

Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council
Minutes of the Amenities (inc Grange Hall) Committee Meeting, held in the Radcliffe Room
at The Grange, on Monday 21 January 2019 at 7pm

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

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

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

1. Apologies

Cllrs David Astill and Graham Leigh-Browne – Approved.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Chairman's Announcements

There were no Chairman's announcements.

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

Standing Orders were suspended at 7.06pm

- Phil Taylor is looking forward to another Radcliffe Conservation Group Work Session on Sunday 3rd March 2019. This will be a Riverside Litter Pick, and Cllrs are asked when the next Community Litter Pick will be taking place for the village. The PC were also asked if quotes could be obtained to address the worse uneven bits of the upper section of the Cliff Path

Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.08pm

Cllr Dunn will contact the Litter Pick Volunteers after tonight's meeting to arrange another Community Litter Pick. The Chairman also confirmed that the upper section of the Cliff Path had not been considered by the Amenities Committee, so this issue will now be discussed with the Clerk and a recommendation brought back to Committee.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 November 2018 for approval

It was Resolved: "That the minutes are approved and signed by the Chairman."

6. Clerk's Report on items arising from these minutes:

M.3: The PC had won £1250 for the Best Kept Village Competition and the F&GP Committee have approved these funds to be used for a new noticeboard at the Cemetery. This is now on order.

M.6: VIA have now completed the Electrical Infrastructure work in The Grange grounds. RCD sockets are now required which will be done shortly by an electrician.

M.10: The Public Toilets are progressing, but slowly. All fittings have arrived, except for the doors. Adjustments will have to be made as the new hand wash units do not fit in the existing hole(s) in the wall. The next payment will be made to the Contractors after snagging. The Clerk is in constant communication with the contractor.

M.10: Communication from the War Memorials Trust is expected in the Spring regarding the Grant Pre-Application for St Marys War Memorial submitted by the PC Office.

M.10: VIA sent a letter to the two homeowners of the overgrown hedges at the corner of Oaktree Avenue and Fernwood Road. It was noted that half of the hedges have now been cut back to date.

M.14: Play Area Updates are on the agenda and it was noted that the LIS Grant Funding Application deadline is 28th February 2019.

M.15: At the last Amenities Committee meeting it was Resolved to remove the white plastic post chain from the two sides of The Grange driveway. However the remaining white chain at the top of the drive was also vandalised, so all of it has now been removed, due to the constant labour and cost of parts involved to replace it.

M.19: The Clerk and PC are still trying to meet with the Football Club Chairman to discuss new barrier fencing for the Football Pitch. It was noted that more 'No Dogs Allowed' signs have been placed down in that area.

M.22: Alastair from At2 has confirmed the Beech Trees in St Marys Churchyard are not causing issues at the moment. In summary Alastair reported nothing required urgent attention.

M.24: A resident had previously removed a memorial bench from The Grange Grounds, as it was being vandalised. The Picnic Table has also been removed for the winter and there now appears to be much less litter in the grounds.

M.20: Cllr Budworth met with an Officer regarding the poor state of the new Park Homes footpath leading to the River Trent. Half of the footpath has now been laid and compacted with a new ground surface material which is far superior to the original footpath.

7. Grange Hall and Grange Hall

Grange Hall and The Grange Financial Update: April 2018 – Part Jan 2019.

Noted and accepted. The Clerk congratulated the Hall Manager on achieving a large increase in bookings for The Grange and Grange Hall this equates to a figure of £4,500 under budget (this includes the loss of the Thera Group bookings). It was also noted that all Cllrs are welcome to join Committee meetings at any time, and will review the trial period for amalgamated Committee's at the next Full Council meeting on the 4th February 2019.

8. To Receive a Letter from Ceroc Heaven

Noted and discussed and Resolved: "The Hall Manager to speak with Ceroc Heaven and explain the various circumstances of the use of the Trent Room on a Monday evening."

9. To Receive an Email from a Local Resident (Postcode Issues)

A resident on Vicarage Lane had emailed the PC to say when large private events take place at Grange Hall, a significant number of cars are driving down Vicarage Lane looking to get to the Hall. Cllrs discussed and considered what action to take to avoid this including formally changing the address and postcode of The Hall and putting up brown tourist direction signs, both expensive options. It was confirmed that directions and the postcode are on the Grange Hall website and for more accuracy the Hall Manager always provides 'Tomkins The Butchers' postcode to customers and guests booking the Hall. It was noted however that a Sat Nav directs cars to 11 Vicarage Lane which causes problems. This issue will now be looked into and be reported back to Committee in March.

