

Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 17 September 2007 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RH Chapman (chairman) R Day RLE Waters
The clerk

394/9-07 **1 Apologies for absence** – JE Coston D Chamberlin SC Humphreys B Jefferson.
The clerk apologised for omitting to send agendas to WD Booth and E Spong until the morning of 17 September. WDB sent his apologies in retrospect as he had been away.

2 Declarations of Interest - none.

395/9-07 **3 Minutes** – the minutes of the meeting of 25 June 07 were approved and signed as a true record.

396/9-07 **4 Cemetery – update**
The shrubs policy was now published on the web (min 31/7/07). The clerk and RD intended updating the records of the “old” part of the cemetery.
RHC offered to replace the yew tree. [RHC declared an interest having supplied the previous tree]. The clerk would seek advice about the suitability of yew trees. **Action: the clerk**

397/9-07 **5 Allotments**
The clerk had received a request to consider putting another gate at the southern end of the allotments. There had been no fly tipping since the main gate was erected. The committee would monitor the situation.

There were ten people on the waiting list. RHC and Buchans would clear, spray and rotovate the unused land to prepare new allotments. There would be a cost – landfill tax plus some extra cost incurred by Buchans. [Buchans had not previously been asked to keep this area clean as part of the contract].

As it was the chairman’s intention to be more “pro-active” the clerk would prepare a letter to allotment holders advising that all allotments should be kept tidy. The new allotments would be measured and staked. **Action: the clerk**

398/9-07 **6 Outstanding Issues**
(368/9-07) Poplar tree – the trees officer SCDC had not responded to two emails sent by the clerk. The clerk would telephone and write to the trees officer.

Hornbeam at war memorial – RHC and the clerk would remove the top of the hornbeam.

Village sign – the clerk would seek advice from Len Sandford about treatment to the post and ongoing maintenance.

Willow trees adjacent Tomkins Mead and Coles Road recreation ground – it was agreed that Richard Summerfield, district councillor request Simon McIntosh to arrange that the rangers pollard the willow trees. It was expected that the Sport Lakes Trust would take on the management of Tomkins Mead from SCDC.

Trees at Coles Road/Walkling Way junction – the trees planted in 2006 had died. It was agreed that RHC plant 2 (approx 3’ high) whitebeams and 2 cherry trees. Agreed also to plant a cherry opposite the war memorial to replace the apple tree recently lost.

Trees obscuring lights – the clerk would report to the street lighting department the following: yew tree at jolly Brewers and horse chestnut at Queen Anne Lodge obscuring street lights (copy to highways and SCDC trees officer) and street light out near 44 The Rowans; would also ask Buchans to cut back shrubs near street light by the seats at the post office. .

(362/9-07) Hard standing bus shelter Landbeach Road – Bob Howard had agreed that “if the hard standing was extended to cover the ground that becomes muddy, then this would improve the look of the area. I will therefore liaise with our contractor to cost this project. I would anticipate that the work would be done before the end of October.”

As it had taken the CCC almost a year to reach this stage committee agreed that RHC provide a simple hard standing at minimal cost and at the same time move the bin.

Bin and litter pick Fen Road (beyond level crossing) – noted that the church fellowship were proposing a litter pick on Saturday 22 September. The clerk would provide bags and gloves. A request had been received that a litter bin be provided near the dog bin on the towpath. The clerk would discuss with the Cam Conservators.

Dead elm trees Fen Road – RD reported two dead elm trees opposite 78 Fen Road. The clerk would contact Bob Howard, CCC.

Trees at Church grounds – noted that the trees officer SCDC had agreed tree work, including work on the yew tree, at All Saints Church without consultation with MPC. The clerk would talk with the trees officer.

Action all above: RHC and the clerk

399/9-07
(291/6-07)

7 Grass cutting and general maintenance contract – review

RHC, the clerk and Stuart/Neil Buchan had together revised the contract. Buchans would provide costing in readiness for the 17 December meeting. Buchans had quoted £254 for keeping various County Council paths clear of overgrown bushes. The clerk had asked if the County Council would add this to the Agency figure. Committee agreed that this should be incorporated in the contract whatever the outcome of the clerk’s request to the County Council.

Stuart had asked for flexibility within the contract as weather conditions would dictate the number and timing of cuts.

Noted that P Adams had agreed to take on two items: “Cemetery – all rubbish to be removed and green waste bin to be emptied when meadow is cut.”

The clerk would ask Buchans to confirm the herbicides and fertiliser used on the recreation grounds. Buchans would liaise with the football club about over seeding of the football pitches.

400/9-07
(384/9-07)

8 Play update – the arrangement with the City Services promised to be beneficial to the village.

Next meeting - Monday 17 December at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 9.05pm.

Signed.....

Date.....