

**Minutes of the Greens and Amenities Committee Meeting
Held on Thursday 21st February 2019 in St Mary's Room, Ringmer Village Hall**

Attended: Cllr Ron Wilcox (Chairman), Cllr Richard Booth, Cllr Johnny Denis, Cllr Jenny Hill, Cllr David Matthews, Cllr Roy Sutherland, Cllr David Terry and Cllr Richard Turner.

Also, in attendance: Karen Crowhurst – Clerk/RFO

Members of the public - 1

ITEM NO	MINUTES
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
1.1	Apologies for absence were received and accepted from; Cllr Brown, Cllr Crompton, Cllr Herbert, Cllr Kay and Cllr J Terry.
2.	DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS
2.1	Cllr D Terry declared an interest as an allotment holder.
3.	TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE GREENS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4TH OCTOBER 2019
3.1	It was resolved to accept the minutes from the Greens and Amenities Committee meeting held on 4 th October 2018 as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were then signed by the Greens and Amenities Committee Chairman.
4.	PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON MATTERS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA
4.1	At 7.31 pm the Chairman invited the Meeting to suspend Standing Orders and asked for questions or comments from members of the public present.
4.2	Members of the public made comments or referred to; - The Parish Council relinquishing the lease for Anchor Field.
4.3	Orders were reinstated at 7.32pm
5.	ACTION POINTS - UPDATES AND PROGRESS
5.1	a) Speed sign at Stephens Close
5.2	The Clerk advised that for various reasons this action remains on-going.
5.3	b) WW1 Commemorative Bench on the Village Green
5.4	This action has now been completed and well received by residents.
5.5	c) Additional urban verge cutting with ESCC
5.6	The Clerk advised that she has contacted ESCC informing them of the decision for them to carry out 4 cuts per annum.
5.7	d) New allotment fees implementation

5.8 Members were informed that the new fee system has been implemented, therefore, this action has now been completed.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING OR ACTION**

6.1 a) To consider any correspondence after this agenda has been published

6.2 Member considered correspondence received by a resident requesting an additional bus shelter and repair of existing bus stop. After a short discussion it was agreed that the Clerk contact East Sussex Highways and inform them of the requests made. As well as highlighting health and safety issues. **Action – The Clerk.**

7. **VILLAGE GREEN**

7.1 a) Village pond update and agree any actions.

7.2 Members were informed that a schedule of work to oxygenate the pond will be carried out in due course. Members were also informed that some tree work due to take place will assist in this.

7.3 b) Tree map

7.4 Members were informed that the tree surgeon used by the Council will be providing a tree map which will include the tree species. It was agreed that once the document is available to circulate to all Members. **Action – The Clerk.**

7.5 c) Tree works

7.6 Members noted that the application for carrying out tree work at Delves House and adjacent to the wall between the pond has been approved.

7.7 d) To consider the limit of more benches on the Village Green

7.8 After some consideration and expression of views, a proposal to install 10 more benches and then review the limit once the 10th bench has been installed was presented. This proposal was seconded, it was **resolved** to accept the proposal a vote taken by a show of hands, all were in favour.

7.9 It was also agreed for the donation of benches to the Parish Council be placed on the next Greens and Amenities Committee Meeting Agenda.

7.10 The need to repair the steel benches and how this should be achieved was also raised.

7.11 During this item a report was received about the path work being carried out on the Village Green.

7.12 e) To consider any other matters relating to the Village Green

7.13 A report was received about the path work being carried out on the Village Green.

8. **OPEN SPACES** - To consider any matters relating to open spaces for decision – Sadlers Way, Middleham Close, Gote Lane and Rushey Green

8.1 Members were informed that some tree work has been carried out. Concerns were expressed regarding the impact to Rushey Green whilst SGN were undertaking some work and the fact that the area has not been made good.

8.1 A request was made for the Greens and Amenities Committee to consider whether any of the Parish Council owned open spaces could be used for play areas? It was agreed to place this on the next and Amenities Committee meeting Agenda.

