

Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 25 June 2007 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RH Chapman (chairman) R Day SC Humphreys B Jefferson RLE Waters
WD Booth (allotments)
The clerk

- 284/6-07 **1 Election of Chairman** - RHC was elected chairman.
- 285/6-07 **2 Apologies for absence** - none.
(146/3-07)
- 286/6-07 **3 Litter picking / Village Cleaning**
AGREED to recommend
the appointment of P Adams as litter picker as from 1st July
a payment of £100 + retirement gift to RCT Adams.
- 287/6-07 **4 Declarations of Interest** - SCH item 6 personal (family member buried in
(142/3-07) cemetery).
- 287/6-07 **5 Minutes** – the minutes of the meeting of 19 March 07 were approved and signed as a
(142/3-07) true record.
- Overhanging bushes / shrubs – noted that the CCC had eventually cut back the
pyracantha in front of 291 The Rowans after much correspondence between the clerk and
Bob Howard.
- Poplar tree - the clerk would ask SCDC to consider pollarding this tree during the
Autumn.
- (144/3-07) Trees near allotments - Bob Howard had recently informed the clerk that these would be
done.
- Trees Fen Road – the clerk had asked Bob Howard CCC to respond to a complaint about
overhanging trees in Fen Road beyond the railway line. Noted that copper beech outside
Milton House obscured the street light. The clerk to report to CCC. **Action: the clerk.**
- 288/6-07 **6 Cemetery – Shrubs Policy**
(143/3-07) The clerk reported that the “palm” tree would be removed from the cemetery.
- AGREED to recommend the following policy:**
- Any separate container for flowers must be level with, or below, the surface of the
ground so that it will not obstruct the passage of a mower. Wreaths and cut flowers
must be removed as soon as they appear to be withered or untidy.
- No trees and shrubs may be planted on or around a grave. Existing shrubs to be kept
within the boundaries of the grave and no higher than the headstone.
- 289/6-07 **7 Allotments - review of allotment rents**
(144/3-07) A recent internal audit report had noted that allotment rents had not been reviewed for
some years.
- AGREED to recommend**
that the allotment rents be increased to £15 per ten poles (300 sq yards) and
that the rents be reviewed annually.
- Noted that annual expenditure would have been higher if MPC still rented the land.
- The hazel trees had been coppiced (min).
Farm College bring manure on to the site about once a year.
Request to have grass roadways cut back – not agreed.
WDB left the meeting.
- 290/6-07 **8 Response to SCDC - litter and dog bins**
Committee thought the service provided by SCDC was excellent and did not want to see
it changed. If changes were to be made, however, Committee suggested that SCDC
empty free of charge one dog and one litter bin per ‘x’ number of residents in the village
and that a charge be made for emptying any additional bins.
The clerk to inform SCDC. **Action: the clerk**

291/6-07 **9 Grass cutting and general maintenance contract – review**
 (147/3-07) The clerk would ask Buchans to assess the proposed amended contract and to provide costings for the September meeting.
 The clerk and committee identified six areas where shrubs overhang foot / cycle paths. It was **AGREED** to ask Buchans to quote separately for keeping these tidy. The clerk would ask the CCC either to maintain these areas regularly themselves or to pay Buchans to maintain them. **Action: the clerk**

Noted that Tomkins Mead may have to be included in the contract. JEC declared a personal interest (garden backs on to Tomkins Mead).

The footpath from The Oaks/Elms to Butt Lane was a well used route for school children. The clerk would ask Buchans to remove the pyracantha from the side of this path on safety grounds. **Action: the clerk**

292/6-07 **10 Play update – RoSPA report**
 Policy: High risk items are dealt with immediately, medium risk put in the budget for the following year and low risk monitored.
 RLEW was not impressed with the RoSPA report as it did not detail repairs needed and costs - unlike the Wicksteed reports. The inspector had also not noticed a badly worn shackle on a swing at Coles Road recreation ground.
 The clerk would investigate other service providers. In the meantime he would ask Mr Hanks to do basic repairs and the City Services if they would check all moving parts ie swing shackles and replace where necessary. **Action: the clerk**
 Noted that RoSPA recommended the removal of the wooden houses on Hawthorn Hedge within 18 months.

293/6-07 **11 Risk assessments**
 Committee were happy with the risk assessments – to be reviewed in January 2008.

(402/06) Memorial Green – work needed on the hornbeam and hole in Memorial Green.
 The clerk to discuss with Buchans. **Action: RHC and the clerk**

The meeting ended at 9.40pm.

Signed.....

Date.....