

Wickhamford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting, 8th June 2011, No. 06/11

Clerk to the Council, Mike Smith, 12 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford WR11 7RT

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Present J. Newbury, Chairman, T. Waller, V. Chairman, Councillors D. Heeks, J. Poulter,
P. Beaumont and M. Smith, Clerk
District & County Councillor L. Eyre

1. Apologies

District Councillor B. Parmenter

2. Co-Option of G. Curtis. This was proposed by Councillor J. Poulter and seconded by Councillor D. Heeks, all in favour.

3. Declarations of Interest

None

4. The meeting was adjourned for Progress Reports and also the Public Question Time, notes of which are appended to these minutes.

5. District Councillors Report.

Councillor L. Eyre stated the County Council had an amount of funds available to be spent on Youth Groups etc. There will be a consultation on the amount to be allocated for the Wychavon area.

The Hopper Bus project is still on schedule; also the local bus service seems ok with the possibility that a mid morning service may be lost.

The Parish Council requested that Liz talks to Roy Fullee regarding the hedge in Manor Road where the Post Box is situated.

6. Police Officers Report.

The CSO reported that the issues with the parking at Pitchers Hill near the Telephone Kiosk seem to be resolved although another problem had arisen with parking on the green. This will be monitored. The CSO was also aware of builders parking on the pathway outside of 6 Manor Road. This will also be monitored.

Speeding is also an issue as this was raised in the Public Session. Speed checks are still being carried out. One point of interest is that Tenbury Wells has a "Speed Van" which they site at various locations as a deterrent.

This is owned by the Parish Council and painted in full livery with the agreement of the police. The CSO also mentioned the possibility of members of the public being trained to use speed detection devices and report serial offenders to the police. This will be pursued further. There was a brief discussion with the CSO who intimated that there was a possibility of a Portacabin on offer which might be suitable for the Youth Group. This would be looked into further.

7. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th May 2011 were approved.

8. Open Space Report.

Councillor reported that all was ok but the Play Area grass needs to be cut.

9. Path/Pavement Report.

Councillor reported no problems apart from the report in the Journal re Japanese Knotweed. This is not within the parish boundary as reported so the Clerk was asked to contact Clive Brooke at environet to advise him of this.

10. Grasscutting Report.

The Grasscutting had been an issue with certain areas not being cut and other areas being cut that were not on the contract. The Clerk and the Chairman arranged a site meeting with the representative from Smart Cut who were very apologetic and assured us that make sure the grass is mowed correctly in future.

11. Burial Ground Report.

None.

12. Clerks Report.

None.

13. New and Ongoing Items.

a) Play Area. Two Councillors have evaluated the Play Area re the recent Rospa report and have deemed that,

1. The Igloo and the two Springers will need to be replaced.
2. The rope on the Agility Trail needs replacing.
3. The platform on the Multi-Play needs replacing.
4. The steps on the Large Slide do not conform to the new standards and will either need to be replaced (if cost efficient). Alternatively a new unit will need to be purchased.

5. The remaining units are ok but will need painting.

6. A few mats need replacing.

7. The Councillors all agreed with the Councillors recommendations therefore the Clerk was asked provide costings for 2 Springers, Swings, 4 Benches and the installation, Cold Melt/Tiles etc. for the next meeting.

- b) Parking Issues. Councillor asked if we could arrange a site meeting with the County Council regarding extra posts to be erected at the side/end of the footpath by the Telephone Kiosk to stop cars being driven along the footpath and onto the A44.
- c) Insurance. The Clerk advised the Council that the insurance was due for renewal with Zurich offering a discount for long term agreements of 3 or 5 years. After due discussion it was voted at 4 for and 1 against to accept the 5 year option.
- d) Post Box in Manor Road. This was dealt with in the District Councillors report.
- e) HMRC. The Clerk advised that the Tax System for Parish Council employees was now in place, therefore any tax due will be paid online every quarter.
- f) Footpath Warden Training. This was deemed to be of benefit to the Parish and a Councillor offered to make the necessary contact.
- g) Tree Warden Training. This was also deemed to be of benefit to the Parish with a Councillor offering to make the necessary contact.
- h) Newsletter. Help was offered to the Clerk by one of the Councillors to work on a new style Newsletter.
- I) Website. Help was also offered to the Clerk by the same Councillor to alleviate the need for two websites.
- j) Wickhamford Fund Raising. A Councillor will liaise with the Youth Club on this to see what could be arranged.
- k) Sign & Posts. This was dealt with in item 7
- l) Dog Walking. A Councillor asked if the WDC rules regarding dog walking on paths and in open spaces could be put in the next Newsletter.
- m) Agendas & Minutes. The Clerk said that in future these will be sent as email attachments.

14. Planning.

Plans for Review. (if applicable),

W/11/00690/OU, Land at 48-50 Pitchers Hill.

Planning Notifications.

None

15. Finance.

Balance sheets available for Councillors.

Cheques already signed,

M. Parkinson, Speed Signs changeover.

Broadway PC, Speed Sign Insurance.

M. Smith, Newsletter P & D.

Smart Cut, Grasscutting (April)

P. Burch, Internal Audit.

Cheques signed,

M. Smith, Office Rental / Computer use etc.

Smart Cut, Grasscutting (May)

Zurich, Insurance

Wickhamford Memorial Hall, Hall Rental.

16. Date of the next meeting confirmed as 13th July 2011

Meeting Closed at 9.00pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman

Notes of the Public Question Time

Hire of Table & Chairs from the Memorial Hall was raised and it was agreed to ask the relevant people to place this on their agenda for their next Memorial Hall Committee meeting for discussions.

Speeding in Manor Road would again be looked at by the Local Police with a suggestion from the CSO that there maybe a possibility of training members of the public in the use of speed guns.

Road Signage was also discussed but would need agreement from the Highways department for any changes / additions, and also the locations