

Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council
Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting, held in the Radcliffe Room
at The Grange, on Monday 13 July 2015 at 7pm

Cllr John Thorn (Chairman)	Cllr Pam Thompson (Vice Chairman)	Cllr David Astill
Cllr Penny Astill	Cllr Joe Bailey	Cllr Bill Banner (A)
Cllr Rod Brears	Cllr Graham Budworth	Cllr Sue Clegg
Cllr Martin Culshaw	Cllr Gillian Dunn	Cllr Graham Leigh-Browne
Cllr Jean Robinson	Cllr Josephine Spencer	Cllr Alice Tomlinson

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

Also present Jacki Grice (Parish Clerk) and four members 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. (*One resident was recording*).

1. **Apologies**_ Cllr Bill Banner – Approved. Borough Councillor Roger Upton also gave apologies.

2. **To Resolve to Appoint Cllr Dunn to Serve on the Amenities Committee**
Resolved: “To approve Cllr Dunn to serve on the Amenities Committee.”

3. **Declarations of Interest**
 Cllr Jo Spencer – Agenda Item 11b) Rockley Park Toilet

4. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 22 June 2015** it was:
Resolved “that the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.”

Chairman’s Announcements
 5. There were no announcements.

Forward Planning
 6. All members have received a letter from the Vice Chairman of the Parish Council seeking ideas for the four year term of office. Working Groups will be held over the summer period to put the plan together which will be submitted to Full Council on 19 October for approval.

Clerk’s Report on Items Arising from Previous Minutes
 7. **M.6 Defibrillators**
 Funds are awaited from ROTSPA and then the equipment will be ordered and installation arranged at Woodside Stores and Westcliffe Care Home.

8. **M.9 Sand Bags**
 A bid has been submitted to Rushcliffe Borough Council for funding from the Flood Resilience Grant Scheme for sand bags and other equipment. The grant decision will be advised late August.

9. **M. 10 Parr Grave**
 The Clerk is arranging a site visit as the grave cannot now be seeded as more concrete has been revealed. A report will be provided at the next meeting.

10. **M. 28 Bench Donation**
 The former Skate Park group held a fundraising stall at the Carnival event and raised £222 which will be given as a contribution to the Hunman family for the memorial bench due to be installed at the Skate Park.

Financial Update

11. Income and Expenditure figures for April – June 2015 were noted.

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

12. Standing orders were suspended at 7.10pm

- *A local resident advised that the new BBQ area was used at the Carnival event at the weekend.*
- *The Angling Society shall be submitting a proposal and specification to the Committee for hard standing areas around the edges of the Lily Ponds. Funding may be available from the Angling Trust.*
- *The Life Buoys have been relocated nearer to the Lily Ponds.*
- *The Lily Ponds pathways are cut 4 times per annum. The Clerk would chase the contractor as another cut is due.*

13. Standing orders resumed at 7.17pm

Signage

14. **a) To Approve Repairs to Grange Hall Sign**

The posts have corroded and new steel posts are required.

Resolved: "To approve the cost of replacement posts at £96 net each."

b) To Receive a Recommendation from the Working Group

15. **Woodland Walk Signage**

It was agreed in principle to a steel lecturn style sign incorporating a map, wildlife, planting and other items of interest. A draft design and costs would be considered at the next Amenities meeting.

Proposals would be put forward for the four year plan to also consider lecturn style signs at four other locations in the village. Appropriate no cycling signs for the Park would also be investigated.

16. **Cliff Top Signposting**

It was agreed in principle to wooden finger post signage at Hallow Well and also Wharf Lane end of the Cliff Walk, pointing to the Lily Ponds, Shelford, Memorial Park and Toilets and the Village Centre. Costs would now be sourced for consideration in the four year plan.

17. The working group recommended that all new signage should incorporate the Council Office contact details to report any damage.

18. Other signage considered was two new road signs for Wharf Lane and Park Road with additional information on where these roads lead to. The Clerk would contact Rushcliffe Borough Council for assistance in this matter.

