



Minutes of the Meeting of the Operations Committee Held on Wednesday 21st October 2015 At 10am in the Community Office

Present:

Councillors:

Bob West (BW) - Chairman
Tom Bindoff (TB) - Vice-Chair
Ian Hill (IH)
Roger Beattie (RB)
Liz Winton (EW)
Rachel Huckvale (RH)
Tony Williamson (TW)
Terry Jackson (TJ)

Officer:

Rachel Gill

Members of the Public:

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102/15 Apologies for Absence

Jane Bryant, Jon Lorimer, Ian Hill.

103/15 Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th September 2015 which were accepted by Council on the 13/10/2015 to be agreed as a correct record

Resolved: that these minutes are a correct record of this meeting and that they be signed by the Chairman.

104/15 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest notified.

105/15 Matters arising

There were no matters arising other than agenda items.

106/15 Outstanding Issues

i) **Drain Cover- Watcombe Road** – No visible progress.

[Post minute note: KT has spoken to them and was advised it is on a list to be repaired but they could not give a date]

ii) **Johnson's Alley Hedge** –

This work has been rescheduled **to 4th and 5th November 2015**. There is plan in place

KT

107/15 OCC Issues

KT to update- All ongoing.

108/15 Open Spaces

a. Recreation Ground

i) **Dog Fouling Issues** – RH commented that the situation seems to be getting worse, in the

Paddock and the Rec. EW to sort out more posters. RH also raised the issue of cigarette butts, can

something be done to raise this issue?

ii) **Recreation Ground Car Park.**

Neil Boddington to update JB's plan. BW to chase this up. Bio-mesh may be needed if this plan includes parking between trees. BW to get costs. TB thinks this could be done with a work party. The response from Beechwood Estates was discussed and it was thought that they have misunderstood our request. TB will contact them to further discuss the issue of the post at the entrance to the rec and to try to have a site visit with them.

iii) **Half Pipe** – Painting needs to be completed. Replacement Slabs? TB and Bob Thomas will replace these slabs. It was also noted that some of the screws at the bottom are coming undone. We need to contact the people who installed it and ask them to rectify the issue. Regarding finishing the painting of the 1/2 pipe BW will contact Tim Horton on this as he has the paint for it. Check that KT has spoken to the rivet people? BW said he could get sand, it was resolved to spend £30 on sand to enable the slabs to be laid.

iv) **Mowing of the whole bank at entrance from Shirburn Road.**

This is now in place.

b) Paddock

i) **Play Equipment**

RH gave an update on progress for new play equipment. Playdale are visiting on the 29th October to provide a quote. It is for similar equipment to what is already there. It will include some sort of shelter and climbing equipment. RB suggested contacting Oxford Playing Field Association for advice, he also questioned whether the Paddock was the best location for the equipment. Other committee members felt it was a good central location and well used.

A grant may be available but this must be applied for by the end of November. Therefore a scheme and costs need to be made available ASAP.

It was resolved to go ahead with the grant application, 1 against.

Action RH to work up a ball park figure and liaise with KT on timetable. Also consider fundraising and undertake consultation with Children's centre, Pre-School and Primary School.

ii) **Fencing** – on hold pending new play equipment scheme.

a. Car Park

i) **Works to Drains** – TB met with Robert Barber on site to discuss the flooding issue. One option would be to dig some trenches between the trees at the bank at the Watcombe Road end. This may help quite a bit. TB suggested that this work could be done by a Work Party and a skip would be needed. TB will liaise with KT regarding this.

ii) **Civil Enforcement** – Nothing to report.

iii) **Bollard for corner of Watcombe Road.**

Leave and bring back on the agenda if there are any further problems.

b. Public Conveniences

i) **Updating of the facilities** Quotation received from Advance Terrazzo and Tile Systems. JBt and TJ to continue looking into this.

c) Pavilion

RH looking into someone running tuck shop over Easter and summer holidays. RH will also put a job specification for this on the Wallingford Piper

TW said that this could be put on his questionnaire on 'the older people survey' as a lot of older people may like to volunteer to man this for the next time. It was agreed that this would be a good idea.

109/15 General Issues

1. **Traffic Survey at Christmas Common**

There was a brief review of the data. TB to check on costs to see if any funding available to do this for Howe Road. This can help in getting the mobile camera van to visit.

2. **Phone Box at Christmas Common** – WiB are dealing with this issue. KT will have a look at this. This should be on the agenda for the Outreach Meeting.

3. **Footpath 4** – TB reported that he was having to start again and had asked the Countryside officer for a map. TB/RB to progress.

4. **Environment Agency Grants for surveying culverts** – Brook Street has potentially some blockage in the drain. KT to report again to OCC. Shirburn Road was flooded after only 10 minutes of rain recently.

5. **Speeding on Pyrton Lane** – KT has contacted Pyrton PC on this issue for their comments. No response to date.

6. **Issues raised from Walkabout**

• **Cuxham Triangle**

TJ reported that a scheme needs to be decided on for this area which is overgrown. TJ to check with RB what he had in mind for it. There was a discussion over whether it could be sold?

9. **Hedge and Scrub Issues** –

Only 1 left to address which is the Electricity board at the end of Spring Lane. Also the tops of hedges in Davenport place.

10. **Watlington Town Walk Leaflet** – discussion on re-printing of this leaflet. TW now has a quote for printing 5,000 or 10,000. KT to look for finance for approx. £500 to print 5,000 copies.

11. **Watering Points in the Town** – No further progress.

12. **Tree Issues** – TB reported that there are 3 issues, Martin Gammie has been contacted and has a map. Firstly Glyn Jones and second and third are 2 trees in the Paddock- a Cherry and a Hornbeam.

110/15 Correspondence

1. Fiona Beckley - erosion of bank in Christmas Common. KT to reply explaining it is a highways issue.
2. ORCC grants for community projects – covered in Paddock play equipment.

111/15 Future Issues for Discussion

1. PC budget needs to go to finance for 24th November. The meeting on 18th November must finalise the budget. Action: BW to meet with KT (&TB) to finalise budget.

112/15 Any Other Business

TJ asked about a letter that needed to be sent to the tenant of the field between Watlington and Cuxham regarding changes to the boundary. Has a letter been sent from the PC?

TJ also suggested some sort of annual review of assets/boundaries to check their condition.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9:35pm