

WEST END PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING, WEDNESDAY 15TH MARCH 2017 AT THE PARISH CENTRE, CHAPEL ROAD, WEST END COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM

PRESENT: Councillors: R Davis (Chairman)
J Asman
R MacDonald
S Turl
C Boulton

In attendance: Mr S Mockford Deputy Clerk
Mr S Adams Head Groundsman

Members of the Public: Mr & Mrs Clay

141/17/REC **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Bates & Clarke.

142/17/REC **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare interests in relation to items of business on the agenda.

Councillor Asman's husband is an allotment holder. Councillor Turl is the Chair of Moorgreen Road Residents Association.

143/17/REC **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15TH MARCH 2017**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15th March were accepted as a true record and signed by The Chairman.

144/17/REC **MATTERS ARISING**

Resident of Western Road – As previously discussed – still waiting to hear back from E.B.C. regarding dog fouling signs. Deputy Clerk has sent a follow up email.

REVIEW OF CHARGES

The Committee worked through the draft charges based on 1%, 2% and 3% increases previously circulated by the Clerk.

Councillor Asman abstained from discussion around the allotment fees.

Councillor MacDonald proposed and Councillor Asman seconded that it be resolved to increase the charges by an average of 2%. The Committee agreed unanimously.

The details of the revised charges are attached as 'Appendix I' to these minutes.

All other Matters Arising will be dealt under agenda headings.

145/17/REC

CORRESPONDENCE

Email received from Paul Airey Planning Associates Ltd – regarding Dumbleton Copse, Kanes Hill: A discussion was held and it was agreed to invite Paul Airey Planning Associates to the next Full Parish meeting to discuss the proposal in more detail.

Email received from resident of Monnow Gardens: Regarding an Oak tree blocking light into their garden. Head Groundsman advised that the last tree survey was completed 3 years ago and is due to be completed again; date to be confirmed. However, only work that is deemed necessary will be done.

Women's Institute have asked for their bench outside the Parish Centre to be varnished – Groundstaff to carry out the work once the weather improves.

Letter received from Highways England requesting permission for environmental surveys at land on the north side of Brookside Way. Committee happy for survey to be completed.

146/17/REC

EVENTS FOR 2016

Flying the Flag for Commonwealth – Monday 13th March – 10AM
Successful event – 23 children and 4 adults from St. James School. Councillors Clarke, Asman & Goguel attended. Quiz after. Head boy & Head girl helped raise the flag.

Carnival – Saturday 17th June 2017 – Theme 'Children's books'
Event Plan to be completed.

Remembrance Service – Sunday 12th November, 2017
The Clerk has spoken with local Scouts about stewarding for this year's event.

YouthHouse Community Games – Youth Leader has confirmed date for this year's event as Wednesday 16th August, 2017.

Senior Citizens Afternoon Tea Party – Friday 28th July, 2017.
Committee are happy to book 'Human Jukebox' for this year's event. Possibly have a dance demonstration – sequence dancing. Councillor Davis to provide update nearer the time.

Turning on the Lights – Friday 24th November, 2017.
'Ukebox Glory' email received, confirming attendance for the evening. They have requested a charitable donation.

Mr Adams advised the committee some of the existing Christmas lights were dated and needed to be replaced. The company the Parish have previously purchased Christmas lights from have sale items and to possibly take advantage of the discounted price.

Councillor Boulton proposed and Councillor MacDonald seconded that it be resolved to go ahead and purchase replacement Christmas lights. The Committee agreed unanimously.

Senior Citizens Christmas Party – Monday 18th December, 2017
Committee are happy to book 'Human Jukebox' for this year's event.

Children's Pantomime – Hurricane Promotions Ltd confirmed booking for Friday 22nd December. Performance at 10am - Aladdin.

The Chairman asked the committee; due to the number of agenda items discussed during meetings, if a separate subcommittee would be appropriate to enable a more detailed discussion of Parish events for the year. The committee agreed and would like this brought up at the next Full Parish council meeting.

147/17/REC

BARNSLAND

Waiting response from StreetScene regarding replacement bins. Deputy Clerk to follow up.

Ground in general is extremely wet.

148/17/REC

HATCH GRANGE / MEGAN GREEN/QUOB GREEN/WEST END COPSE

Hatch Grange

The 'Billy Bear' bin has been stolen from the play area. Reported to 101. No clear CCTV images. Crime reference number: 44170077312.

