

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk to the Council
Ms Gina Condie
Lobb Cottage, Vera's Walk, Storrington.
RH20 3JF
Tel: 07776771921
Email: clerk@washingtonparish.org.uk
Website: www.washingtonparish.org.uk

Washington Parish Council Open Spaces (Recreation, Allotments, Footpaths and Conservation) Committee

Draft MINUTES of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 19th October 2015 at Washington Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs Whyberd, Milner-Gulland, Doré, Newman, and Thomas

ALSO:

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 0

ABSENT: Cllr Muddle

Cllr Whyberd opened the meeting at: 19.05 hours

1. Apologies for absence

None received.

2. Declarations of interest and Dispensations

None received.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the last Open Spaces (Recreation, Allotments and Open Spaces),
The Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the 21st September 2015 were **accepted** as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

5. Matters arising from previous minutes

None raised.

6. Allotments

To discuss the tenancy of plot 4 which has become available.

The clerk informed the Committee that there is one person on the allotment waiting list, but they are not a resident in the Parish. The Committee was asked whether the clerk should contact this person, or, firstly pursue other means of obtaining a tenant from within the Parish. It was agreed that in the first instance a tenancy within the Parish should be sought.

To discuss the request to consider erecting a 'no parking beyond this point' sign at the entrance to the allotments.

The Committee discussed the options of where to site another sign as the actual 'siting' location would be an issue. It was discussed whether a sign could be attached to the hedge or another sign be added to the gates. It was agreed that the option of another sign for the gate would be reviewed.

7. Recreation Ground and Parish Property

Grounds Maintenance

To discuss, consider and recommend trimming the 'shoots' from the tree trunk behind the bus shelter on the recreation ground.

The Committee agreed that the shoots from this tree should be trimmed and asked the clerk to action this.

To discuss and consider drainage of the ditch, along the side of the allotments, to improve the football pitch.

Ashington under 15s football team have requested use of the football pitch on Saturday Mornings. The clerk has been in contact with the Recreation Ground Maintenance contractor (Danny Flynn) who commented that he had previously quoted for draining the ditch alongside the allotments at a cost of approximately £400. He stressed that this would help drainage of the football pitch. The Committee agreed that Danny should requote for this work and that they would recommend this to Full Council.

Village Hall

Nothing to report.

Youth Shelter

Nothing to report.

MUGA

To discuss relocating the tennis box.

Cllr Newman expressed his concern that the tennis box was still a potential problem in that a child could get 'trapped' in the box, and, that the box was not actually being used as a storage for the post and nets. It had previously been suggested at this Committee that the box could be integrated into the MUGA netting. Cllr Whyberd commented that this would not be appropriate. Discussions took place as to whether the box should be removed or located elsewhere, and where to house the posts and net if the box was removed. It was suggested that the net and posts could be housed along the side of the MUGA next to the cricket pitch if further post holes were put into the ground. It was agreed that this suggestion would be investigated, but as an interim solution the 'tennis box' would be removed.

Children's Play Area

To consider and discuss replacement of the broken 'springer motorbike'.

A quote was for a slightly different springer at a cost of £471 plus VAT had been circulated to the Committee. The Committee was asked to consider recommending replacement of the springer or wait until when playground proposals are finalised. It was agreed to wait until the playground proposals are finalised before taking any action.

Bus Shelters

Nothing to report.

Parish Notice Boards

Nothing to report.

8. Footpaths and bridleways

To discuss the state of the pathway outside St Mary's school.

Cllr Newman commented that he had been in contact with the school head who was concerned about the state of the path outside the school. He had been informed that the path belonged to the National Trust and that the school didn't have the funds to make any improvements. He stressed that the path was dirty and dangerous, and asked if there was any means of assisting with the funding. Cllr Whyberd commented that this was a matter for the school and the National Trust, but, he would contact Jane Cecil at the National Trust.

8. Conservation issues

Cllr Milner-Gulland commented that he had been in contact with Tony Whitbread at the Sussex Wildlife Trust with regards to the Triangle. Cllr Whyberd stated that a meeting would be arranged between Tony Whitbread, Cllr Milner-Gulland and himself prior a general meeting and he mentioned that this project was moving forward and that a full meeting would be arranged with various appropriate bodies, hopefully well before Christmas.

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

The clerk mentioned the following:

Information only - Tree survey of allotments took place on the 13th October by Andrew Gale.

Information only -Washington Recreation Ground Maintenance contract - the clerk has contacted 5 potential suppliers and asked for quotes.

Costings need to be done for the Playground proposals before this can be put forward to Full Council.

She asked whether Cllr Newman or Muddle could take this forward as they had created the proposal document. Cllr Newman suggested that an email be sent to HAGS with a copy of the costings which the clerk had completed.

Mobile skate park - Full Council had agreed to a taster session in February half term. The clerk asked if a Councillor would like to volunteer to take this project forward. It was suggested that Cllr Muddle may like to assist.

Cllr Milner-Gulland shared a copy of the comments made by CPRE Hampshire on the South Downs National Park proposals and the clerk was asked to circulate these.

The Meeting Closed at: 19:50 hours

Date of next OSRA Committee meeting 16th November 2015.

Signed.....

Date.....