10. Amenities Financial Update: April 2018 – Part Jan 2019

Noted and accepted. Amenities is doing well heading for an expenditure underspend of 12,000. It was noted the income for the Cemetery is good. F&GP previously made a £6,000 contingency for the new Electrical Infrastructure in The Grange grounds, however if paid back there would still be an expenditure underspend of £6,000.

11. Radcliffe Conservation Group: Update

Cllr Barton reported there had recently been a very useful and well attended work session for the Group. One group works at the Lily Ponds area and one group work at Dewberry Hill. It is very encouraging that so many volunteers are coming forward to help with the work sessions. It was also noted that now the new Dewberry Hill PC sign had been put up more residents are visiting this area.

12. To Receive a Report and Recommendation from the Grounds Maintenance Working Group

The Clerk read out the report and recommendations from the Grounds Maintenance Working Group. It was noted that a Tree Inspection Audit is due as the last one took place in 2014. It is hoped that quotes for this Audit will be available for the next Amenities meeting on the 4th March 2019, and Cllrs could decide the next course of action at this time, within this financial year. Moss at Rockley Park is like a 'green carpet' and is dotted around the Grange grounds. There has been two claims for slipping and it is

too big a job for the part time Ground Staff to do. Quotes to clear the moss is now required from Companies specialising in removal. The Leaf Bay at Cliff Top has also been delayed and it was noted that the tree stumps in Rockley Park are not causing a problem and are a nice feature to look at.

13. To Receive a Report and Recommendation from the Cemetery Working Group

The report from the Cemetery Working Group was sent to all Cllrs prior to tonight's meeting. A new lawned cremated remains and child/baby internments area has been recommended by the Working Group, the plot size to be half the length but the same width as a coffin plot. Cllrs discussed the type of Memorial Headstone Kerbs to be used in this area and there was differences of opinion on whether there should be uniformity or not. It was Resolved: "That the PC accept the Cemetery Working Group Recommendation to create a new designated lawned area for cremated remains and child/baby internments to the North of the last full burial plot and for the Memorial Headstone Kerbs to be 'non uniform' type, half-length and same width size of a full coffin plot".

After 216 memorials in the Cemetery had failed Inspection, the Cemetery Working Group had agreed to make memorials safe that are in the cremated remains area and the ones next to the road on both sides, as these have the highest footfall and pose a greater risk to the public. A procedure will be followed to include listing the grave numbers and writing to the last known address of the grave owners. Regarding kerbs around graves, it was Resolved: "That the PC accept the Cemetery Working Group Recommendation to make no changes to the current regulations regarding kerbs."

Following a Cemetery Walk in May 2018 a propriety list was drawn up and is now being addressed. Removal of Memorial decorations / Christmas was also discussed and it was Resolved: "That the PC accept the Cemetery Working Group Recommendation to display notices at the Cemetery giving 4 weeks' notice on removal of Christmas decorations. Old decorations and memorials that have no name or are in the wrong place will be moved to the new shale/gravel area in front of the soil stack. Any not claimed after 4 weeks will be disposed of and notices to this effect will be publicised." The Cemetery Working Group had also agreed that any materials supplied by Carnell Contractors should not be claimed just because they are offered for free, and will only request delivery of materials that can be used and managed cost efficiently.

14. Play Areas: Update Report (NCC LIS Deadline for Funding Applications 28.02.2019)

This Report was deferred as the Play Ground Working Group are awaiting quotes from different Contractors. Cllr Banner reported however that when he had met with Streetwise on the 7th January 19, they had suggested that the large tyres at Wharf Lane could be disposed of, the concrete crushed underneath and wet pour be applied.

15. SkatePark: Update

The Clerk provided an update and confirmed that one Specialist Contractor (out of three) had pulled out of his interest for the Construction Tender. Another Contractor had also enquired if the project timelines could be moved. The deadline for the submission of tenders is the 1st February 2019, so if there are no quotations received by this time, the PC will have to go to a wider range of Contractors. Unfortunately there has been no flexibility on infrastructure timelines from WREN who have donated 35,000 towards the new concrete Skatepark, therefore there is a risk this money may not be forthcoming. The Skatepark Committee are aware of this problem and are looking at ways to save time and costs by removing the old wooden park themselves. Unfortunately the timelines and deadlines for submission of tenders is out of the control of the PC, however this process is being fully monitored by both the RBC and PC.

16. Wharf Lane Public Toilets: To Consider Spec

Noted and considered. Cllr Thorn, Cllr Tomlinson, Cllr Thompson and Cllr Budworth will now convene a Working Group meeting to discuss the next course of action.

