

Tidenham Parish Council

Amenities Committee 2014/2015 - Page 9

Minutes of an Amenities Committee Meeting held on 12th November 2014 at 7.00pm at Tidenham War Memorial Hall

Present: Mr S Ford (Chairman), Mrs S Bollen, Mr B Bowshall, Mrs G Kirkpatrick, Mr G Birt, Mr A Hossack and the Administrator

1. Receive Apologies for Absence

Resolved to accept apologies from Mrs H Molyneux

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest

None

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous Planning Committee Meeting of 10th September 2014

Resolved to approve and duly signed

4. Matters Arising from those minutes and not on the Agenda

- a) Mr Hossack commented that previous minutes are on the website but are difficult to locate because clicking on a date does not always return the correct document. Other members present supported this view. Mr Hossack requested that this issue, along with posting agendas and minutes on the website, be included in the agenda of the next full council meeting. The Administrator will inform the Clerk.
- b) Mr Hossack pointed out that where the minute stated that no further work should be carried out by The TWMH&RG Trust this related to items of maintenance at Shirley's Grove and not new works.
- c) Mr Hossack enquired about the status of the new play fort for the War Memorial Recreation Ground. The Administrator advised that the site would be prepared and the new fort installed 19th – 21st Nov. The security fencing would stay in place until the following week when the safety flooring will be installed depending on weather. The contractor will not take vehicles into the recreation ground.

5. Public Consultation

None.

6. Clerk's Report

- a) The Clerk had received an email from a resident whose house has a boundary with the Offas Dyke path. During recent hedge cutting he discovered bagged dog faeces in his garden. The Clerk sympathised with the resident and passed on the mail to the Public Rights of Way team. She also advised that the Street Wardens may be able to help.
- b) The Clerk received an email from the Environmental Promotions Officer at FODDC offering a Plastics Recycling wheeled bin. The Clerk considered the junction of King Alfred's Rd and Buttington Rd (not Sedbury Hall as mentioned in the agenda) as a possible site for discussion/ approval by Amenities members. However, the Officer jumped the gun and the bin was placed on site. The committee welcomed the resource and thought there was scope to place one in the northern part of the parish. The Administrator to contact the Environmental Officer and advise them to make contact with Mr Hossack at the Tidenham War Memorial Recreation Trust to discuss further placements

7. To Consider Churchyard Works

The Chairman, Clerk and Administrator have recently carried out an inspection of the churchyards (including Woodcroft P.O.S.) and compiled a list of works for completion both now and in the Spring. Green Grafter Ltd has quoted for the work on a 'per site/ per season' basis a total of £1,065 (which includes £125 for work at the Woodcroft play area).

Resolved - to accept the Green Grafter Ltd quote. The Administrator will inform Green Grafter to proceed and invoice as each itemised part of the quote is completed.

A section of stone wall at Beachley Church needs replacement. The outstanding quote from Mark Bearcroft for £2,860 has been revalidated. Mr Bearcroft advises doing the work early in 2015 when temperatures start to rise.

Resolved- to accept the quote from Mark Bearcroft. The Administrator will inform Mr Bearcroft to proceed as and when he can but to complete and submit invoice to be paid by March 31st 2015.

8. To Consider Play Area and Open Spaces Issues

a) A quote has been received from Dawn Cracknell for £75 + VAT to cut the hedge boundary between the Buttington Rd Skate Park and Offas Close and King Afreds Rd. The quote specifies cutting inside and outside and it was suggested that she regulates the height as well which will probably incur a small extra charge. Cutting to extend along Offas Close as far as boundary with allotments.

Resolved – to obtain revised quotation and accept up to £125 including a contingency for the extra work. The Administrator will request a revised quote and, if within approved budget, advise Dawn to go ahead.

b) A quote has been received from W. M. Garden Services including for the following work –

i. Woodcroft Recreational Ground:

To replace broken gate post and repair broken fence rail £135 + vat

ii. The War Memorial Recreation Ground:

To replace green wet pour in swing area to remove trip hazard £380 + vat

Resolved – to accept the quote for the works. The Administrator will advise W. M. Garden Services to carry out the work along with the outstanding replacement of the chains and shackles on the vandalised swing at Dane's Hill.

c) There is a small damaged section of chain link fence in the Buttington Rd Recreation Ground

Resolved – The Administrator to arrange repair up to £100.

d) To consider an email received from Mr Kirkpatrick regarding the upkeep of Shirley's Grove.

