

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting

Held at St Peter's Rooms on Tuesday 7th February 2012 at 7.30pm

Membership

	W. A. Wood	Chairman
	Mrs B. Breakwell	Vice-Chairman
A	A. Chopra	
	D. J. Hall	
	P. F. McGowan	
	Mrs B. M. Venes	
A	M. Walsh	
A	Mrs R. Wilson	

Persons absent are marked 'A'

Persons representing the Parish Council on other business are marked 'O'

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

G. D. Long
R. Shelbourn
1 member of the public

Clerk to the Council
Senior Groundsman

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. Chopra, M. Walsh and Mrs R. Wilson.

DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs B. M. Venes declared an interest in any item appertaining to the Allotments and Vicarage Lane Cemetery.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29th November 2011, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORTVicarage Lane Play Area (Vide Minute A. 11/925)

The Senior Groundsman reported that the gates had been replaced, the posts painted and the membrane repaired.

Members noted this information.

Tiles at Elms Park Pavilion (Vide Minute A. 11/925)

The Senior Groundsman reported he had spoken to John Hallet who was taking this forward.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

RESOLVED

That the Committee adjourn to allow the members of the public present to make statements on agenda items.

During the adjournment no matters were raised:

COMMITTEE IN SESSION

A. 11/927 DEVELOPMENT

New Applications

There were no new applications to be discussed.

A. 11/928 VILLAGE HALL (Vide Minute A.11/884)

Copies of a report regarding on-going maintenance and issues arising from the structural survey of the Village Hall had previously been circulated to members. The Clerk reported that the investigation into possible dry rot had been carried out and it was discovered that it was wet rot.

Members noted this information.

A number of issues needed to be addressed:

- Wet rot problems in the rear rooms
- Installing access and toilet facilities for the disabled
- Sanding, marking out the badminton court and resealing the floor
- External painting
- Ensuring the roof valleys are sound.

The Clerk reported that work had started on obtaining quotes, but they were slow in coming in.

RESOLVED

1. That the above work be undertaken.
2. That the Clerk continues to obtain quotes and report the appropriate items to Finance and Policy Committee.

GDL

GDL

A. 11/929 CHURCHILL DRIVE OPEN SPACE (Vide Minute C. 11/1544)

A report had previously been circulated with details of quotes for a 50% reduction in the five willow trees on Churchill Drive open space. The Senior Groundsman reported that a full pollard was considered too severe.

Full consideration was given to the quotes including the information provided with the quotes regarding risk assessments, assurances, and MPTC qualification, and the recommendation of the Senior Groundsman.

RESOLVED

That the quote from Groveside Tree Specialists be accepted.

RS

A. 11/930 SECURITY OF PARISH COUNCIL PROPERTY

(Vide Minute E. 11/916)

Members had previously agreed to investigate security marking of Parish Council property. The Clerk reported that he had obtained advice from Nottinghamshire Police on which items ought to be marked and what sort of marking to do. The Parish Council was advised to use invisible marking for items that are attractive, portable and expensive. A price had been obtained for approximately £50 per 50 items to be marked.

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk decides which items of property are marked.
2. That Parish Council property which is considered attractive, portable and expensive be marked with an invisible mark.

GDL

GDL

A. 11/931 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

(Vide Minute A. 11/923)

Members had agreed at the Amenities Committee held on 29th November 2011 to set up a working group to draft a strategic plan for discussion at a future meeting. Councillors Mrs B. Breakwell, D. Hall, P. McGowan, Mrs B. Venes and W A Wood volunteered to be on the Working Group. Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell agreed to convene the first meeting.

RESOLVED

1. That Councillors Mrs B. Breakwell, D. Hall, P. McGowan, Mrs B. Venes and W. A. Wood volunteered to be on the Working Group to draft a strategic plan.
2. That Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell convenes the first meeting.

BB, DH,
PM, BV,
& AW

BB

A. 11/932 EXTERNAL PAINTING OF ST PETER'S ROOMS

The Clerk reported that the outside of St Peter's Rooms was due for painting under the terms of the lease. The first quote had been obtained and the contractor reported that scaffolding would be required to paint the bell tower, the provision and erection of which would be expensive. Members decided that the bell tower should be painted and that the Clerk should investigate if any alternative to using scaffolding is possible.

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk investigate if any alternative to using scaffolding is possible.
2. That the Clerk obtain further quotes.

GDL

GDL

A. 11/933 TREES OUTSIDE ST PETER'S ROOMS

A report had previously been circulated regarding two Acacia trees at St Peter's Rooms which, on the advice of the Rushcliffe Borough Council Tree Officer, need some removal of dead wood, the pruning back of overhanging branches and monitoring of fungus (on the larger of the two trees).

RESOLVED

That the above work be undertaken.

GDL

A. 11/934 CRICKET AGREEMENT

A draft of a revised proposed annual agreement with cricket clubs using Parish Council facilities had previously been circulated. The main changes from the previous agreement were the removal of the requirement for an annual deposit from each team and some 'fine tuning' regarding reporting of cancellations.

RESOLVED

That the revised agreement be adopted.

GDL

A. 11/935 FIRE APPLIANCES (Vide Minute A. 11/919)

A report had previously been circulated regarding the service and maintenance of fire alarms, fire extinguishers and fire detection equipment. Three quotes had been obtained each covering the whole of the Parish Council's facilities.

RESOLVED

That the quote from FSE be accepted.

GDL

A. 11/936 OLYMPIC RUNNING TRACK (Vide Minute C. 11/1556)

Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell reported that Rushcliffe Borough Council had contacted her regarding the Parish Council's request for a temporary running track, to coincide with the Olympic celebrations, asking for details of the proposed location.

