covid-19 and are managing Covid procedures well. Mark Higgins reported on this years cricket club fixtures with two teams now playing on a Saturday. The Senior section has 50 members, up from 2019 and Junior section 90 members, slightly down from 2019. The increase in senior membership is due to some active recruitment to support the new second Saturday team. The slight drop in junior members relates to some of the very youngest members that would normally be attracted by outdoor training in April which was late to start due to Covid-19. The club were grateful for the swift action of the Council in dealing with the unauthorised encampment and also with the adjustment in fees due to Covid-19. An increase in petty vandalism has been noticed. The club are currently fund raising for a new roller which will cost circa £6,000. Steve Green from Twyford Comets had given his apologies due to work commitments. He had no items to report.
8. **To receive the October Parish Lands report.** Noted.
9. **Tree risk assessments –** circulated 19.11.19 & further information 08.01.20
 - 9.1 To consider quotes:
 - 9.1.1 London Road allotments – the tree concerned borders the path leading behind the Catholic Church. It is on the border of a property. The Clerk will liaise with the residents. Proposed Mr R Abeywardana, seconded Mr T Winchester to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** approval of the quote of £400 for the tree works recommended by the tree risk assessor. Motion carried unanimously.
10. **Land Management Plan –** Mrs Ramsden reported that the bulbs have been planted at the burial ground and she and Mr Bray will carry out a tidy up of the border in due course. The most recent amendments are being made to the Land Management Plan and then it will be available on the website.
11. **Climate emergency action (JB)**
 - 11.1 An audit of where we are now (emailed to JB & BD 22.06.20)
 - 11.2 To consider current position & actions
 - 11.3 To record a climate emergency plan (sample emailed to JB & BD 22.06.20)Mr Bowley had met with Mrs Ditcham however little progress has been made and he asked for a volunteer to take this action on. The Clerk offered to draft a Climate emergency plan.
12. **Twyford Green Taskforce (RA)**
 - 12.1 Green prescription - report on working group meetings, proposal / cost /timescale

Mr R Abeywardana reported. Working group members are Rohana Abeywardana, Malcolm Bray, Natalie Burton, Fiona Price (Age UK) and they are collaborating with social prescribers Jason Bowles and Millie Randall-Davies, Jo Barrett Practice Manager and Horticultural Therapist Christina Nind- Hughes.

The group will come under the governance & safeguarding of Age UK Berkshire. Age UK Berkshire will provide monthly accounts for transparency. The mission statement is 'To support the mental health and wellbeing of Twyford Residents through gardening. To provide support before crisis!'. Scope will be adults only (18+), low level mental health issues & mild physical issues. Christina Nind- Hughes (Horticultural Therapist) will get referrals from CAB Wokingham, and the surgery. She will take all referrals and find out about the client to see whether the scheme will be beneficial. Mr Abeywardana talked through a flowchart which explained the governance, structure and insurance for the group. The Reading scheme is working through Covid-19 and it is planned that this scheme will be able to start in Spring. It will be covered by the Age UK Berkshire risk assessment. Funding of £5,312 is required to fund the first year of the scheme. It is hoped that the future funding can come from an external source. Proposed Mrs T Ramsden, seconded Mr R Abeywardana to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** £5,350 funding for the Green Prescription scheme. Motion carried 9 in favour, 1 against.

13. Allotments.

13.1 Bonfire review - Proposed Mr T Winchester, seconded Mr R Abeywardana that due to Covid-19 to continue the bonfire ban but allow incinerators. Motion carried unanimously.

13.2 Hurst Rd.

13.2.1 Allotment holder requesting that the ground at the entrance gate is made more secure for car access. Mr Bowley reported and showed photos. The committee agreed no action.

13.2.2 Quote to remove branches from fallen apple tree. Quotes to remove the damaged branches from the tree were considered. Agreed for the clerk to obtain a quote to have the tree felled. Quotes to be obtained to fell and stack the branches and to fell and remove the branches.

