

Clerk to the Council/RFO: Emma Kay
Chairman: Cllr Mrs Teresa Lewis

A Quality Council

10 March 2015

Minutes of an Amenities Committee Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Monday 26 January 2015 in the Memorial Hall.

Present: Cllrs Clarke (Chairman), Keel, Mrs Lewis, Parkhurst and Mrs Whittall (Vice Chairman)

In attendance: Cllr Gordon
Anne Cousins – Locum Clerk.

A01.15 **APOLOGIES** – None.

A02.15 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST** – The Chairman declared he was the Parish Council representative for Bayston Hill Crown Green Bowling Club and that his wife was employed as key-holder for the playground. Cllr Mrs Whittall declared her son-in-law hired the football pitches. No other declarations beyond those recorded in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

During the discussion on street lights, Cllr Parkhurst declared an interest as he lived close to an unlit footpath.

A03.15 **PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS** – There were no members of the public at the meeting.

A04.15 **MINUTES** – It was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Lewis and **seconded** by Cllr Keel to accept the minutes of the Amenities meeting held on Monday 17 November 2014 as a true record. **All AGREED.**

A05.15 **MATTERS ARISING** – There were no matters arising.

A06.15 **PAYMENTS** – Cllr Parkhurst **proposed** and Cllr Mrs Lewis **seconded** that all payments listed be paid. **All AGREED.**

A07.14 **ONGOING PROJECTS** –

Bus shelters – The Chairman confirmed that agreement had been reached over the new bus shelters at the bottom of Lyth Hill Road and the Pulley Lane end of Lansdowne Road. Both sites were too narrow to accommodate seats. The redundant shelters on Overdale Road and at the Parade were also due to be removed. This work was due to be completed within the current financial year.

Long Meadow Play Park – update and repair – The Locum Clerk explained that no progress had yet been made on obtaining quotes for this project. With limited hours and other work pressures, particularly planning, it was likely this project would be put on hold until the permanent Clerk returned from leave. There was discussion about access to the toilets at Long Meadow, as a second child-minder in the village had requested a key. Cllr Clarke explained the Jubilation Committee were currently storing Christmas lights and decorations in the front toilet, following the Jingle event at Parris Pool, but it was hoped to move these into the back toilet, leaving the front toilet available for those with keys. He suggested asking for a £15 deposit for

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the key. Cllr Keel suggested the toilets should not be used by anyone as they were not fit for purpose. After discussion, it was agreed that the Amenities Committee would visit the toilets and consider if improvements were needed.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Clarke and **seconded** by Cllr Mrs Lewis that a visit be arranged before Easter to ensure the toilets were in a usable condition and, if so, that a £15 deposit be charged for a key. **All AGREED.**

Parrs Pool – The work to repair the woodland walkway was underway and due to be completed in the near future. There was still an issue with algae in the pool.
Action: Clerk.

Planters on the Parade – The Chairman reported he was sourcing a company to provide anchor points for the planters. There would be a planter for each of the bollards and it was hoped the shopkeepers would get involved in the upkeep.

Lythwood Sports Pavilion Roof - A roofing contractor had been appointed to carry out the roof repairs. There was a separate issue relating to the solar panels on the roof, which would need to be removed.

Cllr Parkhurst **proposed** and Cllr Mrs Whittall **seconded** that the Chairman and the Locum Clerk had permission to spend up to £1000 on removing and replacing the solar panels during the roof repairs. **All AGREED.**

Cllr Keel **proposed** and Cllr Mrs Whittall **seconded** that the guttering should be checked and any repairs carried out at the same time as the roof repairs. **All AGREED.**

Sensory Garden – The Chairman explained that there was approximately two days' work needed to make improvements to the sensory garden. Following this, the handymen would be required to maintain it as part of their normal duties.

Cllr Parkhurst **proposed** and Cllr Keel **seconded** that additional work on the sensory garden be completed within the allocated budget. **All AGREED.**

A08.14

STREET LIGHTING – The Locum Clerk explained the outcome of the structural survey of the street lights which had been carried out in the autumn. There was a need to replace 17 columns and lanterns. At Full Council on 1 December 2014, it had been agreed to accept the quote to use LED lights, rather than re-using the existing lanterns. It was possible to swap some of the lanterns on existing columns for LED lights. The advantage of this was that whole streets could have the same type of light. The report from E-on proposed having LED lights on new columns in Cornwall Drive, Hanley Lane and Long Meadow. The Chairman suggested the four remaining LED lights could be put in Poolside, Wentworth Close, Lodge Crescent and Westbourne Rise.

A local resident had contacted the Parish Council to ask if the street light which used to be at the top of the footpath between Lyndhurst Drive and Glebe Road could be replaced in a similar position. It had been removed some years ago, at the request of another resident who had had difficulty accessing their drive. Without any light, however, the footpath was in total darkness, which encouraged anti-social behaviour. This led to discussion about a number of footpaths around the village and the desirability of improving their lighting, e.g. by the use of bollarded lights. It was suggested that a price should be obtained for lighting the Lyndhurst Drive footpath and then consideration could be given in future to making further improvements to footpath lighting in other locations around the village.

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The Chairman **proposed** and Cllr Parkhurst **seconded** that E-on be asked to provide a quote for improving lighting on the Lyndhurst Drive/Glebe Road footpath. **All AGREED.**

A09.14 **MAINTENANCE OF TREES ON THE GLEBELANDS** – The Locum Clerk explained a resident in Newbrook Drive had contacted the Parish Council to ask if the trees from the Glebelands overhanging her garden could be cut back. The Chairman confirmed the Parish Council had responsibility for the trees as the lease-holder. There was discussion about the desirability or otherwise of committing to this work at this time as an outline planning application for the Oakland/Glebeland site was under development.

Cllr Mrs Whittall **proposed** and Cllr Parkhurst **seconded** that quotes be sought for the work. **All AGREED. Action: Locum Clerk.**

A10.14 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** – It was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Whittall and **seconded** by Cllr Parkhurst to pass a resolution to exclude the public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to discuss the following confidential matters. **All AGREED.**

The exclusion period started at 8.30 pm

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.