

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk to the Council.
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Washington Parish Council Open Spaces (Recreation, Allotments, Footpaths and Conservation) Committee Meeting

Draft MINUTES of the Committee Meeting held on Monday, held on 18th July, 2016 at
Washington Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr D Whyberd, Cllr Milner-Gulland and Cllr K Newman

ALSO: Clerk to the Council Ms Z Savill

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None present

ABSENT: Cllr Thomas

Cllr Whyberd opened the meeting at: 19:35 hours

Only item 7 was discussed owing to the late arrival of Cllr Newman at 19:35 hours due to a family medical emergency

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Thomas (holiday)

2. Declaration of interest and Dispensations.

None declared

3. Approval of the Minutes of the last Open Spaces (Recreation, Allotments and Open Spaces meeting

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the 20th June, 2016 were agreed as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Question Time

None present

5. Recreation Ground and Parish Property

To consider hire charges for the Recreation Ground

Cllr Whyberd submitted a schedule of charges for the Recreation Ground following discussions with Mr Rob Gerig at the Village Hall.

Councillors unanimously RESOLVED to AGREE to RECOMMEND the hire charges for approval to Full Council on 1st August, 2016

For information only:

Clerk to report on any update on the maintenance of Vera's Shelter and the telephone box in Sanctuary Lane.

Deferred to OSRA September meeting

Update on the Village Day

Clerk to report to the meeting on the success of the event on Saturday, 9th July.

Not discussed

Padlock of the gate to Recreation Ground

Clerk informed councillors before that meeting that Mr George Fielder had attempted to repair the padlock but without success.

Mr Danny Flynn, who carries out the Parish's ground maintenance works, had resolved the problem after discovering that the code had been changed.

Ground Maintenance

Clerk informed councillors before the meeting that Mr Danny Flynn had completed mowing the grass on the Recreation Ground for the month of MAY all areas on 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th. He had submitted an invoice for the works for £504 including VAT.

Village Hall

Youth Shelter

MUGA

For information only:

Clerk informed councillors before the meeting that Lee Harris has repaired and fitted the latch on the MUGA gate. He had submitted an invoice of £144 inc VAT for the work.

Children's Play Area

To consider the annual inspection report of the Children's Play Area and any necessary action.

This was deferred to the Full Council Meeting on August 1st, 2016

Before the meeting, the clerk circulated the play inspection report by Playsafety Ltd to the parish council before the meeting. There were no findings which required immediate remedial action.

A second inspection had been carried out by the Play Inspection Company. The clerk

had been unaware of this, having not received any prior notification of date and time, until she had received the report with an invoice. The clerk was informed that the inspection had been automatically renewed last year by the previous clerk and with the approval of the Council.

A copy of this second report was also circulated to Councillors but should be disregarded as the clerk is challenging the company's invoice for failing to give warning of the inspection, on the advice of the PC Chairman, Cllr Heeley.

Bus Shelters

Parish Noticeboards

8. Footpaths and Bridleways

To receive a response from WSCC Footpaths to consider evidence of razor wire by a footpath on the Downs at Washington, and a course of action.

This item was not discussed.

Before the meeting, the clerk informed councillors that Cllr Whyberd contacted Jane Noble, Senior Access Officer at WSCC and was informed that there was little they could do because the wire was not in close proximity to the path. However she would request that the Ranger investigates on her next inspection, and advised the Parish Council to contact the landowners with its concerns.

To consider a response to reports of the alleged poor state of grass verges and green spaces In the County.

This item was not discussed.

Before the meeting, the clerk informed councillors that Broadbridge Heath and Slinfold Parish Councils had raised concerns with WSCC about the reduction in budget to cut grass verges and green spaces in the County. Warnham Parish Council had raised similar concerns and had suggested that a formal complaint be submitted on behalf of all the Horsham Area Local Councils.

Clerks of other neighbouring councils had agreed to consider a response

An Email from the Mary Burroughs, Clerk to Slinfold and Broadbridge Heath Parish Councils, circulated to Councillors, with pictures of the alleged poor state of verges in their parish, and inviting parish councils to join in a collective response, and/or write individual complaints to WSCC. Email responses of support from Storrington and North Horsham Parish Councils also circulated before the meeting.

9. Conservation issues

This item was not discussed

10. Any other Open Space, Recreation & Allotment and Footpaths & Conservation issues that may arise OR items for the next Agenda

This item was not discussed

The Meeting Closed at 19:45 hours

Date of the next OSRA Committee meeting 19th September 2016
Full Council Meeting 1st August 2016

Signed.....

Date.....