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

14.1 Report on memorials

- Roger Wyndham Barnes – noted.
- Request - Vera Bennison – application for a second wedge memorial on the same grave. Mrs E Ashley proposed, seconded by Mr T Winchester to approve the application for a wedge memorial (as a one off). Motion carried 6 in favour and 4 against.

15. Bell Corner & Polehampton Corner – no report.

16. King George V Recreation Ground.

16.1 To consider quote to repair the playground gate. Proposed Mrs J Duffield, seconded Mr M Bray to accept the quote of £380, motion carried unanimously.

16.2 Tennis Club

16.2.1 Overgrowth from Sycamores – Proposed Mr T Winchester, seconded Mr M Bray to accept the quote of £250 to grind the stump. Motion carried unanimously.

16.3 Resident request to make (easterly) path wider - to review following Ranger clearance (photos in one drive folder) Agreed no further action.

16.4 Request for £12 for a perennial native flower mix. Proposed Mr M Bray, seconded Mrs T Ramsden to approve the cost of £12 for seeds. Motion carried unanimously.

16.5 Removal of steel posts – contractor error in removing concrete posts around the boundary – to consider making a contribution to their costs. Proposed Mr M Bray, seconded Mr T Winchester to make a goodwill payment of £500 towards their costs.

Counter proposal by Mrs E Ashley, seconded Mrs S Wisdom to make a goodwill payment of £200.

A second counter proposal by Mrs T Ramsden, seconded Mr T Winchester, to make a goodwill payment of £300. Motion carried 7 in favour, 3 against.

17. Stanlake Meadow.

- 17.1 Sports club 5 year agreement renewal – awaiting agreements from the Tennis club & Twyford Comets. Signed TRCC agreement received.
- 17.2 Copse project update
- 17.2.1 Friends of Stanlake Copse working group – meeting 25.09.20 Mr M Bray reported. A report had been circulated. The intention is to start the group under the umbrella of the Council. Volunteers will be covered by TPC's insurance and covered by a risk assessment. £200 is required for tools. Clerk to obtain a list of tools before the next meeting.
- 17.2.2 Tree planting event meeting 16.10.20 The clerk reported:
- The internal water connection work has been completed.
 - The Thames Water part of the connection will be carried out between 2nd-4th December.
 - Order placed for 2 Tawny Owl boxes.
 - The lectern design is with Fitzpatrick Woolmer awaiting the draft design.
 - First Aid cover is to be arranged through Beyond First Aid.
- Items to be discussed at Fridays meeting are:
- Plans for the event.
 - Risk assessment.
 - Tree guards.
 - Hazel plants.
 - Compost.
 - Attaching plaques to trees.
 - Soil preparation before planting.
 - Marquee.
 - Watering trees & watering rota.
 - Friends of Stanlake Copse group.
- 17.3 To consider costings for replacing the permanent goals and for installation. Proposed Mr T Winchester, seconded Mrs S Wisdom to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** approval of the quote of £1,412.46 for supply and installation of 2 permanent goal posts. Motion carried unanimously.
- 17.4 6 x wooden posts at Paddock Heights entrance – Proposed Mrs S Wisdom, seconded Mr T Winchester to accept quote of £483.66 to replace the 6 wooden posts. Motion carried unanimously.
- 17.5 Fence along Stanlake Lane side of Stanlake copse . Mr M Bray had reported that part of a fence behind the copse had been pushed down and a path had been created. Agreed for the Ranger to move the metal fence from opposite Winchcombe Road to block this path. Quotes for a permanent 4ft fence will be sought and a hedge should also be planted.
- 17.6 Network Rail fenceline – Mrs S Wisdom reported that Network Rail had made a poor attempt at securing their boundary fence after children were reported crawling under the fence in August. Dogs and children are easily able to get under the fence. Clerk to report.
- 17.7 To review the twice weekly waste service. Proposed Mrs S Wisdom, seconded Mr J Duffield to revert back to a once a week waste service. Motion carried unanimously.
- 17.8 To consider replacing the Stephen Pratt memorial bench – proposed Mrs J Duffield, seconded Mr M Bray to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** to replace the Stephen Pratt memorial bench at a cost of £1,051. Motion carried 9 for, 1 against.