As previously discussed - resident along the High Street has put up hedging around the rear of his property – possibly encroaching onto West End Parish land. The Clerk has previously tried to arrange a meeting. A meeting with the resident is required and the Clerk to arrange.

Tree surgeon has started carrying out tree work as identified in the tree survey – along Hatch Mead. Ongoing.

Residents of Hatch Mead have received the quote from the Tree Surgeon and for the work to be completed. Mr Adams to arrange a date with the Tree Surgeon and for them to invoice the residents direct.

Mr Adams provided draft drawings and costings of a parking area behind the Workshop in Hatch Grange and expected the cost to be approximately £6,000. It is anticipated that this area could hold up to 10 vehicles. A discussion was held and Councillor Turl commenting that this was good value; for the number of parking spaces that would be created and would relieve some pressure for parking spaces in the parish car park.

Councillor Boulton proposed and Councillor Asman seconded that it be resolved to progress with the additional parking area subject to money being available. The committee agreed unanimously.

Groundstaff have almost completed tree works as identified in the tree survey.

SJSA Easter Egg Hunt: Sunday 2nd April – 10am – 1pm
Friends of Hatch Grange will also be helping out on the day.

Mr Adams & Café Manager have organised a Parish Easter Egg hunt in Hatch Grange from Monday 10th April – Thursday 13th April.

FOHG – Work morning scheduled for Saturday 8th April – Pathway between Megan Green and Hatch Grange. FoHG buying scalping's - £312 to complete the work.

Natural England Stewardship Scheme – Nothing new to report.

Megan Green – Groundstaff continuing to install Chippings along footpath thinning out / coppicing and ongoing. Finished cutting the trees until the winter.

Wednesday Volunteer Group – Date TBA.

Quob Green – Request received from an employee of a local stonemason to plant a baby Oak tree within the Parish. A discussion was held and it was agreed that the Parish manages and spends a large sum of money each year on looking after trees and it was felt that it was not necessary to have responsibility of another Oak tree.

Councillor Boulton proposed and Councillor MacDonald seconded that it be resolved to decline the request to plant an oak tree as it may set a precedent for future requests. The committee agreed unanimously.

West End Copse – Management Plan: Draft plan has been emailed to all Councillors. A discussion was held and it was agreed for Mr Adams to make comments on the plan and to circulate to all Councillors prior to next month's meeting.

Groundstaff have had to repair the boardwalk due to vandalism.

FoWEC action day held on Saturday 11th March, 2017. Successful day, three new volunteers and over half a dozen bin bags of rubbish collected. Thank you to everyone involved.

149/17/REC

MOORGREEN RECREATION GROUND

Following complaint from resident - footpath adjacent to tennis court issue with flooding and drainage, trying to establish responsibility – ongoing.

Two separate telephone calls received from residents complaining of dog fouling along the footpath next to the tennis court. The Parish Council's dog fouling sign has been moved to this location.

Email received from E.B.C. regarding a request received from a local football team in Hedge End, enquiring about the hiring of the recreational field in Moorgreen Road on a Saturday morning. The Deputy Clerk advised the committee that a previous club received a discounted rate for using the field and Youth Club building facilities. A discussion was held and it was agreed that the Parish Council could not support the use of this facility at a discounted rate going forward because of the costs incurred to open/close and keep the facilities clean and suitably maintained.

Councillor Boulton commented that the facility should be used for recreational use only, as hiring the site for football use would prevent children and families using this area.

Councillor Boulton proposed and Councillor Asman seconded that it be resolved not to rent the recreational field for formal football use in the future. 1 councillor voted in favour with 2 abstentions.

150/17/REC

TOWNHILL FARM RECREATION AREAS

Chartwell Green – As previously discussed regarding the installation of a memorial bench, the family are happy for the bench to be installed with no formal opening or plaque. The committee are happy to take advice from Mr Adams for the location of the bench. Approximate cost £600.

Local residents have contacted the parish office and Councillor Asman to complain about the committee's decision to ban dogs in Chartwell Green.

The Chairman commenting; after careful consideration and consultation with residents a decision was made that the only way to resolve the situation, that had become intolerable over a long period of time, was to ban dogs from this area.

Chartwell Copse – – Work on overhanging trees along the length of the road was completed on 3rd March.

Upmill Play Area – Nothing new to report.

Carpathia and Townhill Play Areas

Successful opening of both play areas on Thursday 16th February. Thank you to all those that were able to attend.

Groundstaff have had to remove graffiti from both sites.

151/17/REC

WEST END FOOTBALL FACILITY

- Football pitches are due to be over seeded this year at an approximate cost of £2,000.