Mrs Kirkpatrick declared an interest and left the room for the duration of this topic.

Mr Kirkpatrick's mail raised perceived security issues with the Grove affecting both his property and dog walkers due to the density of the trees and undergrowth. The Amenities Chairman made a site inspection recently. There was a discussion regarding the maintenance and purpose of the site and the Chairman proposed that the Administrator replies to Mr Kirkpatrick.

Resolved – The Administrator to reply to Mr Kirkpatrick that an order is pending for the inside face of the hedge to Mopla road-to be cut (dependant on the weather) and that otherwise the site will be subject to cyclic checks and maintenance in keeping with a woodland site.

e) A quote has been received from Eric Chidwick to replace the roof of the bus shelter by Day House Farm on the A48. Mr Bowshall proposed to accept the quote (seconded Mrs Bollen, approved all)

Resolved – The Administrator to advice Mr Chidwick that his quote is accepted and to proceed with the work.

9. To Consider the New Quote for Grass Cutting Contract

A quote has been received from Glebe Contractors to extend the grass cutting contract for three more years. The terms are for 16 cuts @£748.47 + vat per cut and a 3% increase on years 2 and 3.

Resolved – to accept the quote from Glebe Contractors. The Administrator will advise the Clerk

10. To Consider Tree Report Action Summary

Mr Hossack enquired about the trees in Severn Rd and who had responsibility for them. The Administrator responded that the County Council had inspected the trees and decided no action was necessary but they would take action if there was any safety issue. Mr Hossack stated that a tree close to house number 46 which was previously truncated had regrowth and needed to be cut back

Resolved – The administrator to obtain site itemised quotes for the tree action list including the tree with regrowth in Severn Avenue

Mr Hossack requested that a policy to plant a new tree for every tree removed be discussed at the next Amenities meeting

Resolved – to add item to the next Amenities agenda

11. To Consider Correspondence received

An email was received from the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator Mr. Kirkpatrick asking that an overgrown shrub/tree at the end of Mopla Rd (near its junction with the old A48) be removed due to it being a cover for antisocial behaviour in the area. There was a discussion, and some doubt, about who had responsibility for the tree. However, Patrick Molyneux, the Leader of FODDC, has agreed to take action on the tree depending on the Parish view.

Resolved – The Administrator to write to FODDC requesting they carry out the coppice and inform the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

An email was received from the Street Lighting Department of Gloucestershire County Council advising that a street light in Mopla Rd needed repair but the engineers could not get access due to the tree growth up the wooden post (the light is sharing an electricity post). Mr Hossack stated that it was the responsibility of the War Memorial Recreation Ground Trust and he would deal with it.

Resolved – The administrator to reply to the Lighting Department advising them of the responsibility

12. To Consider the Budget for the Year 2015/2016

The Chairman presented the budget spreadsheet and the proposed figures for 2015/2016 showing a rise of ~4.8% from £39,200 to £41,100. After some explanations and a discussion whether the cost centre headings needed to be changed the figures figure was agreed by all:

Dog Waste	£4,600
Grass	£15,500
Churchyards	£3,000
Safety, Insurance and Repair	£2,500
Litter Picking	£8,000
Tree Maintenance	£3,000
Miscellaneous	£1,000
Repairs and Play Areas	£1,000
Shirley's Grove	£2,500

Resolved – to approve the proposed budget figure for 2015/2016

13. Councillors Local Matters and Matters for next Agenda

Mr Bowshall requested that the provision of a gate on the open access from Shirley's Grove to the old A48 be an agenda point at the next meeting

14. To Confirm Date of next meeting

14th January 2015

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm