

**Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting, held in the Radcliffe Room**  
**at The Grange, on Monday 28 September 2015 at 7pm**

Cllr John Thorn (Chairman)  
 Cllr Penny Astill  
 Cllr Rod Brears  
 Cllr Martin Culshaw  
 Cllr Jean Robinson

Cllr Pam Thompson (Vice Chairman)  
 Cllr Joe Bailey  
 Cllr Graham Budworth (A)  
 Cllr Gillian Dunn  
 Cllr Josephine Spencer

Cllr David Astill  
 Cllr Bill Banner (A)  
 Cllr Sue Clegg  
 Cllr Graham Leigh-Browne  
 Cllr Alice Tomlinson

Ex-officio: Cllr Georgia Moore (PC Chairman) Cllr David Barton (PC Vice Chairman)

**Also present** Jacki Grice (Parish Clerk) Cllr Roger Upton, Rushcliffe Borough Councillor and two members of the public Streetwise Representatives \*: John Scott Lee (M.D), Robert Alderton (General Manager), Rachel Cameron (Landscape Design and Teaching) \* until 7.35pm

In the interests of transparency, the council asks that any person wishing to record the meetings proceedings informs the Chairman prior to the start of the meeting and that recording equipment is on view. There is an Open Session on the Agenda at which time members of the public are invited to raise any matters pertaining to the work of the committee, limited to fifteen minutes, during which time Standing Orders will be suspended.

1. **Apologies** Cllrs Bill Banner and Graham Budworth - Approved.

2. **A Presentation by Streetwise re: Partnership Working and Rockley Park Glasshouses – To Consider Proposals**

John Scott Lee (M.D) provided a summary of Streetwise Services and advised of a new division – Streetwise Enterprise which enables them to deliver work experience and horticultural training for vulnerable adults and young people (16-24) not in education, employment or training. This division provides many benefits including, work experience, new skills, social engagement and enhances self-esteem through project based activities.

Streetwise would like to expand on this scheme by utilising the redundant glasshouses at Rockley Park for use as a managed and supervised planting nursery providing an opportunity for apprentices to gain horticultural skills and enhance their employment prospects. Streetwise is currently looking into the possibility of purchasing a minibus to aid with transport. There is also opportunity for local residents with expertise to become involved.

Benefits to the Parish Council would include, provision of locally grown plants and produce for the village, referral of local young people, rejuvenation of glasshouses, supply of labour to assist in maintenance of Rockley Park, supply of appropriate materials and the loan of machinery. If the Parish Council approves the proposals then a project team would be organised to implement the scheme which is hoped to be a long term ongoing project. In the first instance John was asked to draft a Service Level Agreement with Terms of Reference for members to consider the full proposals and the implications and the Clerk would put on the Finance and General Purposes Committee Agenda on 12 October for a decision. The Clerk will liaise with John. The Chairman thanked John, Robert and Rachel for attending and they then left the meeting.

The presentation was well received by members, Cllrs Jo Spencer, Graham Leigh Browne and David Barton would form a small working group to review the details.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

4. **Chairman's Announcements**

One aspiration of the council is for more leisure facilities. Cllr Jo Spencer will be taking the lead on this with a small working group including Cllrs John Thorn, Pam Thompson, and David Barton, residents with expertise will also be invited to help. The first stage will be to explore what would be a feasible leisure building at Wharf Lane and ascertain what the village needs from this building.

5. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 13 July 2015** it was;

**Resolved** "that the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman."

## **Clerk's Report on Items Arising from Previous Minutes**

### **M.7 Defibrillators**

6. One Defibrillator has been installed at Westcliffe Care Home and is now 'live'. Woodside Stores was not suitable, but Bingham Road Pavilion site has been approved by ROTSA and installation will take place in the next week.

### **M.8 Sand Bags**

7. £1,500 has been awarded for the Park Homes Site via the RBC Flood Resilience Grant Scheme. Gel sacks have been recommended instead of sand bags for ease of use.

### **M.12 Angling Society**

8. The Society has been unsuccessful in obtaining a grant from the Angling Trust, the matter of areas of hard standing is therefore in abeyance for the time being, but the Society will still submit a specification to the Committee in due course.

