

WALMER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Amenity and Environment Committee held on Wednesday 26 July 2017 at 7pm at the Parish Council Office.

Present: Councillors: Mrs M Johnson, Mrs M Beard-Gould, J Murray & D Thompson

Officer Present: Kirsty Holroyd

946. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason were offered by Cllr B Pitcher and accepted by the committee. It was noted that since this is the first meeting since the Annual meeting, a chairman and vice chairman ought to be elected for the year.

RESOLVED:

i) That Cllr Pitcher be appointed Chairman for 2017/18 (Cllr Mrs Johnson had already spoken with him about this and he had agreed to be nominated.)

ii) That Cllr Mrs Johnson be appointed vice chairman for 2017/18 and in Cllr Pitcher's absence, to chair the meeting this evening.

947. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

948. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

Those present were reminded of the following: -

The right to record, film and to broadcast meetings of the council, committees and sub committees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act While those attending meetings are deemed to have consented to the filming, recording or broadcasting of meetings, those exercising the rights to film, record and broadcast must respect the rights of other people attending under the Data Protection Act 1998.

Any person or organisation choosing to film, record or broadcast any meeting of the Council or a committee is responsible for any claims or other liability from them so doing.

949. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3 May 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman.

950. MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

Minute 930: At the Drill Field Working Group meeting of 28 June the Rugby Club had been informed about the possibility of positioning a table tennis table adjacent to the MUGA and had no objection. However at the subsequent Council meeting alternative locations had been discussed such as the sea front and in particular the paddling pool area. The project remains under the remit of this committee and Cllr Thompson should have a report and more details at the next meeting.

Minute 943: The Clerk noted that not all footpath reports had been received at the office.

Those councillors with inspections outstanding will carry them out before the next meeting.

Minute 944: It was also noted that the planning committee had not discussed the pros and cons of Tree Preservations Orders. The Assistant Clerk will be asked to add this to the next agenda.

951. ALLOTMENTS

i) Members considered a quote to reinstate the boundary fence to the rear of plot 4a and 5. It was noted that the quote was for a wire fence only. Members felt a more substantial fence would keep out the garden waste which the resident of Campbell Road keeps throwing over their own fence.

RESOLVED: That the contractor be asked to quote for a 6ft wooden panelled fence. The Clerk was authorised to approve the quote up to the committee's usual limit.

ii) Members were due to consider the inspection report but due to several unforeseen factors this has not yet been carried out

RESOLVED: That Cllrs Thompson and Mrs Johnson will carry out the inspection on Friday 29 July and submit the results to the Clerk immediately afterwards.

Cllr Mrs Johnson updated members with news from the allotments. One tenant has been evicted over the summer due to breaking various rules in the Tenancy Agreement. The clerk has written evidence of warnings given over the years but the behaviour can no longer be tolerated. The tenant had been given a date to remove all her personal effects from the plot and had requested that she be allowed to continue to harvest. It had been agreed by the chairman that she could allocate a proxy from amongst the other tenants to harvest for her and this name should be supplied to the clerk when the key is returned. The Clerk confirmed neither of these things has happened.

RESOLVED:

i) That the Clerk write to the tenant requesting the key and the name of the proxy be supplied immediately

ii) That the Clerk write to the tenant's friend who often visits the site alone reminding him he may not access the site unless invited and accompanied by an existing tenant.

952. HISTORIC VILLAGE SIGNAGE

i) Members considered the new artwork proposed by Dover District Council. The Clerk reminded councillors that they had approved the narrative at the previous meeting and were now to consider the artwork and layout. Councillors were very disappointed with the inaccuracies and inconsistencies as well as the poor quality of the chosen photos. The Clerk reminded councillors that this was a DDC project not a Walmer PC one and as such DDC were not obliged to make any changes. However Councillors felt since they would be paying £200 as agreed for the updated material they had a responsibility to ensure it was correct and visually appealing to visitors.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact DDC to ask whether a meeting with the historian and graphic designer could be arranged to iron out some discrepancies.

953. DRILL FIELD ACCESS ROAD

Cllr David Thompson outlined his plans to plant up the soft verges along the access road to the Rugby Club. He estimated six shrubs and six trees will fill the spaces.

RESOLVED: Cllr Thompson will obtain two quotes from two nurseries along with planting plans to detail the expenditure. He will also work out a plan for on-going maintenance.

Cllr Thompson also suggested siting a rubbish bin in or near the access road as there is no other in Canada Road.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk ask DDC about the possibility of having a bin this location.

The Clerk used this opportunity to advise councillors that the RoSPA safety report on the MUGA had been received in the office that day. The only issue was that the bolts fixing the signage to the fencing were protruding and need to be filed down.

RESOLVED: That the Handyman who tightens the bolts at the MUGA be asked to carry out this small job.

954. STONY PATH

i) Members received an update from the solicitor via the Clerk who reported that the request was still with the Land Registry and no news has been received yet.

ii) Members considered the tender document which had been developed by Cllr Pitcher and Cllr Mrs Johnson along with the Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the document needs reordering in the interest of clarity but can then be sent to three contractors so that an estimate of costs can be obtained for Council's scrutiny.

955. HAWKSHILL MONITORING GROUP

i) Members received and considered the notes of a meeting held on 16 May 2017. The Clerk explained that the purpose of this meeting had been to ascertain a way forward for the Hawkshill group which could no longer serve as a committee due to less than the requisite three councillors sitting on it. The legal basis of the group therefore needed to change.

RESOLVED:

i) That the notes from the Hawkshill Group and any resulting recommendations and decisions will be considered by the A&E Committee.

ii) that the Terms of Reference for the group be updated to accommodate this change.

ii) Members received and considered the notes of a meeting held on Thursday 13 July.

RESOLVED:

i) That the quote to cut the grass bank be approved at a cost of £350.

ii) That the quote to clear the brambles at the land adjacent to the car park be accepted at a cost of £400

iii) That Cllr Thompson be permitted to buy three new pairs of shears at no more than £50 each.

Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould wished to note that she had attended Eddy Turner's walk and talk the previous Sunday which had been fantastic.

956. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 20 September 2017 at 7pm at the parish office

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

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Signature

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Date