

# WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting

15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7:30pm

St Anne's Hall, Aylesbury Road, Wendover HP22 6JG

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**Present:** Councillors Stephen Worth (Chair), Jennifer Ballantine, Sheila Bulpett, Julie Williams, Diane Washington Sam Walker and Mark Standen.

**Clerk:** Amanda Massingham

**Members of Public:** 1

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**A21.110** Apologies were made by Councillor Malleson and they were ACCEPTED. Councillor Julie Lloyds-Evans was considered absent.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**A21.111** None.

### 3. MINUTES

**A21.112** The minutes of the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were AGREED as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

### 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**A21.113** A member of the public requested an update on the Helicopter Park. Councillor Worth confirmed that it was an item on the agenda (9.c), however there were no further updates to report. A second request was made to improve the current playground facilities at the wooden playpark located off St Giles Road, the Deputy Clerk reported that the playpark was owned and maintained by Buckinghamshire Council. It was AGREED to speak to Buckinghamshire Council to establish if any improvements are being considered and report back at the next meeting.

### 5. UPDATE REPORT FROM THE CLERK

**A21.114** The Deputy Clerks report was NOTED. The Rennie Grove planting previously agreed had been completed at the Community Orchard. In addition the fruit trees had been pruned and attend to by the Heritage Fruit Tree Company. Under the powers of the Clerks delegated spend a jet washer has been purchased and a programme to clean Parish Council street furniture has started. The works to replace the white gates appears to have started this week.

### 6. CORRESPONDENCE

**A21.115** Two items of correspondence were NOTED. A complaint had been received about the recent works at Hampden Pond and great crested newts. The grounds team have confirmed that there is no evidence of great created newts at the Pond, Councillor Worth agreed and added common smooth newts have been spotted at the stream in Witchell Meadow. The second item of correspondence was a request from a new allotment tenant, asking if they could install a better fence and a concrete base for a shed. It was AGREED that a better fence could be installed, but concrete slabs should be used for the shed base.

## 7. FINANCE

**To consider the list of payments and sign cheques.**

**A21.116** It was **RESOLVED** to accept the list of payments and they were duly signed by the Chair. The online payments would be made the following day.

## 8. OPEN SPACES AND HAMPDEN POND

### a) Wendover Cricket Club Lease

**To receive an update from Councillors Walker and Worth.**

**A21.117** Councillor Walker reported that a draft lease had been prepared and distributed to the office and Councillors Worth and Bulpett. It was **AGREED** that the draft would be forwarded to the Committee for comment, Councillor Walker would then meet with Wendover Cricket Club to agree a final version. The final version would then need to be agreed at a full Council meeting.

### b) Playground Inspections

**To review the playground inspection reports and consider the quotations for repairs.**

**A21.118** The quotations were **NOTED**. All repairs were deemed low risk or very low risk. The total cost of the repairs were £5923.21, the budget provision against code 4440 currently has £4979 remaining. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that Fenland had offered, when asked, a £75 discount if all repairs were instructed. The Committee agreed that a **RECOMMENDATION** should be presented to full Council at its April meeting to proceed with all the repairs as per the quotation, with the funding charged against 4440 and 4410.

### c) London Road Open Space

**To receive an update on the request from the church to use the site as a burial ground and consider any actions.**

**A21.119** The Clerk met with an official from St Mary's Church last month. She confirmed that the site was not particularly suitable due to its proximity to the train line. In theory it could be used but she felt nobody would want to be buried there and it was not a particularly nice space. She felt the church would be better looking at removing and reusing older graves and utilising spaces around the church yard. Written confirmation had been requested. Future uses of the site were debated. It was **AGREED** that future use of the site should be considered by the Open Spaces Working group, who would report back recommendations to the Committee.

### d) Littering

**To receive an update on a littering enforcement issue that occurred at Witchell Car Park.**

**A21.120** A car park user, emptied a large amount of litter from their vehicle which included several car parking tickets earlier this year. The matter was reported to the enforcement team at Buckinghamshire Council. The individual has been interviewed and the matter is going to court.

## 9. OTHER MATTERS

### a) Project Status Reports

**To review the updated Project Status Reports for replacement bins, Hampden Pond, white gates and skate park.**

**A21.121** The reports were **NOTED** and received positive comment.

**b) Policy Review**

**To review the Hampden Pond Policy, Ashbrook Policy, London Road Open Space, Hampden Meadow and Rope Meadow and Orchard Protocol.**

**A21.122** The policies were NOTED. No amendments or additions were requested. The review date would be added and new versions would be uploaded onto the website.

**c) Helicopter Park**

**To receive any updates and consider any actions.**

**A21.123** No further updates were available.

**d) Open Spaces Working Group**

**To receive an update and any recommendation from the working group.**

**A21.124** Councillor Standen reported on funding applications for the new skate park. An application had been sent to the Lottery Community Fund and had been chased due to lack of acknowledgement. The Community Board have agreed £25k. The Lionel Able Smith had been approached and confirmed they would consider a grant to the value of £25k if the Parish Council were earmarking the same amount. The HS2 application had been drafted by the Deputy Clerk, however more detail was required in terms of how the requested £75k would be spent on the project. It was AGREED to ask the company that submitted the concept drawings for a percentage cost breakdown based on a total project cost of £175K, in addition the Deputy Clerk would reach out to Western Turville to see if they would be willing to share costs of their recent project.

**e) Flagpole**

**To consider installing a flagpole on Manor Waste.**

**A21.125** It was **RESOLVED** to install a flagpole on Manor Waste utilising the same cavity used for the Christmas Tree. Quotations would be obtained by the office.

**f) Halton Lane verge**

**To consider the verge as a local for wildflowers.**

**A21.126** Councillor Bulpett proposed that wildflowers seeds should be laid at the corner of Aylesbury Road and Halton Lane where the recent works had taken place for the Cycle path. It was **RESOLVED** lay seeds, but continue to cut the perimeter of the area, subject to permission from the Buckinghamshire Council Area Technician.

**10. MATTERS TO REPORT**

**A21.127** None.

#### 11. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

**A21.128** Playpark at St Giles Road and parking on the green space at Stanhope Close.

#### 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**A21.129** The next scheduled meeting of the Amenities Committee is 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

#### 13. LEGAL REPRESENTATION

**A21.130** It was **RESOLVED** to move into closed session and exclude the public and press in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed. It was **RESOLVED** to pay the legal fees of £1200 from account code 4570.

#### 14. CLOSURE OF MEETING

**A21.131** As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at 8:40pm.

*Stephen Worth*

Signed by  
Chair to the Amenities Committee

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022