

Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council
Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting, held in the Radcliffe Room
at The Grange, on Monday 19 May 2014 at 7pm

Page 726/14

Cllr. Mrs Janet Maughan - (Chairman)
Cllr John Thorn – (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. Graham Leigh-Browne Cllr. Peter Robinson (A)
Cllr. Mrs Jean Smith Cllr. Pam Thompson (A)
Cllr. David Smith (A) Cllr. Dominic Tompkin
Cllr. Mrs Josephine Spencer (L) Cllr. Bill Sylvester
Ex-officio: Cllrs. Roger Upton (Chairman) and Georgia Moore (Vice Chairman) (A)

Also present Jacki Grice (Parish Clerk) and four members of the public

1. **Apologies** Cllrs David Smith, Pam Thompson, Peter Robinson and Georgia Moore - Approved
2. **Declarations of Interest** Cllr Graham Leigh Browne – Twinning Association Representative – Agenda Item 7d1 (Benches for Boules Area)

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 03 March 2014, it was:**
Resolved “that the minutes are approved and signed by the Chairman.”

Chairman’s Announcements

4. Thanks given to Cllr Josephine Spencer for the sterling efforts and effects she had as Chairman of the Amenities Committee from 2004-2014.

Clerk’s Report on Items Arising from Previous Minutes

M.5 RCAF Conningsby

5. No response has been received regarding a request to include Radcliffe on Trent in the fly route of the Lancaster Airplane event in the late summer.

M.9 Greenwood Community Tree Grant

6. The Oak trees have now been planted on the Cliff area.

M10 Main Street Flagstones

The contact details for the Post Office landlord are still trying to be obtained. Due to tree roots many pavings are now starting to lift. Vehicle parking on the paving is also causing damage.

M. 17 Grange Play Area

8. The installation of the new safety surfacing has now been completed.

M. 35 Planters

9. The new village planters are all now in situ and planting is due to commence this week.

Financial Update

10. Year end 31 March 2014 expenditure and income figures were noted. Year to date 01 April to 12 May 2014 were also noted.

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

11. Standing orders were suspended at 7.10pm
 - The Chairman of the Angling Society produced an example of the Fishery Notices the club wish to erect. The item would be considered later in the meeting as per the Agenda.
 - The test seeding area on Cliff Top has taken well, but more time is required to see if it stays during the seasons and due to the tree canopies. The matter would be considered later in the year with a view to analysing the cost to re-seed a much larger area.
12. Standing orders resumed at 7.19pm

Council Owned and other Amenities**a) Churchyard**

13. The Foreman would be asked to schedule the weeding of the hedgerow after the village planting is complete.

b) Cemetery

14. **1) Grass Cutting** - The contractors have provided a quotation for the cutting the Cemetery. However members felt that the Groundstaff should continue with this work as the maintenance is of such a high standard.
15. **2) Memorial Kerbs** - At present there are only 8 available kerbs remaining. It was:
Resolved: "To organise the purchase and installation of 15 kerbs from Granart, £2,465 net - plus flags."

c) Twitchell

16. No reports.

c) Grange Hall Grounds

17. **1) Boules Court** – the surfacing requires topping up. In the first instance Cllr Maughan would speak with the Twinning Association as the granite in situ is not considered the appropriate material.
18. **2) Bench Installation** – Two benches have been requested to be sited next to the Boules Court. It would be investigated to see if any existing benches in the grounds could be relocated. Failing that, it was:
Resolved: "To delegate powers of expenditure to the Clerk for bench purchase up to £500". The Nottingham Probation would be asked for images and prices of the benches they could supply.
19. **3) BBQ Policy**- The Clerk would draft a policy and list of rules for consideration at the next meeting, adhoc BBQ's were not felt appropriate on health and safety grounds. However organised risk assessed events may be permitted. In the meantime staff would use discretion for any requests subject to a satisfactory risk assessment.
20. **4) Gradient Works** – Recent works have taken place to remove the heavy soil against the fence line. The exposed large stumps would be grinded down. The two large sycamores ideally need removing. The Clerk would contact Tom Pettitt at RBC for advice, if there are no issues, these trees could be removed after the nesting season in the Autumn and then a hedgerow planted against the fence line.

e) Rockley Memorial Park

21. **1) Gates Opening and Closing Policy** – It was:
Resolved: "To trial a period until September of not locking the gates, if any incidents occur the matter would be reviewed earlier."
22. **2) Bark Chippings and Woodland Walk Logs** – The woodland walk logs are in disrepair and the weeds ideally need controlling with the presence of more landscape bark. The Grounds Maintenance Working Group would meet on site to prepare a specification of requirements.
23. **3) NCC Local Improvement Scheme** – Unfortunately the bid submitted for tarmac repairs around the pathway has not been successful due to severe budget cuts in this funding scheme. In particular the entrance area to the Groundstaff workshops is very eroded. The Grounds Maintenance Working Group would also consider requirements for this area during the next site meeting.
24. **4) Lawn Treatment Quote** – Due to drainage issues, a quotation was sourced for various lawn treatment works. This item would be deferred for consideration at a later stage.
25. **5) Foreman Planting Scheme** – The Foreman provided a basic scheme for additional planting requirements. The Grounds Maintenance Working Group would consider this further at the next site meeting.
26. Cllr Jo Spencer attended the meeting at 8.10pm

f) Cliff Top

27. **1) Scouts Community Week** – The Beavers and Scouts have offered to tidy up Cliff Top Walk and will be working in the area on 3rd & 6th June. A donation from B&Q has been organised for hand tools, gloves and bin bags. Jane Baines at N.C.C Countryside Access would also be asked for a loan of tools for community use. For the future planning of community partnership working it was:

Resolved: “To purchase additional hand tools for community use to be kept at the Workshop up to the value of £200.”

28. **2) Information Board/Sculpture/Benches**

An information board to be located at the top of Hollow Stack steps would be considered after the results of the Lily Ponds survey by NWT. There is now space for a couple of benches at the last viewing gallery and this would be mentioned in the next newsletter to encourage donations. Radventures may be interested in providing a sculpture/information board in the future.

29. It was noted that two newly planted Oak trees near Cliff Drive twitchell have not survived and there is a section down to the Ponds where every mature tree has died, it appears that the soil in the area must be contaminated.

g) Wharf Lane Recreation Ground, Skate Park and Pavilion

30. **1) MUGA Safety Surfacing** – Further correspondence has been received from a local resident regarding the non uniform surfacing on the court, questioning the safety of it. Councils Insurers are satisfied with the surfacing and have not raised any issues with it on their annual inspections.

31. **2) Pitch Summer Maintenance – It was:**

Resolved: “To purchase turf, seed and topsoil @ £242.20”. Radcliffe Olympic Football Club will provide the labour.

32. The Skate Park is attracting a lot of litter and the boards are starting to lift. A meeting with the Skate Park Committee would be arranged.

33. **3) Minutes of the Football Liaison Sub Committee Meetings Held on 28.3.14 and 02.05.14** – The Water Services Remedial Works in the Pavilion ideally needs to be done during the closed season, by August. A preferred contractor has been chosen from the tender process. The competency of the Contractor with regard to working with pressurised cylinders will be confirmed. The Football Club has advised that they will be able to access funds of approx. £5,000 towards the cost and club members would be able to do some of the work themselves. There are no VAT implications. It was:

Resolved: “To make a recommendation to Finance and General Purposes Committee to consider funding an amount up to the remaining balance of £4,500 on the basis of landlord responsibilities as it is a betterment of the building.”

34. **4) Green Toilets** – Cllrs Jo Spencer and John Thorn recently visited Ruddington Country Park to look at the Green Toilets that have been in situ for the past few years. Cllr Thorn summarised the toilet system and maintenance details involved. The installation costs would be approx. £9,000. A working group including Cllrs Thorn, Tompkin and Leigh-Browne would visit the Wharf Lane site and look into the options. The item may then be a consideration for future budgeting

h) Valley Road Play Area

35. The surrounding wire fencing requires strengthening. The Foreman would be asked to schedule the work.

36. Cllr Jean Smith was asked to investigate what the Borough Council does with unwanted play equipment.

i) Saxondale Play Area

37. No reports.

j) 19 Rockley Avenue

38. No reports.

k) Triangle of Land / Bingham Road

39. Positive Futures are interested in working on the triangle as their Summer Community Pride Project. A site meeting has been arranged to discuss requirements.

40. The Chairman requested that Standing Orders be suspended to allow the meeting to continue until 9.20pm **(Resolved)**

l) Land at Dewberry Hill – To Consider the Installation of a Dog Waste Bin / Litter Bin

41. Due to past resident complaints regarding the siting of a dog waste bin on Woodland Close this matter would not be progressed.

m) Lily Ponds Area

42. **1) Additional Grass Cutting** – N.C.C Rights of Way currently arrange for two cuts per annum on the tow path and central path sections. It was:
Resolved: “To contract one additional cut per annum on the tow path only but to extend this cut further upstream.”
43. **2) Angling Society – Correspondence from RNCSIG** – The organisation have raised concerns about the controls on the artificial restocking of fish, controls of introducing harmful species, use of bait and fishing pegs. The Angling Society has given assurance that these concerns are unwarranted.
44. **3) Angling Society – Fishery Notices – It was:**
Resolved: “To permit the erection of two notices (Radcliffe on Trent A.S / Day Tickets/ radcliffeontrentanglingsociety.co.uk)”
45. **4) Minutes of the Lily Ponds Management Meeting 19.3.14** – The Notts Wildlife Trust expect to have a management plan prepared by late Autumn.
46. There is an issue of theft of living Ash tree branches for logs. The matter has been reported to the police and would be an Agenda item for the next meeting.

n) Vicarage Lane

47. An area has been marked out for a gulley to be installed at the low point on the road surface and will be connected to the existing gulley. Highways have yet to schedule the works.

o) The Village

48. **1) Village Planting** – The seasonal planting has now been delivered and the Groundstaff will be planting out over the next two weeks.
49. **2) Fingerposts** – at the Black Lion junction are in need of some attention. NCC have advised that they will not be scheduling any work in this area. Radventures or U3A may consider it as a future project.
50. **3) RBC Grant to Plant - £200** has been awarded in commemoration of the centenary since the outbreak of World War One, for Village enhancement.

Tree Survey Report Update

51. Quotes have yet to be received for the necessary works. However due to the nesting season the work cannot be carried out until later in the year. The Clerk will agenda again at a later meeting.
52. The recently damaged tree at Walkers Yard needs further attention. The Clerk would report to Tom Pettit at RBC.

Village Recreation and Leisure Facilities

53. Cllr Jo Spencer asked members to consider the way council sets its budget requirements to enable long term future planning for the enhancement of village facilities. Cllr Spencer would continue to look into this matter with a view to submitting a proposal before the budget meeting for the next financial year.

Reports from Outside Organisations

54. None received.

Correspondence for Information

55. The Methodist Youth Group have advised that they are still liaising with the County Council with a view to obtaining a Community mini bus. An update will be provided at the next Amenities meeting.

Date of Next meeting

56. 07 July 2014
There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Signed: Chairman Date