17. Permanent Christmas Tree in Grange Grounds: To Consider

There had been lots of requests and public complaints on Social Media during the festive break for the PC to display a decorated Christmas tree in The Grange grounds. There had been two offers of trees from Radcliffe Golf Club and M.A. Mills Funeral Service, however this December the electrical infrastructure in the Grange Grounds was not operational so a lit decorated tree was unable to be displayed. In previous years the PC had a Christmas tree in the centre of The Grange grounds, however a red spider mite had infected it and it had to be removed, and a Tree Specialist advised the mite would always attack a tree in the centre of the grounds. Since then, trees (without roots) had been placed at the bottom corner of the drive behind the wall, but there had been problems with them being blown away by the wind. Types of trees were then discussed and it was agreed in principle for the Clerk to make enquiries with M.A. Mills if they would consider donating an optimum height evergreen Nordman Spruce (with roots) to plant at the bottom of the drive, in time to display for Christmas 2019.

18. Signage Project: Update

Cllr Barton reported that really good progress had been made with the Signage Project. There will be twelve History Boards in different village locations, five Fingerposts and one Cartoon Map. Six have been completed and ready to print. Cllr Barton then presented an A3 example of a History Board for the Railway Station which will be printed at four times the size for the final version. It was noted that the Rockley Park History Board would be eight times the size of A3 and will be undercover at the Park. It was explained the content of the History Boards had been identified by the Local History Group and returned to the Signage Group for approval. The new signs will be ready in the next few weeks and will be erected as soon as they become available to the PC and there will be no delay waiting for all 14 to go up. Cllrs had noted that the original fingerpost signs in the village were very dirty and needed washing, so the Clerk will contact Kendra Hourd at VIA to arrange. An LIS Promotion Stand will be at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 17th April 2019 and NCC Cllr Kay Cutts will be invited to attend as there has been part funding by the NCC.

19. To Approve Location and Wording of Hilda Dowson Plaque (Funded by the Local History and WW1 Group)

Noted and discussed. Cllrs agreed this was a good suggestion and it was Resolved: "The PC approved the wording of the Hilda Dowson Plaque and to erect the Plaque in a prominent place near the door of The Grange, which will be funded by the Local History and WW1 Group."

20. Radcliffe Olympic Football Club: Barrier Netting Update and Meeting Update

Cllr Barton met before and just after Christmas with the Chairman of Radcliffe Olympic at the Football Ground at Wharf Lane. This is a joint project with the PC and the Football Club provided Cllr Barton with dimensions for the netting. Following these meetings Radcliffe Olympic were going to make enquires with Building Firms known to the Club, however the PC have not had a progress update as yet.

21. Radcliffe App Banner: Request from Business Forum

The PC had received a request on the 18th December via the Business Forum to advertise the 'Radcliffe App'. At that time it was confirmed the PC would consider this at the next PC Committee meeting. An Amenities Committee meeting was not scheduled until tonight, however in the meantime a large plastic coated banner has been tied to the railings outside 'The Atrium' advertising the 'Radcliffe App.' The banner incorporates the PC 'Radcliffe on Trent' logo as part of its design. It has been displayed without prior permission of the PC, and it was noted previous requests to display banners around the village by different village organisations have not been approved. It is the view of the PC that banners promoting private ventures for Radcliffe is ruining the look of the village, it is not within the remit of the PC to allow or ban them on the village railings, however the PC do have the right not to allow them on PC land. It was Resolved: "The Clerk will inform the resident responsible for the Radcliffe App banner that promotional banners are not allowed on PC land with prior permission of the PC".

22. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

23. Councillors' Reports

- Cllr Clegg confirmed that the 'Picnic in the Park' event has been booked by Cllr Barton for the 7th July 2019. This was a very good event last year and Cllrs were asked to make a note of this year's date in their diaries. The Village Show is booked for Sunday 8th September 2019. The Radcliffe Carnival is on the 13th July 2019, and Radfest is on the 29th June 2019.
- Cllr Spencer along with Cllr Barton made a Leisure Hub presentation to the Business Forum. RBC Cllr Neil Clarke suggested that the PC should borrow some money for this facility to be built.
- Cllr Thompson confirmed she attended a ROTSA meeting on the 15th January 2019 with Cllr Thorn and Cllr Spencer. The PC Cllrs were hoping for an update on the lease, however this is currently being looked at by solicitors. Cllr Thorn then spoke concerning lease time periods and break clauses. Cllr Thompson also confirmed that her parked car had been run into on Friday night, and that the CTV through the village is not strong enough to pick up a speeding car's registration details. The Clerk confirmed the system is old and technology is now much improved from its installation date.
- Cllr Clegg referred back to the minutes from ROTSA. The group had stated they would have the Bingham Road Playing Fields site for a 'peppercorn' rent and there would be no investment for its upkeep. ROTSA would therefore be looking for a donation or 'somebody' for the upkeep, estimated at 9,000 P.A.

24. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 04 March 2019

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.52pm

Signed: Chairman Date