

Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council
Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting, held in the Radcliffe Room
at The Grange, on Monday 11 April 2016 at 7pm

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

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

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

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

Also present Jacki Grice (Parish Clerk) Jacque Earp (Admin Assistant)) and one member of the public.

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.

Apologies

1. Cllrs Keith Agar, Graham Budworth, Alice Tomlinson, Penny Astill, David Astill, Joe Bailey and Georgia Moore
 - Approved.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

3. **Chairman's Announcements**

There were no announcements.

4. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 29 February 2016**

Resolved: "That the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman"

5. **Clerk's Report on Items Arising from Previous Minutes**

M. 8 Funding Update

- The bid to the N.C.C Local Improvement Scheme for additional planters for the Welcome Signs at Shelford and Cropwell Road was unsuccessful.
- The Parish Council came runner up in the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme and has secured grant funding of £10,000 for a Green Composting Toilet at Wharf Lane. We are waiting for an official letter regarding timescales to spend the funding.
- The bid for Leader Funding for Village Signposting is still in progress.

6. **M. 9 Valley Road**

The rubber crumb play area surfacing has now been installed, unfortunately the contractors van fell in a 'sinkhole' at the top of the steps and has caused extensive damage to the tarmac. A quote to repair for £997 has been quoted by N.C.C in order to backfill the sink hole and to also replace the broken manhole cover. It was agreed that the work to be done is priority and needs addressing urgently. The Clerk has delegated powers to incur this expenditure and will order the works.

7. **M. 10 Litter Bins**

The new Litter Bins are now installed at Woodside Road and outside the Butchers on Main Road.

8. **M.11 Cemetery**

In addition to the delamination of the boundary wall plaster, the right hand side Cemetery entrance brick wall is need of rebuilding, it is compromised at the base and there is a crack all the way through it.

Noted: Only one quote received so far which is over £3000.00, agreed to source two more quotes.

9. **M. 16 Tawny and Long Eared Owl Boxes**

The South Notts Ringing Group will be installing the agreed Owl Boxes and Nests late summer.

10. **M. 18 Dewberry Hill**

Siting of Dog Waste Bin

The dog waste bin has now been installed and Streetwise will be collecting the waste weekly.

11. **M.19 To Consider the Walkabout Notes of the Working Group**

Although JMB Solutions Planning Application for a Solar Farm was approved, the installation has been delayed, hence so has the pledged community funding of £4,000 for the Nature Reserves.

12. **M.20 Wharf Lane**

Funding Application for Rubber Crumb Safety Surface

Fields in Trust will be making a decision shortly on the funding application for rubber crumb safety surfacing for the Junior Swings at Wharf lane.

13. **M.23 Cemetery Signage**

The new signage has been placed on order and the supplier is being chased for delivery.

14. **M. 24 Donated Bench**

The family has agreed to Councils specification and desired location to site a bench in the Cemetery and it will be installed this week.

15. **M.26 Councillors' Reports**

The bunting and flags for the Queens 90th birthday and events throughout the year for the village has now been organised. Streetwise will start to decorate the shops and streets starting Monday 18th April 2016.

16. **Financial Update**

The net Amenities budget equates to 69% at the end of the 2015/16 Financial Year due to additional unexpected income received for Cemetery fees and donations. This has resulted in additional funds of £16,699. There was debate on whether these funds should be referred to Finance and General Purposes or part accrued for forecasted spend on urgent projects that relate to the current year. It was noted that the current Terms of Reference allow Committees to spend on specified budgets. Policy on whether this is expenditure or net budgets would be clarified at the Annual Council meeting in May.

It was **Resolved**: to accrue the following funds for spend in the next financial year."

- £1,000 for the sink hole at Valley Road Play Area
- £3,500 for the Cemetery new brick wall to the entrance and rendering of the boundary wall.
- £1,626 for the Grange CCTV System
- £1,848 for Village Entrance Planters
- **£7,974 Total**

The remaining amount would be returned to Central Reserves for the 2016/17 financial year. Cllr Culshaw requested that as we have such a large amount of money left over from last year's budget, then we should track back up to 5 years budget history when calculating expenditures. The Clerk confirmed this was already being done but the additional Cemetery and donations income this year was exceptional.

