

Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 27 September 2010 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: M Ellwood (chairman) JE Coston B Jefferson RT Summerfield RLE Waters
WD Booth E Spong
The clerk

1 Election of Chairman – ME was elected chairman.

2 Election of Chairman - BJ was elected vice chairman.

3 Apologies for absence - GA Covell R Day SC Humphries IF May.

4 Public Participation – Item 9 was brought forward to allow members of the public to speak.

9 Play – update (M8/06-10)

Request for BMX track - a letter was received asking for an area to be provided for an area to ride BMX bikes. A track provided previously had fallen into disuse. It was suggested that this area could again be used as an informal BMX track. (An informal track would resolve possible insurance difficulties). MCC Outdoor Recreation Committee (ORG) would discuss on 29 September.

New equipment - a) skate park. Request from resident at July PC meeting (PC7/07-10). ORG to discuss. There were no plans at present to replace / refurbish the skate park. The clerk to inform both residents of the result of ORG's discussions on these two requests. **Action: the clerk**

b) replacements for Hawthorn Hedge site – to be discussed at next meeting.

Play Champion – an article was about to be published in the latest Village View.

5 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial – allotment holders present personal - item 8.

6 Approval of minutes – the minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2010 were approved and signed as a true record.

Bunding on verge by kebab van (M5/06-10) – planting of daffodils on this bund and the bund at Landbeach Road / Humphries Way to be considered in 2011. Volunteers to help plant daffodil bulbs would be needed. Planting of primules was suggested.

Horse grazing rights (M9/06-10) – noted that the tenant continued to graze one pony on the field (PC7/09-10).

7 Cemetery – update

Inspection: Command Pest Control – August: No sign of mole activity but rabbits active. All workings had been treated.

Request for seat / plaque (M6/06-10) – the family of a resident buried in the cemetery had requested a seat near the grave. The clerk and RD had proposed a position for a seat adjacent the path.

Concerns: if further requests are made how many seats should be allowed and where exactly should they be sited?

It was **AGREED** (5 votes in favour 1 against)

to allow a seat to be installed in the position proposed and that the clerk draw up a plan showing where seats in future would be sited.

The clerk would discuss with the family. **Action: the clerk**

8 Allotments – update (M7/06-10)

Road strengthening – road planings had been delivered and were already being used to fill in potholes.

Inappropriate trees had been planted in some allotments. The clerk had written to the allotment holders.

Neglected allotments – the clerk had written to the relevant allotment holders explaining that they were in breach of their tenancy. (Min PC7/09-10 also refers). The clerk would find out the contractor's charges for tidying an allotment and also the cost of removing inappropriate trees. It was suggested that a deposit to be refunded or used to pay for tidying an allotment at the end of the tenancy could be levied – **AGREED** not to pursue this suggestion.

AGREED on the following Policy:

all allotments would be inspected by 1st May each year and those tenants in breach of clause 5 of the Tenancy Agreement would be given till 31st May to tidy their allotments or Council would terminate the tenancy as per clause 7.

Tenancy Agreement Clauses 5 and 7:

"5. The Tenant shall during the tenancy carry out the following obligations:-

a) The Allotment Garden shall be kept in a clean decent and good condition and properly cultivated.....

7. If the Tenant shall have been in breach of any of the foregoing provisions of this Agreement for a period of one month or longer the Council may re-enter upon the Allotment garden and the tenancy shall thereupon come to an end....."

Action: the clerk to inform the allotment holders

Review of rents

AGREED to increase the rent to £20 per 10 pole allotment per annum.
(5 votes in favour, 1 abstention)

Apple tree by gate – the County Council had scheduled the removal of this tree.

Damage and attempted theft of sheds overnight Thurs/Friday 9/10 September – these incidents had been reported to the police. Council's fence along side the A109 had been damaged also been damaged. The clerk had arranged to have it repaired.

Bonfires – concerns about burning of 'toxic' waste.

10 Grass cutting and Maintenance Contract 2011-12

The clerk would review with Council's contractor his work at the allotments.

AGREED to ask S Buchan for his contract price for 2011-12. Action: the clerk

11 Highway Issues

Speed signs (M10/06-10) – PC Shulver had completed a speed watch along Ely Road between 0730 and 0930. During previous three years speeding was not a particular problem. 8 slight accidents had occurred in the Landbeach Road/High Street/Cambridge Road, excluding end junctions on A10. JEC had attended a Police Neighbourhood meeting recently - speed checks in Milton were done on 16th June all day: Cambridge Rd - all in limit, Ely Rd - all in limit (Min PC7/09-10). The police had no concerns about excessive speeding in Milton. In order to have traffic calming measures installed Council would need to obtain Consent from the County Council initially before applying for a scheme.

High Street / Landbeach Road junction - PC Shulver suggested that Council contact the College of West Anglia about the poor visibility at this junction.

Landbeach Road / Humphries Way junction - Request from residents received that the road markings at this junction be renewed. "This is a bus route and is heavily used by other vehicles. These past few months there have been many incidents where traffic turns the corner into Humphries Way without slowing and I feel there being no road markings is a cause of this. As you know on this corner there is an unsigned bus stop which is also used as a school bus stop with many children gathering on the corner."

Keith Fauch has this on his list to be carried out. He cannot say when at this time.

12 Any other business

Christmas arrangements – ME would ask R Chapman if he would help put up lights on the horse chestnut tree as usual. **Action: ME**

Tree works programme - RLEW and RD had drawn up a programme of works. RLEW would obtain quotations from Town and Country Tree Surgery Company to put before Council at its November meeting.

Action: the clerk

Noted that the Trees Officer SCDC holds regular meetings for tree wardens.

13 Date of Next Meeting – AGREED to meet on 13 December 2010.

The meeting ended at 8.45pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....