

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting 15th December 2020 at 7:30pm Online Meeting via Zoom

Present: Councillors Ballantine, Clayton, Clare, Green, Gregory, Myers, and Worth.

Clerk: Amanda Massingham

Members of Public: 1

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

A20.39 Apologies were made by Cllr Washington and Walsh and they were accepted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A20.40 None

3. MINUTES

A20.41 The minutes of the meeting of 20th October 2020 were AGREED as a true record and were signed by the chairman.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A20.42 A member of the Wendover Fundraising group for Rennie Grove was in attendance. The Chairman brought forward item 9.c on the agenda. An overview was provided on the plaque removed from the Memorial Woodland due to HS2 works. A request was put to the Committee to relocate the plaque in the Community Orchard along the Heron Path/Ridgeway. The Committee unanimously agreed that the plaque could be relocated in the orchard as requested. It was **RESOLVED** that Rennie Grove would work with the office team and grounds team once the plaque is ready to be installed.

5. UPDATE REPORT FROM THE CLERK

A20.43 The Clerks report was NOTED. The Deputy Clerk reported that the memorial bench application that was discussed at the previous meeting was moving forward and the applicant had accepted the offer of placing a plaque on the bench at the corner of Wharf Road. The Committee had previously agreed that Climate Action Wendover could plant some new trees at Hampden Meadow, it was confirmed that the trees has been planted last week. New 'No Ball Games' signage had been placed on the site safe at Ashbrook, in addition new dog poop signage had been purchased to target areas within our open spaces for set periods of time. The Committee has discussed introducing wildflower planting several times over the last eighteen months, a previous quote was deemed too expensive. The Deputy Clerk proposed that a trial area is planted on the Tring Road banks near the junction of Honey Banks. The project would be handled inhouse, with a spend limit of £1k, which would be funded from the Wildflower EMR. The Committee was happy with this proposal and it was AGREED that costs would be included on the January 2020 agenda.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

A20.44 The correspondence from NALC regarding Easements over Common Land and Village Greens was NOTED. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that Councillors Worth and Myers were scheduled to attend training on the matter, but the new date was pending as it had been postponed due to Covid-19.

7. FINANCE

To consider the list of payments and sign cheques.

A20.45 It was **RESOLVED** to accept the list of payments and they were duly signed by the Chairman. The online payments would be made the following day.

8. OPEN SPACES AND HAMPDEN POND

a) Hampden Pond Tree Survey

To review the recent tree survey conducted at Hampden Pond and consider any actions.

A20.46 The Tree Survey report was NOTED. Councillor Worth reported that the grounds team had already completed a lot of the required work, which has opened the canopy and will improve wildflower growth next year. Additional work to fell trees that are deemed at risk is being quoted by the Council's preferred contractor. The quotation should be available for the January meeting. In addition Councillor Worth reported that the grounds team are eager to complete some internal pathway repairs and that a proposal will need to be considered by the Committee in the future. Councillors Green and Clayton welcomed the works, but highlighted the need to continue ongoing maintenance as large projects keep occurring years apart at the pond, but planned maintenance should be the priority.

9. OTHER MATTERS

a) Floral Display 2021/22

To consider a proposal for next year's High Street hanging baskets and village entry point troughs.

A20.47 The quotation proposal was NOTED. The costs compared to this year's were compared, and it was highlighted that the external costs this year only covered the summer seasons. The Committee responded positively to the floral displays for the other villages that the contractor currently supplies. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the provision to fund the displays had been accounted for in the 2021/22 budget. The Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation dated 16th October 2020. The Deputy Clerk was tasked with instructing the contractor.

b) Play around the Parishes 2021

To consider hosting two play around the Parish Events during July/August 2021.

A20.48 The e-mail communications from Buckinghamshire Council's Communities Team was NOTED. The Committee **RESOLVED** to host two events and the Deputy Clerk was tasked with making the necessary arrangements. Councillor Clayton requested that contact should be made with Wendover Youth Centre to ensure the chosen dates do not conflict with their end of year event which takes place at Ashbrook Open Space.

c) Rennie Gove Memorial Plaque

To consider a request from Rennie Grove to reposition a memorial plaque in the Community Orchard.

A20.49 This item was addressed in item 6 correspondence.

d) S106 Sports and Leisure Contribution

To consider what project to allocate S106 funds from the potential Village Gate planning application.

A20.50 The Committee AGREED that the £25,125 potential money available through S106 funds should be used to fund a new skate park. It was **RESOLVED** to make this **RECOMMENDATION** to full Council at its January meeting. The Deputy Clerk was tasked to establish the timelines to when Buckinghamshire Council would need to know the specific details.

e) St Marys Church Churchyard Committee

To consider a request to provide land at the former skate park for burial graves.

A20.51 The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the grant request element in the correspondence should be ignored as this had been addressed. Councillor Worth reported that the Church yard have approximately four years of burial space, Councillors Ballentine and Myers agreed with this. Other potential areas were discussed by the Committee. It was **RESOLVED** to **REFER** the request to the full Council at its January meeting as the Committee now had three separate requests to utilise the land.

f) Manor Waste Bench Memorial

To consider mounting a plaque on a Manor Waste bench for the late Reg Simmonds.

A20.52 Councillor Clayton reported on her proposal. The bench in question in the first one facing the road as you leave Budgens and walk towards Dobbins Lane. The Committee were happy to proceed with the proposal. It was AGREED that the Deputy Clerk would reach out to the family via Jane Larkham, Wendover News.

g) Open Spaces Working Group

To receive an update from the Open Spaces Working Group and consider any recommendations.

A20.53 The update from the WG and request to re-instate a Skate Park at the old site was NOTED. It was **RESOLVED** to **REFER** the request to the full Council at its January meeting as the Committee now had three separate requests to utilise the land. Councillor Worth also reported that the working group were conducting a survey with young people to gauge the opinion of the current facilities. He also reported that he had applied for a grant, via the Community Board on the advice of Cllr Steve Bowles to hopefully improve the access to the former skate park site along South Street. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the working group or individuals from the group do not have any powers to make any decisions or spend money. The decision making to apply for a grant needs to come from the Amenities Committee or full council.

h) Policy Review

To review the Witchell Car Park Policy.

A20.54 Councillor Gregory suggested two small amendments to the policy. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the changes and update the policy.

10. MATTERS TO REPORT

A20.55 Councillor Green reported that a section of the High Street Christmas lights had not been working for three nights. She also reported some concerns with an abandoned car in Church Lane, as it was taxed and MOT there was little that could be done.

11. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

A20.56 Items should be forward to the Deputy Clerk.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A20.57 The next scheduled meeting of the Amenities Committee is 19th January 2021.

13. CLOSURE OF MEETING

A20.58 As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at 20:45pm

Stephen Worth

Signed by
Chairman to the Amenities Committee

Date: 19th January 2021