



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN WILLAND VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2019

Present: Councillor Grantham, Councillor Phare, Councillor Scott, Councillor Warren, Councillor Wilcox.

In attendance: Clerk K Taylor, 1 member of the public.

1. Apologies: Councillor Manktelow, Councillor Glover

2. No declarations of interest were received

3. Councillor Grantham opened the meeting at 19.45 and said that it would be recorded

4. The member of the public informed the Council that he had received very positive feedback from people about the provision of poo bags and that the dog mess has been reduced in the areas he regularly walked. He advised that there was an increase in fly tipping along Lloyd Maunder Road of rubbish and garden waste and it was suggested that he report this as fly tipping to MDDC customer services.

5. The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 28 February 2019 had been circulated. It was proposed and unanimously agreed that they be signed as a true record.

6. Progress reports for information

a) Two of the benches and the picnic table had been purchased for the Jubilee Park and were with the handyman ready to be fitted.

b) The Clerk had reported the issue of the fencing on footpath by K&S autos raised at the last meeting and had received a response from DCC indicating that they would take no action unless it was obstructing the right of way. It was agreed that the Parish Council would not be able to achieve any further action at this time and so the item was closed.

c) The Orchard Way play area and open space lease had been signed and returned to MDDC. It was expected that it would be completed in the week beginning 8 April and therefore new signs and a gate lock would need to be purchased. The expenditure for this was approved. The contractor would be asked to give a quotation for the grass cutting and hedge management.

ACTION: Councillor Grantham/Clerk

It was agreed that Councillor Warren would start to enquire about the costs of a large piece of equipment and see if there are any grants to apply for to support this. **ACTION:** Councillor Warren

d) The Clerk had attended a training session that discussed cemetery management and specialised software. She had briefly discussed with the Halberton Clerk the possibility of having a joint cemetery management package. The course had illustrated that there was work to be done on the cemetery records and also that the memorials needed to be checked every five years. It was agreed that the Clerk would make enquiries about this and find out costs and report back at the next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk

It was agreed that the Chair would organise the specification and obtain quotes for the new fencing to go around the cemetery extension area. **ACTION:** Councillor Grantham

7. Play Equipment - update Councillor Grantham

Councillor Grantham gave a brief report on the progress he had made with researching the replacement item of play equipment for the Jubilee Park. It was confirmed that this should be similar to the piece of equipment to be replaced but did not need to be identical.

Councillor Grantham provided a draft schedule for maintenance of the equipment in the parks which was agreed. The Clerk would provide an order to the handyman. **ACTION:** Clerk

8. Improving the state of the village campaign

a) It was agreed to recommend that the first weed spray should take place in April. **ACTION:** Clerk

9. Councillors Roundtable

Councillor Wilcox gave a brief update on the WiFi issues.

Councillor Warren gave a brief report on the first grass cutting of the season where the contractor had started but been unable to finish on the day. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the contractor to ensure that the work is completed satisfactorily. **ACTION:** Clerk

Councillor Warren raised the question of the parish walks and it was agreed that this could be discussed at a meeting following the election of the new council in May. **ACTION:** Clerk

Councillor Scott gave an update on the BMX track as he had been offered soil from an ex Willand resident now in Wellington and was expecting it to arrive on site at the weekend. The young people had been active in tidying the site and were keen to continue to develop it. The BMX bike found in the field before Christmas had still not been claimed.

Councillor Grantham had been approached by the Tennis Club for support in their application for funding for new lights. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write a letter of support for this.

ACTION: Clerk

The Clerk brought forward the invoice for the work on the play surface in Worcester Crescent and the Chair of the committee raised questions regarding this. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Chair would inspect the surface again and once he was satisfied that the work was done to the specification then the invoice would be paid. **ACTION:** Councillor Grantham/Clerk

Meeting closed 20.46

Councillor Keith Grantham
Chair of Environment Committee