

**Minutes of the Maintenance Committee Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on
Monday 22 June 2015 at 7.45pm in the Bowls Pavilion**

Present: G Heaney (Chair), J E Coston (JEC), D Stirups, R Summerfield, A Bradnam
Asst Clerk: S E Wilkin (SW)

1. Apologies for absence

R Farrington – personal, H M Smith - personal

1. (a) Election of Chair

It was Proposed by JC and Seconded by AB to re-elect R Farrington as Chair. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

2. Declarations of interest and dispensations:

(a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.

G Heaney – (Item 6) Allotment holder, D Stirups – Allotment holder (Item 6)

J Coston – (Item 9)

(b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any). - None

(c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate. – None

3. Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak. - None

4. Approval of Minutes from the Maintenance Committee meeting on 23 March 2015:

The minutes for the meeting of the maintenance committee of the 23 March 2015 were approved subject to an amendment in Item 3 as follows “that no monies *allocated in the budget had been given*”. However, this was to be queried and reported back to the next meeting as to whether the monies had been given, or just allocated. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as being a true record.

5. Matters arising from previous minutes (March-June) – Clerks’ review

Work has been carried out as follows:

Allotments – New tenancy agreement in place for October for new allotment holders;

Cemetery – Notices placed on compost bin;

Play and Leisure – Play bark replaced on The Rowans play area;

Repairs carried out to exercise equipment on The Sycamores;

Fencing has been removed as requested by residents from 100-104 The Sycamores;

PC Noticeboard near PO has been renovated and put back up;

Removal of trees on allotment;

Three further keys have been cut for the Bin Store at the back of the PC office.

Outstanding matters (Clerks report):

Work organised and waiting to be carried out as follows:

Fenland Leisure Ltd have been instructed to carry out the repairs (Replacement of spring and netball hoop in Froment Way play area– order by email 7.4.2015

Removal of railway seat in Fen Road – Due to its condition it was **AGREED** that this would be looked at during the planned Village Tour by the parish councillors.

6. Allotments

GH had prepared a monitoring report on the allotments which required attention. SW had sent letters to the allotment holders requesting that the allotments be made tidy, or if preferred, handed back to the council.

GH requested SW to prepare a report on the costs of running the allotments compared with the rents received so that this could be discussed and the results published.

The water pumps still require maintenance on a regular basis and it was Proposed by JC that SW look into the costs of replacing the one nearest to the entrance. SW was also asked to find out whether there would be a cost saving involved in purchasing two pumps at the same time so that both pumps were replaced. If new pumps were purchased, spare parts should be readily available in the future.

There is a problem with someone leaving bark in a couple of the areas on the allotment land and SW was asked to write to the allotment holders and request that they contact SW if they saw someone doing this. SW was also to take steps to put a deterrent at the smaller entrance to the allotments to stop vehicles being driven on the allotment when the main gate was locked.

Allotments A7, A8 and A9 – These allotments are not able to be used due to a large tree in situ. As it would be a costly exercise to remove this at the present time it was Proposed by DS and Seconded by JC that the situation should be kept under review with no immediate action taken at the present time.

7. Cemetery

Despite notices being placed on the compost bin at the cemetery requesting that mixed waste should not be placed in the bin the problem persists. This means that extra costs are caused to the council when arranging for the bin to be emptied.

SW was asked to look into the costs involved with emptying the compost bin and providing alternative arrangements in the form of a large green bin from SCDC and report back to the Parish Council meeting in September. It could then be decided as to whether or not the compost bin would be removed completely.

8. Horse grazing field

Due to weather difficulties the contractor had been unable to spray the field to date. SW reported that the tenant of the field has now decided to give up the tenancy. It was **AGREED** therefore to ask the contractor to spray the field when it was thought appropriate to do so.

9. Tomkins Mead

Bob Waters had met with Mick Woolhouse to discuss the boardwalk and bridge for which quotations had been provided, one of which was an estimate.

It was **AGREED** that SW should get two additional quotes for the work ensuring that the works to the boardwalk and bridge were quoted for separately and report back to the Maintenance meeting in September. It was noted that work needs to be carried out to the

bridge in the near future.

10. Play and Leisure(recreation area)

SW reported that all play areas required topping up with bark. GH said he would carry out a site visit. It was **AGREED** that up to £3,000 could be allocated for this work.

11. Landbeach Road, Milton, Bus Shelter

It was **AGREED** that this item would be put on the list to be looked at during the planned Village Tour by the parish councillors.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Date of next meeting:

21 September 2015

Signed:

Date: