

Minutes of the Maintenance Committee Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 22 September 2014 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: G Heaney (chair) DJ Chamberlain A Bradnam M Perkins.
The clerk

1. **Apologies for absence received and approved.** No apologies received.
2. **Declarations of interest and dispensations**
None received.
3. **Public Participation:** No members of the public present.
4. **Approval of Minutes from the 23rd June 2014** – Minutes approved and signed as a true record.
5. **Cemetery**
The new black bin is in place and pad locked to the railings. Decision made to move to a weekly collection. Proposed DC Second GH. All in favour.
The compost heap in the middle of the cemetery is very full and needs clearing. Clerk to arrange for Buchans to do this as soon as possible. Proposed GH Second DC. All in favour.
Proposal to use a grave digging company or similar to mark out the plots at the cemetery on the new side as well as all non purchased side. Clerk to obtain quotes. Proposed GH Second AB.
Feedback from MP re a recent traveller liaison meeting: - The meeting went well, the family promised to move items from the wild flower garden and items that were not inside the grave space. The family mentioned that there have been pests such as rats and snakes around the compost bin area. The family have also asked again if they are able to have a bench at the cemetery and if there is any chance that there can be a water supply there. Clerk to look into a water supply, the possibility of benches on the new side of the cemetery will be looked at when the graves are being marked out. To revisit at the December meeting.
Clerk to send a letter to the Smiths to let them know that we plan to do this.
6. **Allotments**
One of the Water pumps is continuing to be a problem. Clerk to obtain quotes for a new pump. Also prices of diaphragm's and how easy it is to have them shipped from the USA.
The rent letter for tenants has gone out and the rent is slowly coming in.
GH reported back on non fruit trees on allotment plots. Clerk to send tenants with non fruit trees a final letter to remove the trees or we will end their tenancy agreement deadline set as the end of October. A separate letter will be sent to tenants that have inherited their trees with the option to remove the trees themselves or we can arrange for our landscape contractors to remove over the next few months. Proposal for letters AB Second DC.
Clerk to send separate letter to DC for wording on a separate allotment matter.
Manure for the allotments to be deliver soon from the agricultural college.
7. **Play**
Problems still with play equipment at the Sycamores, Clerk to speak to Wickstead Leisure.
The Play Sub Committee will have its first meeting on Wednesday 23rd September.
Clerk to chase quotations for replacing the bark in telly-tubby land.
Play inspection reports have been received, GH to do a visual inspection of the parks. Any items that require of £500 to be spent on them will need to be referred to the PC meeting.
8. **Horse Grazing Field**
Clerk to find original agreement. No proposals at present to have the land sprayed to remove the weeds due to the low rent. Take agenda item to the next PC meeting
9. **Trees / Shrubs / Weeds**
The weeds in the guttering, paths and roadways are continuing to be a problem however it looks as if the annual contractors who spray the weeds has started this past week.
The Willow Tree near recreation close which is owned by South Cambs, is to be cut back.
The Shrubbery on Parish land near to the walk way in Gunnell Close is soon to be cut back by Buchans.
There is a dead tree at the top of Coles Road near to the telephone box that needs removing. Clerk to ask Buchans.
Trees in the Sycamores on the surrounds to the recreation grounds have caused some complaints. GH to arrange a walk around with our trees officer Bob to look at the problems.
Clerk to look at the shrubs on the corner of the Rowans to check boundaries.

10. Buchans

A meeting is needed with Buchans to discuss extraordinary work carried out over the winter months. – Defer to the PC meeting.

11. Footpaths

There is a well worn track near to the bottom of the Jane Coston bridge which diverts onto the footpath across to Tesco. Clerk to speak to highways to establish a cost and report back to the next maintenance meeting.

12. Date of next meeting. – 15th December 2014. 7.45pm

The meeting closed at 21.15

Signed:

Date: