

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Lands Committee held at 7.45 pm on Tuesday 12th September at Stanlake Pavilion, Stanlake Meadow, RG10 0BL.

Present: Mr M Bray (Chairman), Mr J Bowley (until item 12.2), Mr T Winchester & Mrs S Wisdom.
In attendance: Mark Higgins (Twyford & Ruscombe Cricket Club).
Clerk: Mrs L Moffatt.

1. **Public Questions.** No questions.
2. **Apologies.** Mrs J Jagger.
3. **Declaration of interest in items on the agenda.** None
4. **Minutes dated 13th June 2023.** Minutes approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed Mrs S Wisdom, seconded Mr T Winchester. Motion carried nem con.
5. **Matters arising.** None.
6. **Sports Clubs – (15 minutes)** Representatives from the sports clubs had been invited to update councillors on the clubs and ask any questions.
Mr M Higgins reported on the Twyford & Ruscombe Cricket Club. He highlighted the large increase in Junior membership with 20% being girls. Friday night is training night for all ages and there are a blend of professional coaches, club coaches and young people leading the sessions. The club development team were the league runners up. The club also gained Clubmark accreditation. Challenges have included membership increases, storage and facilities and training sessions lost due to rain and the Coronation event. Approval was given for the side screens to be stored on a couple of slats in the vicinity of the grass cutting compost heap.
7. **To review the Clerks report & Parish Lands report** (circulated with the agenda).
7.1 Smaller groundwork contract (teething problems) & updated contract £497.68 p/m – noted. Agreed for the clerk to enquire as to whether the KGV playground hedge (sides and middle) might be suitable for future hedge laying.
8. **Allotments.**
8.1 To facilitate the need for additional allotments – the clerk will circulate maps showing the land registry parcels of land. Agreed, once parcels of land have been confirmed, for the clerk to obtain Land Registry information and approach owners about a possible purchase of the land.
8.2 To consider forming smaller plots – unanimously agreed, in the first instance, to split plot 20 into 2 quarter plots.
9. **Millennium Garden, Jubilee Corner, Bell Corner, Burial Ground & War Memorial.**
9.1 To consider the options for additional burials such as columbarium. Clerk to report on the idea to scatter ashes in the Millennium copse.
A report had been circulated which reviewed the options. These included columbariums (both single edging and a block of 12 vaults) also a memorial tree. The clerk had spoken to the Natural Death Centre who would not advocate scatterings in the copse as the 6-8 lbs of ashes contain high potassium which will affect the soil and harm the woodland plants. Councillors asked the dimensions of the columbarium options as opposed to the cremation plots and also locations where they could view samples.
9.2 Tree plaque terms and conditions – Unanimously agreed to amend the wording to “All wording and graphics to firstly be agreed by the Council”.
10. **Playground Inspections** - the reports and inspection summary had been circulated.
10.1 to consider quotes for the remedial works - Agreed for the committee to meet on site at 4pm on 18th September 2023 to look at the playpark and review the equipment / repairs.
11. **King George V Recreation Ground.**
11.1 Labyrinth / grass maze – to consider quote for picket fencing, lavender and information board. Quotes for these had been circulated. Councillors agreed to view the labyrinth in person before considering any future action.
11.2 Wildflower information board – children’s drawings have been received and will be displayed on the website. Agreed for the clerk to liaise with volunteers about drawing up a list of wildflowers to be included along with some written information to be included on the board.

11.3 Request for permission to plant hazel and bluebells around the theatre group container. Following discussion it was agreed that as the land is leased to the Twyford and Ruscombe Community Association they should have the decision.

11.4 EV charging point £4,485 contribution for installation (not within budget)

[Note: Charges for use will be cost (determined by Loddon Hall SSE contract) plus 30%]
Item carried forward subject to the additional information requested.

11.5 Tennis Club lease – draft lease and Heads of Terms circulated 09.08.23. The committee will not revert to a Heads of Terms unless the Tennis Club will fund solicitor fees. A response will be sent to the tennis club.

11.6 Consideration to bring in a bylaw to stop pony and trap & motorised vehicles without authorisation – agreed not to proceed at present.

12. Stanlake Meadow.

12.1 Meeting 03.08.23

12.1.1 To consider quote to cut dead branches from tree in cricket area £350 – unanimously approved.

12.1.2 To consider replacing the dead memorial tree – to commemorate 150th anniversary of St Marys Church – agreed no action at present.

12.1.3 To consider purchasing an additional pear tree – Clapps Favourite £23.95 each. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed to purchase a Moonglow or Bosc which will help with pollination of the pears..

12.1.4 To consider opening up invitations for residents to purchase trees for an Autumn planting. Agreed to limit the trees to those that have already registered an interest. Agreed for Mr M Bray and the clerk to liaise with the resident that has fruit trees to offer.

12.2 To consider quotes for a replacement gate (by the pavilion)

[£2,072.88 metal gate £1,035.44 wooden entrance]

Note: WBC no longer have an accessibility officer

Agreed that the clerk should obtain quotes to reset the posts or, to add a plate on the moving part of the gate as a remedy.

13. Stanlake Pavilion.

13.1 Legionella Checks

13.1.1 To consider quotes for a Legionella risk assessment

13.1.2 To consider quotes for monthly water testing and quarterly descale – Proposed Mrs S Wisdom, seconded Mr T Winchester to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** accepting the quote of £415.84 one off cost for a risk assessment and £1,058.76 annual cost for monthly temperature checks. Motion carried unanimously.

