

Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 17 December 2007 at 7.35pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RH Chapman (chairman) JE Coston R Day B Jefferson RLE Waters
WD Booth E Spong In attendance RJ Farrington
The clerk

539/12-07 **1 Apologies for absence** – M Ellwood, SC Humphreys.

2 Declarations of Interest - none.

540/12-07 **3 Minutes** – the minutes of the meeting of 17 September 07 were approved and signed as a true record.

541/12-07 **4 Cemetery – update**

Review of fees - the clerk and RHC would research fees – to be reviewed at March meeting. **Action: the clerk and RHC**

Recent traveller's funeral – RHC declared an interest as the family were customers at Rectory Farm. He would try to find out if the family would remove the mass of floral tributes. **Action: RHC**

542/12-07 **5 Allotments**

Preparation of new allotments – RHC had spoken with Stuart and Neil Buchan who promised to complete the preparation of the new allotments during the week starting 7 January 2008. They were about a month behind with their work.

Repairs to fencing alongside A10 – Ted Easy had offered to repair the broken fence. Agreed to accept his offer and pay his expenses. **Action: the clerk**

Gate – in his next letter the clerk would remind allotment holders that the last person out should lock the gate. **Action: the clerk**

The lock was proving difficult to use. RHC would talk to James ?? **Action: RHC**

Second gate - situation was being monitored.

543/12-07 **6 Outstanding Issues**

Poplar tree – the clerk reported that he had not received a reply to his complaint lodged with SCDC (minute 508/12-07 [Council] refers) and that the next stage of SCDC's complaints procedure was to contact the Chief Executive.

AGREED

that the clerk should write to the Chief Executive, SCDC, with copies of all relevant correspondence and ask that he meet JEC and RHC.

ES commented that perhaps there should be a 30 year plan for tree planting in the village.

Replacement trees at Walkling Way junction, hard standing bus shelter Landbeach Road – in hand. (RHC)

Bin - Fen Road by the river – the Cam Conservators had installed the bin.

544/12-07 **7 Grass cutting and general maintenance contract – review**

Committee confirmed that Council should continue to employ Buchans Landscapes as contractors. Concerns were expressed though that certain works were not being done.

It was agreed that Buchans should produce a calendar of works to advise Council when they intend to weed spray, fertilise recreation grounds etc. – the calendar to be signed off when the works have been completed.

Questions to be answered: Have the recreation grounds been slitted, weed sprayed and fertilised? When do they intend to trim back the hedge between Coles Road recreation ground and the Country Park?

The clerk would advise Buchans that Council needed to know about chemicals being used – a Health & Safety Issue; also needed to know that work had been completed as per the contract. One month's payment would be withheld if the information was not made available. **Action: the clerk**

RHC and RLEW would meet with Stuart and Neil Buchan on 7 January to discuss.

The proposed increase in the contract price to £21,768.25 was considered fair in view of the extra works included in the amended contract. The clerk pointed out that CCC had agreed to increase the Agency money by £250 for keeping various County Council paths clear of overgrown bushes.

AGREED

to recommend that Council accept the increase in the contract price to £21,768.25.

545/12-07 **8 Play update**

The clerk had asked City Services for details of the minor repairs at Humphries Way - £152.97 + VAT.

Play inspection invoice for August and December not yet received. The clerk confirmed that City services sent an inspection report.

546/12-07 **9 Review of risk assessments**

RHC and the clerk would review all risk assessment schedules.

The meeting ended at 8.55pm.

Signed.....

Date.....