9. **PLAY AREAS**

9.1 a) Update on damaged slide on Village Green

9.2 The Chairman apprised Members of the current situation, after a short discussion and being mindful of the previous decision to replace the slide it was agreed to delegate authority to the Assistant Clerk to take the complaint about the slide further. It was also agreed to contact the current District Council Play Area Inspector to establish as to whether the damage was caused intentionally or if faulty equipment has been installed. **Action – The Assistant Clerk and The Clerk.**

9.3 b) Update regarding the basket swing on the Village Green

9.4 As the basket swing has not become a significant risk, it was agreed to monitor it for the time being and replace if required.

9.5 c) Replacement of surfaces at Fingerpost Field and Broyle Lane

9.6 It was agreed to obtain quotations for consideration in the new financial year. It was **resolved** to earmark the 2018-19 budget headings for play areas to earmarked reserves for the purpose of play equipment renewals. All were in favour of this.

9.7 d) Renewal or purchase of play equipment

9.8 Discussions were held regarding the renewal or replacement of play equipment. It was **resolved** 1) The Clerk contact Lewes District Council to clarify when Section 106 funds will be available. 2) For Members to email the Clerk with suggested play equipment. 3) For the Clerk to obtain brochures and send links of Play Equipment Providers to assist Members decide what type of equipment should be purchased for each area. It was also agreed to consult with community and organisations who work with younger people.

9.9 e) To consider any matters relating to Play Areas

9.10 There were no other matters for consideration.

10. **TO CONSIDER LANDSCAPING OF PROPOSED PARISH COUNCIL LAND AT ANCHOR FIELD IF THE PARISH COUNCIL AGREE TO RELINQUISH THE LEASE ARRANGEMENT WITH LEWES DISTRICT COUNCIL**

10.1 Members discussed the landscaping at the land being donated to the Council on Anchor Field. After some consideration it was **resolved** to have an amenity grass area with communal seating which would be covered and fitted with LED solar panels in the style of a bandstand. It was also agreed that a few indigenous trees be planted in the same area.

11. **GENERAL PURPOSES MATTERS**

11.1 a) Update on the proposed cycle path and agree any actions

11.2 The Clerk informed Members that the Feasibility Study has not been completed despite her efforts to contact the Highways Department. Therefore, this item is on -going.

12. **ALLOTMENT MATTERS**

12.1 a) To consider matters relating to the allotments

- 12.2 Members were informed that a contractor has now been appointed to carry out grass cutting at the allotments. Members were also informed that there are now vacant plots. It was agreed to advertise these in the Spring Newsletter and on Ringmer Village News Facebook Page. **Action – The Clerk.**
- 12.3 b) Contract of work for the allotments – update
- 12.4 This was covered at item 12a.
- 12.5 c) Vacant plots
- 12.6 This item was also covered at item 12a.
13. **ANY REPORTS ON GREENS OR AMENITY MATTERS (BY LEAVE) – NOT DECISION OR DISCUSSION**
- 13.1 Reports were received regarding;
- Conditions of planning for the Developer at Anchor Field;
 - Lewes District Council no longer having a 5-year land supply;
 - The new path across the green sinking;
 - Wildflower Lewes coming to talk at a Greens and Amenities Meeting;
 - Neighbourhood 1st and their dealings with Anti-Social Behaviour;
 - The orange fence placed by the wall near Earwig Corner which has fallen down.
14. **URGENT ITEMS (CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION) OR ITEMS FOR REFERRAL TO NEXT AGENDA OR APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE**
- 14.1 There were not urgent items. Items for referral are.
- 1) Donation of benches to the Ringmer Parish Council;
 - 2) The use of Parish Council open spaces and possibility of the creation of new play areas.
 - 3)
15. **CLOSE OF THE MEETING**
- 15.1 There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.46pm. Date of the next Greens and Amenities Committee Meeting, Thursday 16th May 2019, 7.30pm, St Mary's Room, Ringmer Village Hall.