Councillor MacDonald proposed and Councillor Asman seconded that it be resolved for both football pitches to be over seeded. The committee agreed unanimously.

- Two local residents complained that the noise levels during a Saturday afternoon was unacceptable and was 'louder than usual'. Deputy Clerk to email all teams to be mindful that the pitches are in a residential area and to be respectful of the neighbouring properties.
- As previously discussed; Ash tree split in two (6 feet up) and is leaning towards Gregg School. Initially discussed during January's meeting. The Clerk is still trying to establish who is responsible for the work and strip of land. This has been referred to S.C.C. legal team. S.C.C. have quoted £1,200 to fix. Tree surgeon has quoted £600.00 +VAT.

152/17/REC

WEST END CEMETERY/BURIAL GROUND

Burial Ground

Strimming and clearing site – ongoing

As previously discussed: Telephone call from local resident; ongoing issues with lime tree encroaching into their back garden. Tree survey to be completed before discussing action to be taken. Survey booked in for 12th April.

Cemetery

Groundstaff will be moving water pipe to map new area for plots.

As previously discussed resident whose request for a small plant/tree to be planted that was declined would like to request a small bench or seat to be installed. A discussion was held and the committee did sympathise with the resident, however the request was declined. The cemetery rules and guidelines will be updated to reflect this decision.

Email received regarding a non-resident of West End requesting to purchase a burial plot. Their only daughter is buried here and is enquiring if an exception can be made to recent rule changes. A discussion was held and the committee did sympathise with the family member, however the parish council has a responsibility to provide space to residents of West End. The request was declined.

Deputy Clerk received a telephone call from an existing cremation plot holder whose late wife was interred in 2008. Only part of late wife's ashes were interred at the time; the parish council were not made aware of this; and is now looking to inter the remaining ashes into the plot. After the Deputy Clerk seeking advice from The Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management, it is permitted to bury the rest of the ashes in the same plot as long as the existing ashes are not disturbed. The Deputy Clerk has updated the resident with this information and a separate urn will be interred.

- Groundstaff will be moving water pipe to map new area for plots.
- Community Payback painting the fence.
- Rotten fence panels have been replaced – a few more to do.
- Recently interred graves have had to be topped up with earth.

153/17/REC

ALLOTMENTS

- To date – no vacant allotments
- Only 2 spare allotment keys remaining – have had to get 10 more cut.
- Lock on 2nd gate has been replaced
- Email received from Secretary of WEGAA, Mrs Joy Clements has been elected Chairman of WEGAA. All other officers remain unchanged.

154/17/REC

GROUNDS EQUIPMENT

- Mr Adams has completed inventory check.
- All equipment has been serviced.
- One of the Groundstaff is attending a chainsaw training course. Completed 1 day of a 3 day course. Will be certified in cross cutting and chainsaw maintenance.
- Groundstaff George Hallett & David Fricker are now insured to drive the Isuzu.

155/17/REC

YOUTH CLUB

Update a next meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 19th April 2017

‘APPENDIX I’ TO MINUTES OF THE RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15TH MARCH 2017

**RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
REVIEW OF CHARGES 2017/18 - ALLOTMENTS/FOOTBALL/CEMETERY**

SITE	CURRENT CHARGE 2016/17	AGREED CHARGES 2017/18
ALLOTMENTS		
RENTAL	£31.50	£32.15
GRAZING	£48.00	£49.00
KEY CHARGE	£10.20	£30.00
FOOTBALL		
SENIORS	£56.50	£57.65
YOUTHS	£28.00	£28.60
JUNIORS	£19.00	£19.40
CEMETERY		
GRAVE SPACE	£231.00	£235.60
LARGER GRAVE SPACE	£290.00	£295.80
CREMATION PLOT	£56.50	£57.65
EXCESS CHARGE (RESIDENTS OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH WHO ARE NOT RESIDENTS OF THE CIVIL PARISH)	£123.00	£125.50
GRAVE DIGGER	P.O.A.	P.O.A.
INTERMENT		
UNDER 12 YEARS OF AGE	£66.50	£67.85
OVER 12 YEARS OF AGE	£108.00	£110.20
CREMATION	£108.00	£110.20
MEMORIALS		
ERECTION OF MEMORIAL	£112.00	£114.25
ADDITIONAL INSCRIPTION	£28.50	£29.10
NON RESIDENTS EXCESS CHARGE FOR EXISTING PLOT HOLDERS	ALL FEES TREBLED	