### **M.18 Wharf Lane Signage**

9. The Clerk still awaits a response from Rushcliffe Borough Council with regard to new Road Signs.

### **M.19 Wooden Sculptures**

10. The eight wooden sculptures have now been installed at Rockley Park.

### **Financial Update**

11. Income and Expenditure figures for April – September (22<sup>nd</sup>) 2015 were noted.

### **Open Session for members of the public to raise relevant matters, limited to 15 minutes**

12. Standing orders were suspended at 7.49pm

- *A resident asked council to consider the ramifications for a lot of neighbouring properties when the Cemetery gates access times are considered later in the meeting.*
- *Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers asked council to arrange for bark chippings to be available Oct/Nov for the pathways leading to the Lily Ponds. An update on the remedial works for Hallow Well steps and a small boardwalk where the river meets the ponds was requested. (This will be covered later in the meeting.) The working group notes for the recent meeting regarding Dewberry Hill management was also requested.*

13. Standing orders resumed at 7.56pm

### **Rockley Park**

#### **a) Supporting Local Communities Grant for Pathway Remedial Works**

14. Three quotations were received for block paving the park stores entrance drive and tarmacking the South entrance via Cliff Top. A) £4,593 B) £5,400 C) £6,759

Noting that 50% match funding has been approved by Nottinghamshire County Council. It was

**Unanimously Resolved:** "To award the contract to Commercial Surface Solutions Ltd being the lowest quotation at £4,593 net."

#### **b) To Receive a Recommendation from the Signage Working Group re: Lectern**

15. Recommended the Glen Recycled Plastic Lectern from Malcolm Lanes at £546 net, however there are different price options on the artwork depending if it is supplied by the Parish Council or Malcolm Lanes. Members agreed in principle to the Lectern but in the first instance the working group would carry out further investigation to seek help in the community for the artwork and report back. It was noted that Radventures have also pledged to pay for a new Interpretation Sign at the top of Slack Hollow steps and would submit proposals to the Committee in due course.

### **Annual Play Area Inspection**

#### **Streetwise Inspection Summary**

16. Members received a summary of the recommendations for the Play Equipment, the Groundstaff have addressed most of the issues and many items just require ongoing monitoring for signs of wear. All items highlighted were low risk.

**Upper Saxondale Play Area Gate Repair**

17. The Clerk sourced costs from the manufacturer for parts and a local contractor to repair the gate as it does not self close. Total cost of repair = £450 net. The self-closing mechanism is there to keep dogs out, however there have been no recent reports of dogs being in the Park. Cllr Georgia Moore offered to monitor the situation for the time being.  
**Unanimously Resolved** “not to repair the self-closing gate mechanism at the present time.”

**Play Equipment Working Group****Update and Recommendations to Consider**

18. Members considered draft proposals for Playground Development 2015-2019 budget periods, based on Councillors' inspections of the village play areas and site visits to neighbouring playgrounds for ideas. Members concentrated on the current financial year and it was:

**Unanimously Resolved** “ a) Groundstaff to be tasked with regrading the soil and relaying the rubber matting under swings and reseed at Wharf Lane  
b) Replace safety surfacing under play equipment at Valley Road with rubber crumb, ensuring equipment is rubbed down and repainted also”

The Kompan Supa Nova Balancing Disc for Wharf Lane would be reconsidered in the New Year.

**Outdoor Table Tennis**

19. The Parish Council can apply for funding via Sport England for outdoor Table Tennis Tables. Cllr Jo Spencer proposed Grange Grounds and Wharf Lane as ideal sites.

**Unanimously Resolved** “To approve Cllr Spencer to take this project forward.”

**Lily Ponds and Dewberry Hill****Draft Management Plans**

20. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust have been asked to identify costs for many of the suggestions that were put forward in the management plan for Dewberry Hill, items can then be prioritised for progress. Paul Phillips, Environmental Sustainability Officer at Rushcliffe Borough Council is confident that grant funding could be obtained. Jane Baines, N.C.C Rights of Way Officer, is currently costing repair work for the steps at Hallow Well, and a boardwalk to address the flooding from the weir to the Lily Ponds.