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

17. Standing orders were suspended at 7.38pm

- *A representative of the Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers confirmed the benches which have been installed at the Lily Ponds are a success. In his view the benches should not be moved and be left where they are.*

- *He confirms that Angling Society Grants are in hand for garden tools to be used at the site to keep the foliage levels down.*
 - *RCV confirmed that after an Amphibian Survey supported by the NWT, an area of the Lily Ponds is now a designated wildlife site, (with reference to amphibians).*
18. Standing orders resumed at 7.41pm
19. **Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers Update**
In addition to the recent amphibian surveys a further date has been set for another work session to clear bramble and roots along the riverbank and to assemble cuttings and pruning's away from the path, to be tidied up but not removed on Saturday 23rd April 2016, time: 2pm – 4pm. Noted and thanks given to the RCV group for their continued efforts.
20. **Cliff Top**
To Clarify Policy on Young Cyclists
As agreed at the previous meeting, No Cycling Signs have now been installed on Cliff Top to deter its use as Cycle Route. Members felt it appropriate to be sympathetic to you young children learning to ride their bikes and will take this stance when questioned by Parishioners on social media or other forums.
21. **Wharf Lane**
SkatePark Activity Update
Following on from a site meeting with Ross Marshall and Streetwise, the SkatePark damage has now been fully repaired. Streetwise have also been tasked to provide a full maintenance programme for the SkatePark when they carry out the Annual Play Area inspection in May. Cllr Tomlinson arranged a clear up day at the beginning of the month which was well attended.
22. **Cemetery: Dogs**
The Clerk has written to a local resident in response to their concerns about dogs getting into the Cemetery grounds. It has now been agreed that new no dogs (except Guide Dogs) allowed signage be placed at the cemetery. The Clerk will reiterate Councils previous comments that the signage be pointed out to offenders. The Clerk will also advise that balls found in the Cemetery are believed to be from the adjacent Junior School.
23. **Best Kept Village Competition: Village Litter Pick, Saturday 4 June 2016 10am – 12 noon**
Cllr Leigh –Browne suggests a last minute clean-up of the village a week before the competition. The Clerk confirmed this is in hand with Streetwise and is scheduled to be done at this time. Cllr Barton will put in arrangements as the previous 'Clean for the Queen'. The Litter Pickers are still in store and the weeds at the Health Centre Car Park need addressing and Cllr Thompson will speak to the Royal Oak. N.C.C have been asked spray the village entrance weeds on Nottingham Road. Cllr Barton to meet with the original Litter Pick Working Group to discuss arrangements.
24. **Valley Road Residents: Signage and Road Maintenance Costs (Private Road): To Consider a Contribution due to access**
It was agreed that this issue be put on the Finance and General Purposes Agenda.
25. **Radcliffe Residents Association: Ideas for them to purchase something for the benefit of the village**
It was proposed and agreed that it is suggested to the Radcliffe Residents Association that a contribution towards new Village entrance planters would be very welcome.
26. **Lily Ponds: Relocation of Benches: To Consider**
Cllr Thompson states that the benches at the Lily Ponds were put in the wrong place in the first instance, the Clerk confirms that two Cllrs made a site visit and agreed the positioning of the benches at the time. As there is little cost to provide additional benches, (most of the materials are on site) it was
Resolved: "Clerk to arrange for the installation of three more benches, one to be by the Lily Ponds and the other two in the middle stretch looking over the river."

27. **Leisure facilities Working Group: Update**

Cllr Spencer confirms that a Working Group meeting had been held today and good progress is being made on thoughts and proposals for a new Community Hub/Leisure Facility. A portfolio is being put together of work carried out so far. The Scouts are interested in re-locating to a new purpose built facility. There is a bid to the Economic Growth Board in place, funding will also be applied for to the Football Association, Sport England and others. Cllr Banner asks whether there will be any 'green toilets' at the site of the build – Cllr Thorn will re-visit and look at the most efficient materials using Ruddington Country Park as an example. He concludes we need the most up-to-date system and Streetwise will erect the toilets from kit form. Cllr Thorn will come back to the committee at a later date and provide an update on options available including appropriate locations.

28. **Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Spencer comments that following recent works, the play equipment at Valley Road Park has not been painted in the bright cheerful colours as previous. Cllr Spencer suggests the equipment be painted back to the original colours, and that paint be bought out of the budget. This was agreed, and works will be carried out in due course. Cllr Spencer also mentioned the lack of litter bins along the Cliff Walk, and that at least one other bin is required. Cllr Thompson agreed as there is only one by the Valley Road Park entrance. Cllr Thompson also asks if 'Positive Futures' still have a surplus of fruit trees, but it was confirmed that they had now all gone.

29. **Correspondence**

Correspondence was read out from one Radcliffe Resident wishing to place an Owl box onto a tree in the Memorial Park Area. This request was agreed in principle, but the committee needed to take further advice from the South Notts Ringing Group. Further correspondence from a Radcliffe Resident stated that on the 6th April 16 there was an accident up at the Cliff Top, whereby a horse had thrown its rider off and was running loose. The Clerk will investigate the incident further and put on the next Agenda. A Cheque has been received from the daughter of a recently deceased resident, for the benefit of Rockley Memorial Park. The Clerk will contact the daughter and suggest a visit to the park, to decide how the money can be best spent. It was suggested perhaps a bird bath or water fountain would be a nice idea for the park.

30. **Date of Next Meeting**

20 June 2016

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.32pm

Signed: Chairman Date