

Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 17 March 2008 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RH Chapman (chairman) JE Coston R Day M Ellwood SC Humphreys B Jefferson RLE Waters
D Chamberlin WD Booth E Sponge
The clerk

40/3-08 **1 Apologies for absence** – RT Summerfield

41/3-08 **2 Declarations of Interest** - RHC, SCH and ME – item 4 personal.

42/3-08 **3 Minutes** – the minutes of the meeting of 17 December 07 were approved and signed as a true record.
(542/12-07) Thanks were recorded to Ted Easy for repairing the fence at the allotments.

43/3-08 **4 Cemetery – update, review of fees and regulations**

(541/12-07) Recent grave Mr Sam Smith - a seat had appeared and a flower bed by the hedge had been created. The family should be made aware that permission needed to be sought. RHC offered to talk with the family – **AGREED**.

Action: RHC

Regulations - RHC, JEC and the clerk would draw up regulations, including guidelines for type of seats and their siting and the question of whether to accept requests for burials from outside the village – to be discussed electronically and then reviewed by full committee. **Action: RHC, JEC and the clerk**

Review of fees – further research agreed – to be reviewed at meeting on 30 June. **Action: the clerk and RHC**

Ash trees northern boundary [min 22/3-08 refers] – RHC, RD and ME had inspected these and would look again during the Spring to ascertain their condition.

DC left the meeting. Thanks to DC for his input.

44/3-08 **5 Allotments**

(542/3-08) Update – most of the allotments had now been taken up. Four had unexpectedly been given up and the clerk had managed to re-let three of them. There were still four available.

RHC intended to weed kill an area before allowing the College of West Anglia to bring in more manure. One potential problem – walking route to pump for the allotments at the northern end.

Allotment holders were pleased with the improved roadway.

Gate – RHC had provided a new lock.

45/3-08 **6 Outstanding Issues**

(543/12-07) Poplar tree – this was still ongoing [min 15/3-08 also refers]. SCDC felt that the tree should be removed because of “financial future public liability implications”. To be discussed at April Council meeting.

Replacement trees at Walkling Way junction – these would be planted in November 2008.

Hard standing bus shelter Landbeach Road – CCC had laid a hard standing.

AGREED to arrange for a local contractor to install the new bin and to finish the area up to the bus shelter.

Action: the clerk

Noted that as the clerk had been unable to find a contractor to do this work he was considering asking Sam Bowden, Countryside Services. [RHC declared a prejudicial interest]. ME recommended another local contractor.

46/3-08 **7 Litter picking**

Members of outside agencies walked the village on that Monday morning as part of Milton’s “week of action” [min 33/3-08 refers]. It was commented how neat, tidy and well cared for the village looked. More information about SCDC’s litter picking schedule was needed. It was agreed therefore to defer a review of P Adams’ duties. The clerk would ask SCDC for their schedule. **Action: the clerk**

The bund and Fen Road were noted as litter hotspots. A complaint had been received about a “den” on the bund which the clerk was investigating.

Mud from the College of West Anglia vehicles on Ely Road and Fen Road was a problem. The clerk would write to the College. **Action: the clerk**

[RHC declared a personal interest - working relationship with the College].

The clerk queried whether MCC or MPC should arrange to have the car park between the doctors’ surgery and MPC office swept – for the joint meeting between MPC and MCC to consider. The clerk reported that the doctors’ manager had agreed to pay to have their car park (at the rear of the doctors’ surgery) kept clean if MPC could find a suitable worker.

47/3-08 **8 Play update**

(545/12-07) The clerk had received a written report from City Services and minor repairs were in hand. The clerk would ask City Services about the skate park as HMS had reported that it was in a dangerous condition. **Action: the clerk** City Services had reported that the wooden houses should be removed. RHC offered to remove them as soon as the clerk received written confirmation from City Services.

It was agreed that the joint meeting between MPC and MCC should consider whether the clerk or administrator MCC should be responsible for ordering services for the two recreation grounds.

Items for consideration for the 2009-10 budget: metal fence at The Rowans play area; concrete table tennis table; replacement for wooden houses.

48/3-08 **9 Horse Grazing**

The clerk reported that the applicants referred to in min 31/3-08 had decided to withdraw. The second applicant (who lives 12 miles away but works in the village) was keen to graze her ponies on this land at £400 per year – to be paid April and October each year.

It was **AGREED**

to offer the “Licence to Graze” to this applicant subject to references.

Action: the clerk

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....