**Bench Relocation**

21. It was agreed to defer the relocation of the Bench on Dewberry Hill (to give a view) until decisions are made on the management plan.

**JBM Solutions**

22. JBM Solutions are willing to offer a sum of £4,000 to the Parish Council for community benefit projects that meet specific criteria. The Parish Council has already been consulted on their application for a Solar Farm at Holme Park (15/01971) and the final decision to be confirmed by Rushcliffe Borough Council. Once the commissioning, energising and accrediting of the Solar Farm is complete funds will be made available (early 2016). Projects should facilitate the involvement of community groups in the areas of energy efficiency measures, small scale renewable energy, climate change and or nature conservation.

**Unanimously Resolved** “to accept the offer for the ongoing management of the Lily Ponds and Dewberry Hill nature reserves.”

**Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers Update**

23. Work has recently been carried out on the gully at Valley Road, clearing channels and lining with stones. Clearance of Himalayan Balsam has also taken place. The next session date is to be confirmed and advertised.

24. **Unanimously Resolved:** “To suspend standing orders to allow the meeting to continue past 9.00pm”.

**Cemetery: To Consider Permanent Access Trial Period & Donation Offer of a Replacement Bench**

25. There have been recent spates of youths accessing the cemetery by scaling the fence. Members considered the opening times of the cemetery and whether locking it up at night is the right thing to do.

**Resolved:** “To continue to lock the cemetery gates each evening.”

26. A resident would like to replace one of the old green benches in the Cemetery with a new Oak one. The old one could be relocated at Wharf Lane. A donation of a bench has also been offered for opposite Water Lane.  
**Resolved:** "To accept the offer of both bench donations."

**Churchyard: Parr Grave Repairs**

27. **Resolved:** "To defer the decision of remedial works until the Parr family has been contacted to see if they would pay for the repairs." Cllr David Astill would make enquiries.

**Grange Grounds: Bollards Review**

28. The bollards were taken out in the late Spring due them being a trip hazard, however cars have been seen parking in front of the Hall fire exits.  
**Resolved** "To continue to monitor the car parking."

**Bingham Road Play Area: ROTSA and CCTV to Consider**

29. ROTSA wish to install an eight camera system at the Playing Fields for the purposes of crime prevention, two of which would overlook the Play Area.  
**Unanimously Resolved:** "To approve the siting of the Play Areas cameras providing that ROTSA register with the Information Commissioner's Office as the Data Controller."

**Village**

30. **Planter Shelford Road Entrance Sign: Potential Funding via N.C.C**

Cllr Cutts has advised that the N.C.C Environment Sustainability Committee has set aside a sum of funds for village gateway signs, it may well be that a planter would qualify.  
**Resolved:** "the Clerk to submit an application for funding for a planter under the Shelford Road Village Gateway sign."

**N.C.C Winter Service: Salt Bags and Grit Bins**

31. Members considered the offer of 5 free bags of salt, thereafter £5 per 25kg bag, £55 per 1 tonne salt and £150 for a grit bin.  
**Resolved:** "to place an order for the 5 free bags of salt only."

**Councillors' Reports**

32. Cllr Bailey advised that the BBQ metal fixings need attention and that it smelled very heavily of urine when a community group came to use it the other day!
33. Cllr Spencer reported that the flaying of the hedgerow along Nottingham Road entrance has been very poorly carried out and left the area in a mess. This has been reported to N.C.C Highways. The Clerk will chase a response.
34. Cllr Thompson advised that there is a sign in the Grange Grounds stating 'designated no alcohol area' which conflicts with BBQ notice. The Clerk will make enquiries
35. Cllr Leigh Browne requested that waste bin screening at the bottom of Grange Hall drive is put on the next meeting Agenda for consideration.
36. Cllr Bailey advised that the Manager at the Coop is arranging for a new battery for the Defibrillator situated in the store.

**Correspondence**

37. No correspondence received.

**Date of Next meeting**

38. 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.17pm

Signed: Chairman ..... Date .....