Members agreed on Vicarage Lane Playing Field.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk notify Rushcliffe Borough Council that the Parish Council's preferred location is Vicarage Lane Playing Field.

GDL

A. 11/937 WAKES

Correspondence had previously been circulated from D. Cox and Son Amusements requesting the use of Sellors Playing Field, Wilford Road for the annual Wakes from Monday 16th July to Monday 23rd July.

RESOLVED

1. That permission be granted to D. Cox Amusements for the use of Sellors Playing Field for the Annual Wakes.
2. That the determination of the ground rent be referred to Finance and Policy Committee.

GDL

GDL

A. 11/938 PLAY AREA FUNDING

Correspondence had previously been circulated regarding the Awards for All funding stream which is currently experiencing a low application rate. Applicants can apply for up to £10,000 and the awarding body is keen to support new play spaces and will fund 100% of a project.

Members agreed that a bid should be submitted for play equipment at Sellors Playing Field, Wilford Road.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk submit a bid for play equipment at Sellors Playing Field, Wilford Road.

GDL

A. 11/939 ELMS PARK PLAY AREA PHASE 3 – MULTI-USE GAMES AREA
(Vide Minute A. 11/902)

Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell reported that the working group were continuing to sound out options and obtain prices.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted.

A. 11/940 VICARAGE LANE CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

Request regarding grass cutting

The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received regarding the mowing at Vicarage Lane Cemetery. He interpreted this as including a request that 'ride on' mowers should not be used along the rows of headstones notwithstanding this being accepted procedure and a condition of erecting headstones. Consideration was given to this including the possible implications on the standard of maintenance, workload, price and the views of relatives and visitors to the Cemetery. Members concluded that the Cemetery should continue to be maintained as it is currently.

Issues regarding grass cutting between rows

The Clerk reported that there is an increasing incidence of planting flowers, placing pots and other memorabilia in the grass in front of headstones. The last six rows (with the concrete strips) are designated as a 'grassed cemetery' and these items not only cause problems for the maintenance staff when cutting the grass but are in danger of being damaged.

The Clerk suggested that a 'round robin' letter be sent to those people with a Grant of Right of burial in those six rows reminding them that any items in addition to the headstones should be kept within the boundary area of the headstone i.e. on the concrete base, with a deadline for removal of items. A reminder letter would then be sent regarding any outstanding concerns.

It was recognised that this is a very sensitive area and that any action would need to take account of this.

RESOLVED

1. That the Parish Council continues to maintain Vicarage Lane Cemetery as currently, including the use of 'ride on' mowers.
2. That the Clerk write a 'round robin' letter to those people with a Grant of Right of burial in those six rows reminding them that any items in addition to the headstones should be kept within the boundary area of the headstone i.e. on the concrete base. A reminder letter to be sent at a later date regarding any outstanding concerns.

GDL

GDL

A. 11/941 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS

The Clerk reported that there are elections planned for the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner on 15th November 2012. Rushcliffe Borough Council had written to the Parish Council asking to rent the Village Hall and St Peter's Rooms on polling day.

Members noted this information.

A. 11/942 PERFORMING RIGHTS SOCIETY

The Clerk reported that the Performing Rights Society had determined that the Parish Council is now classed as a local authority where it had previously been classed under 'Community Buildings'. This would mean a significantly increased payment. He has requested advice from the National Association of Local Councils to see if there is any way to keep the payments down.

Members noted this information.

A. 11/943 ST PETER'S CHURCHYARD (Vide Minute C.11/1559)

The Parish Council agreed to start the process of addressing the maintenance of gravestones in St Peter's churchyard over a number of years. The Clerk reported that this would require a faculty from the Dioceses of Southwell and Nottingham. He had asked Councillor W A Wood to assist in this process because of his knowledge in this area.

Members noted this information.

A. 11/944 REPORTS ON AMENITIES MATTERS

Heating at Jubilee Clubhouse

The Clerk reported that there are currently issues with the heating at Jubilee Clubhouse. The extent of the problem is, as yet, unclear.

Members noted this information.

Theft from Parish Council Car Park

The Clerk reported that some 2" pieces of hollow section barrier had been stolen from the car park. P. C. Ann Gill was able to identify the offender as a result of her enquiries. The offender was interviewed and admitted the offence.

Members noted this information.

Fanzines United: Letter of thanks.

The Clerk reported that a letter of thanks had been received from Fanzines United saying "Thank you very much for allowing us the use of Elms Park this year, the facilities, as always, have been excellent".

Members noted this information.

Sellors Playing Field: Comment of Appreciation

The Clerk reported that an appreciative comment had been received from a local resident regarding the goal posts on Sellors Playing Field. "At first I couldn't understand why so many young people had recently started using the playing field casually – just to kick a ball around. Then I realised the Parish Council has permanently left the goalposts up – rather than just for organised matches. This is a great idea – they're being really well used!"

Members noted this information.

Keep Dogs on Leads Signs

The Clerk reported that the 'Keep Dogs on Leads' sign previously agreed by the Parish Council had recently been put up. This had resulted in a number of complaints, and one compliment, from members of the public.

Members noted this information.

A. 11/945 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AMENITIES AGENDA

1. St. Peter's Churchyard
2. Village Hall
3. Elms Park Play Area Phase 3 – Multi-Use Games Area
4. Future plans for the Amenities Committee

The meeting closed at 9.06 p.m.

Chairman

Committee Chairman