Rockley Memorial Park**Ground Anchors for Wood Carving Sculptures**

19. **Resolved:** "To approve the purchase of 8 ground anchors at £20 net each. Cllrs Spencer, Bailey, Barton and Thompson would carry out a site visit to decide their final site locations."

To Note Issues with Public Toilet Blockages

20. Contractors have been called out twice recently to deal with unblocking the drain as the flush is not strong enough to get rid of hand towels that have been placed in the bowl. Permanent signage would be displayed asking people not to put hand towels down the toilet and easily degradable supplies would be purchased in the future. Noted.

Supporting Local Communities Grant for Pathway Remedial Works - Update

21. One contractor has quoted for block paving a section in the Park and tarmacing the southern entrance off Cliff Top. The cost is £400 over budget at £5,400. Two more quotations will be sourced for consideration and a decision at the next meeting. It was noted that £2,500 has been awarded from the SLC Grant Scheme providing the work is completed in the financial year 2015/16.

Wharf Lane**Regular Evidence of Human Waste**

22. There have been regular reports from the Groundstaff of people using the recreation ground as a toilet! This matter shall be monitored and also re-enforces the wish list of public toilets at Wharf Lane. The Skate Park litter is also particularly bad at the moment. Noted.

Lily Ponds**Report from Working Group on Draft Management Plan**

23. Members received notes from the working group outlining areas to explore further and recommendations to implement in the future. A site visit is arranged for 02 August to consider the various points further. Items which have high cost implications will be need to be considered during the Forward Planning and budget process. The Clerk would contact Jane Baines at Countryside with regard to the risers on the steps at Hallow Well to see if they can be made safer.

24. To Consider Further Seating at the Lily Ponds Beach Area

This item was deferred until after the Working Group site visit on 02 August.

Dewberry Hill – Report from Working Group on Draft Management Plan

25. The Working Group will meet on 04 August 2015.

Play Areas / Equipment Review**To Consider Recommendations from the Working Group**

26. Members were provided with Working Groups discussion notes, the Group will carry out more research and look at other local play parks to see what facilities they have before making recommendations. In the meantime the maintenance issues highlighted shall be tasked to the Groundstaff. All incidents of damage to play the equipment shall be reported to the Police.

To Consider Repairs to Self Closing Gate Upper Saxondale

27. One quotation has been received at £450 to repair the gate closing mechanism. The Clerk would contact the original supplier in first instance and source other quotes.

Vandalism**Rockley Park Tree**

28. One of the trees in Rockley Park has been decorated with twigs, feathers and other materials. The Groundstaff have removed the items. Noted.

Nottingham Road Planter

29. Selected plants have been removed from the Planter. Noted.

Lily Ponds Bench

30. A bench has been erected and then dismantled in the beach area. There have been reports of it being set alight. This was not installed by the Groundstaff. Noted.

Councillors' Reports

31. Cllr Moore reported that the Carnival held on 11 July was a huge success, the Clerk was asked to write and thank the committee for all their efforts ensuring it was an amazing day. The Spitfire plane built by the Boys Brigade has been offered to the Parish Council to use for other up and coming events, it will be stored in the Greenhouse area from September.
32. Cllr Bailey reported that Radcliffe Olympic FC are doing a wonderful job and there are 240 junior players in the club, and there are regularly 120 playing on a Saturday morning.

Correspondence**Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers Planning Group Meeting Notes 30.5.15 and Next Work Session 18.7.15**

33. The groups recent walkabout highlighted the following issues:
- Little regrowth of Himalayan/Orange Balsam
 - Self seeding Sycamores along the river bank, could be uprooted

- View from the new benches is heavily obscured by willows and bankside vegetation
- Cutting and clearance of the four bench area needs further consideration, the current planned 4 cuts per annum is insufficient.
- Further ground clearance of nettles
- Tree and maintenance opportunities for further planting

Current work activity and the next work session will concentrate on the Slack Hollow area, to clear the ditches, dig out and re-bed the upper ditch and clean out the drainage pipe. Future work dependent on volunteers will be to carry out repair work to the Hallow Well pools.

Praise for Exceptional Planting this Year

34. Staff have received very positive comments from residents with regard to the village planting.

Date of Next meeting

35. 28 September 2015

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed: Chairman Date