18. Stanlake Pavilion.

- 18.1 Hot water problem - Proposed Mrs S Wisdom, seconded Mr T Winchester to approve the cost of £34. Motion carried unanimously.
- 18.2 Test and trace QR code – they are on display in the windows of the Stanlake Pavilion.

19. Staff matters

The Council agreed that as confidential items were to be discussed the Chairman invoked Standing Order 1C "That in view of the special or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and

press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw". Proposed Mr M Bray, seconded Mrs S Wisdom, carried unanimously.
Proposed Mr T Winchester, seconded Mr M Bray to grant a 1.95% bonus to all Parish Lands staff. This is in recognition of their hard work and going above and beyond throughout the year. Motion carried unanimously.

20. Correspondence –

- 20.1 Latest news from Fields in Trust: "People need parks" 30.09.20. Noted.
- 20.2 TVERC News Update | October 2020 01.10.20. Noted.

21. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 10th November 2020.

October Parish Lands report

1. Monthly reports on Parish Lands maintenance:

- 1.1 Village Ranger – jobs have included securing the picnic bench slats, weeding the burial ground flower bed & continuing to decorate the Stanlake Pavilion interior.
 - Resident call 12.09.20 (Saturday) to report smashed glass in the playground – Ranger cleared 14.09.20
 - Football shed replacement lock £62.92 (to note)
- 1.2 Park Warden – no items to report.
- 1.3 Clerk's report – no items to report

2. Tree works.

- 2.1 Stanlake highways update - awaiting date for works
- 2.2 Hurst Road allotments – work completed 5/6th Oct + 12/13th
- 2.3 King George V – work completed 28.09.20

3. Allotments.

- 3.1 **Hurst Rd.**
 - 3.1.1 Hurst Road plot availability – waiting list of 15 residents and 6 non residents
- 3.2 **London Rd.**
 - 3.2.1 London Road plot availability – waiting list of 5 residents and 4 non residents
 - 3.2.2 TRHA boundary fence – order placed 27.03.20 (to note)
 - 3.2.3 Replacement electrical signs erected (to note)
 - 3.2.4 Pest control – extra bait added (to note)

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

- 4.1 Report on cremations & burials
 - 4.1.1 Beryl Armstrong
- 4.2 Bulbs have arrived and are due to be planted

5. King George V Recreation Ground.

- 5.1 Aerial runway seat replacement – awaiting date for works
- 5.2 Twycombe lodge lease – completed
- 5.3 Tennis court metal post update – works complete
- 5.4 CCTV contractor to do another test and attend the January meeting

6. Stanlake Meadow.

- 6.1 Copse project update
 - 6.1.1 Lectern sign – waiting for draft from designer
 - 6.1.2 Bird box update – order placed
 - 6.1.3 Water supply – Thames Water to carry out works 2nd-4th December
- 6.2 Entrance gates - ordered 4/8/20 - currently being fabricated

Items to be carried forward:

7. Burial ground

- 7.1 Options for woodland remembrance garden and book – report on memorial book charges & overall feasibility (to be carried forward)

8. King George V Recreation Ground.

- 8.1 To consider a friendship bench
- 8.2 Resident request for plastic bottle recycling bins

- 8.3 Resident request to move KGVR - Longfield Road car park bench
- 8.4 Request to extend the skate park facilities to include more ramps and a bowl
- 8.5 Resident request – keep grass long around edges (south westerly corner)

9. Stanlake Meadow

- 9.1 Football pitch drainage – possibility to move pitch? To consider quote
- 9.2 Oak Processionary Moth caterpillars – reported on Ruscombe Down – report on progress
- 9.3 To consider a request for a cycle rack
- 9.4 Request for more benches
- 9.5 Waltham road ditch

The meeting closed at 22:00pm