14. To review staff job descriptions [Ranger & Park Warden] – carried forward.

15. Correspondence – all noted.

15.1 Resident correspondence on offensive graffiti 14.06.23

15.2 Resident correspondence on Wargrave road alleyway overgrowth 27.06.23

15.3 Resident correspondence on Waltham Road overgrowth 15.06.23

15.4 Resident correspondence (x3) on overgrown KGVR hedge 31.08.23

15.5 Resident correspondence on overgrown playground hedge 19.08.23

15.6 Allotment correspondence requesting the option to pay quarterly

[Allotment Act 1950 Section 10 paragraph 2]

15.7 Correspondence reporting a Pentagram ornament on burial grave 29.08.23

15.8 Berkshire Local Recovery Strategy webinars (circulated 06.09.23)

16. Date of next meeting – 14th November 2023.

September Parish Lands report - Tuesday 13th September 2023
Allotments.
Renewal letters sent 01.09.23. The payments are being made and the allotment holders are finding the rounded costs easier.
Hurst Rd.
Hurst Road plot availability – 5
Waiting list – 12 plus 4 existing plot holders wanting an additional plot.
Additional skip was present Friday 7 th July to Monday 10 th July.
The community area has been added to the list of areas around the village to have a regular herbicide spray.
London Rd.
London Road plot availability – 0
Waiting list – 5 plus 1 existing plot holder wanting an additional plot
Bell Corner
Millennium Garden, Jubilee Corner, Burial Ground & War Memorial
The clerk met 2 of the gardening volunteers on 18.07.23. A planting plan has been drawn up and a small hedge of Euonymus Japonicus Green Spire will be planted around the edge. 18 plants were ordered and are being looked after by one of the volunteers. The millennium garden is being tended to and volunteers will spread mulch over the bed.
Digitalisation of burial ground records. The computerised records have been double checked for accuracy. New burials are now being entered onto the Epitaph system. Pear have sent two drawings of the burial ground layout. A meeting was held on 05.09.23 to make some of the final adjustments. Work is being made to ensure the layout is accurate.
Burial Ground
Burials:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ronald Eric Stag
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catherine Anne Vass
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frederick Brian Patmore
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dionizio Nickolas Lorenzo Fernandes
Memorials approved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willian Smith & Jane Smith
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isobel Grey Radcliffe Dawson
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Frederick Nightingale & Barbara Heather Nightingale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Arthur Stocker
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catherine Anne Vass
Memorial – Shane and Mary Davies – letter asking for it to be placed flush to the ground 14.06.23 - completed
King George V Recreation Ground.
Liaise with TRIP to explore ideas to encourage recycling of waste - ongoing
Entrance brick pillars – need to find an alternative brick layer
CCTV footage provided to the police of separate graffiti incidents and photos of homophobic stickers on lamp posts
Installers to revisit the Zip wire to retension it. Also sent email request to replace bolts with security fixings (email 28.06.23).
Approval of a 10x12ft shed within the tennis club compound.
Resident reported antisocial behaviour 08.06.23 – advised to contact the WBC antisocial behaviour team and report to the police.
Break in 11.08.23 - DP-26005-23-4343-00. Offenders rode their pony and trap around the field - reported to police with offer of CCTV and witness details. Also reported to the WBC Antisocial Behaviour Team.
Stanlake Pavilion.
Quote to paint changing racks and work to replace wood on racks – carried forward.
Alarm panel replaced 10.07.23. Users notified of alarm setting instructions and any revised codes.
Low water pressure to the pavilion showers reported 05.06.23 – resolved.

Stanlake Meadow.
Working parties for the tree volunteers & Friends of Stanlake Copse meetings were held on 25.06.23, 13.08.23 & 27.08.23. Work has been taking place on clearing the paths and laying bark and forming a second stag beetle habitat.
Local Green Space nominations
Local Green Space nominations – replies with the Councils approval subject to addition of the copse area at Stanlake Meadow 08.08.23 (to note).
Climate Change
Last meeting 07.07.22. Meeting scheduled for 13.09.23.

Items to be carried forward:
Agreed for the clerk to try and make contact with the burial plot owners that have infringed the rules and to display notices at the burial ground.
King George V Recreation Ground.
To consider additional lighting
Stanlake Meadow

Bookings approved since the last meeting:		
King George V Recreation Ground		
Scouts	Donkey Derby	16.06.24
Stanlake Pavilion / Meadow		
Ian Wisdom	Beer Festival – use of North side of field and pavilion after cricket use.	05.06.24 – 11.06.24
Jubilee Corner		
Nick Healey	TATA pumpkin stall	21.10.23
Hurst Road Allotments		
Roger Lewis	TATA Summer BBQ	16.09.23

Expenditure approved under Financial Regulation 4 since the last meeting:			
Description	Budget	Amount	Approval
Ground Maintenance – Wargrave Road alley hedge	Lands contingency	£360	Chairman to Parish Lands
London Road alley hedge	Lands contingency	£180	Chairman to Parish Lands
Burial Ground border	Lands contingency	£756	Chairman to Parish Lands
Burial ground border – initial cost	Lands contingency	£288	Chairman to Parish Lands
Jubilee corner – removal of dead ceanothus and Polehampton Corner – removal of self seeded Sycamore	Tree works	£80	Clerk
Stanlake Meadow – removal of dead Willow	Lands Contingency	£650.00	Clerk
Polehampton Corner plants	Jubilee Corner	£60.24	Clerk
Stanlake Meadow style entrance			
KGVR Longfield Road entrance gate	Lands Contingency	£200	Clerk
KGVR Wargrave Road car park entrance gate	Lands Contingency	£200	Clerk

Meeting closed at 21:51