

Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council
Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting, held in the Radcliffe Room
at The Grange, on Monday 27 January 2020 at 7pm

Cllr Alice Tomlinson(Chair)	Cllr Barbara Deavin (Vice Chairman)	Cllr Tracy James (A)
Cllr Norman Bradley	Cllr Gillian Dunn	Cllr Anne Mcleod
Cllr Abby Brennan (A)	Cllr Diane Farthing	Cllr Sonal Modhvadia
Cllr Maggie Clamp	Cllr Lorraine Foster (Ab)	Cllr Alan R Harvey
Cllr Harry Curtis	Cllr David Graham	Cllr Alan Rybacki

Cllr Josephine Spencer (PC Chairman) Cllr Sue Clegg (PC Vice Chairman)

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

1. Apologies

Cllr Tracy James and Cllr Abby Brennan – Approved.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Nottinghamshire Hospice: A Presentation by Rosie Hickling and Rebecca Taylor – Open Gardens Event Proposal

Roxie Hickling (Events and Fundraising Coordinator) and Rebecca Taylor (Community Fundraiser) for the Nottinghamshire Hospice presented Cllrs with handouts and an overview which included:

- J Roxie and Rebecca are working closely together to organise a new Open Gardens Event for Radcliffe and have asked for Parish Council support today.
- J The Nottinghamshire Hospice is an independent local charity who support adults with life limiting illnesses throughout Nottinghamshire.
- J Have four key services which are Day Therapy, Hospice at Home, Night Support and Bereavement and Counselling Support.
- J The Charity have chosen Radcliffe for the Open Garden Event because it has been noticed that although there is Radcliffe Gardening Club, there hasn't been a wider Open Gardens Event held in Radcliffe.
- J A number of neighbouring villages such as Shelford, West Bridgford, Burton Joyce, Lady Bay, Cotgrave and others have held the Open Gardens.
- J Have a good relationship with the Radcliffe Community, there is also a good Nottinghamshire Hospice Shop in the village centre.
- J Is aware through Facebook 'Radcliffe Beautiful Gardens', Radcliffe Gardening Club and the U3a Garden Group there is a very good community of gardeners and lovely gardens as well.
- J Want to bring a 'buzz' and income to local businesses in Radcliffe, which is what the Burton Joyce Event did last year.
- J The Event is not limited and is open to everyone.
- J The Burton Joyce Garden Event went very well last year, 14 gardens opened and 720 people attended. There was very positive feedback from the gardeners, volunteers and general public.
- J Brookfields Garden Centre in Mapperley sponsored the Burton Joyce Event and all the money raised on the day went to the Nottinghamshire Hospice Charity.
- J A free shuttle bus service around Burton Joyce was also available on the day which made it more accessible and was very well received.
- J £5,600 was raised from the event, the Nottinghamshire Hospice shop was also open for the day which took £2,000 and a grant of £2,500 was donated meaning a grand total of £10,000 for the charity.
- J A date in June is planned for the Radcliffe Event however these dates will be discussed so they will not co-inside with annual village events.

- J Roxie and Rebecca will lead the Event and put together risk assessments etc., but will also seek Community Support. They will look for those interested to take part first then make an assessment on how many gardens will be open for viewing in Radcliffe.

It was noted that the Radcliffe Gardening Club and U3a Gardening Club already have open garden events, however this was for members only. Dates to avoid have been discussed with the Chair of the Radcliffe Gardening Club and will be put to members this week. The U3a Gardening Club have been contacted but there has been no response yet. The aim is to open 10 Radcliffe gardens for 2020.

The Chairman thought the event is a lovely idea and thanked the ladies for attending tonight's meeting and for informing the PC about their intentions for the event. The PC support the event however the main concern for the PC is a potential 'clash of dates' as there are so many events taking place throughout the year, so regular updates were requested. The PC Chairman also suggested promoting the event via the PC website and Cllr McCleod will liaise with the U3a Gardening Club on the speaker's behalf.

4. Chairman's Announcements

- J The Chairman confirmed today is 'Holocaust Memorial Day' which marks 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz. It is important for people to never forget this date.
- J Recently the Rockley Memorial Park has been subjected to some serious anti-social behaviour and vandalism. This will be discussed later in the agenda.
- J Has been very happy to see lots of residents beautiful photographs of Radcliffe on Social Media.

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

Standing Orders were suspended at 7.15pm:

- J Phil Taylor from the Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers asked when the Cliff Top Path would be repaired by the NCC Rights of Way Officer. The Clerk confirmed that although the work had been postponed, the Cliff Path was scheduled to be repaired within the next few weeks. Phil also confirmed that 10 'planting plots' have been prepared for the 10 trees under the RBC Free Tree Scheme, it is hoped these will be planted in February 2020 however the Clerk will liaise with Streetwise and Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers regarding tree delivery dates. A request was also made for more chippings to be made available to mulch the trees in at the beginning of March.

Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.16pm

6. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 November 2019 for approval

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

7. Clerk's Report on items arising from these minutes

M.14: Today Veolia asked for more information regarding the two new litter bins for Wharf Lane Recreation Ground. The PC hopes to hear if the Grant Funding Application has been successful next week.

8. Grange and Grange Hall

Hall Manager Report

The Hall Manager was not at tonight's meeting.

9. Events 2020 & Notes of Meeting Held 14.01.2020

Cllr Deavin provided a visual representation of The Grange Hall events planned for 2020 for all Committee members. This was discussed and it was noted that the recent Sunday night Bhangra Event at the Hall was marvellous and very well attended. It had been previously proposed that the 'Live & Local' aspect of Radventures be absorbed by the Events Committee, however there has been no agreement made to do this. The Events committee are trying to promote 'Have a Go' evenings at the Hall with groups such as the Signing Choir. A Folk evening and a 'Dance the Night Away with The Franchise' has also been booked. All ideas are encouraged and Cllr Clegg was thanked for taking the notes at the Events Committee Meeting on the 14th January. Cllr Deavin will also go to Lowdham to discuss the new version of the Lowdham Book Festival event. It may be feasible that the Grange Hall

will be a suitable venue for this event 'on tour'. It was noted that clarity may be needed regarding some of the booking fees for these events.

10. Events Financial Forecast Analysis April 2019 – December 2019

Noted and accepted. The year end is not quite finished, the net budget for events was for a loss of £169 and it is now over at £3,500 which is a fantastic result.

11. Grange and Grange Hall Financial Forecast April 2019 – Part January 2020

Noted and accepted. The forecast is up by £15,000 which is excellent news. There has been extra Grange and Grange Hall bookings made and the U3a Group has also increased bookings.

12. Water Dispenser Review: Rental vs Purchase

The current water dispenser in the Grange Hall was rented monthly by Allen Vending. However the Company have now merged with another Company and they are not responding. The dispenser is rusty and unhygienic and now needs replacing. Quotes have been sourced, however rental vs purchase costs are very similar and no recommendations have been made by the office for one or the other. The Chairman was of the view that renting would be the better option as regular servicing, breakdown costs and a new replacement /better model would be provided every three years under this arrangement. Clarity was required regarding filter costs as these could be high if not included in the rental. Based on this view it was Resolved: "Subject to confirmation to include water filters, the PC approved the replacement of the Grange Hall water dispenser with a new Borg and Overstorm B3 model, to be rented via Countrywide at a 3 year total cost of £844.56."

13. Piano Offer – To Consider

Cllrs considered an ex residents kind offer of a piano for the Grange Hall, however Cllrs agreed that the servicing, any parts, maintenance and regular tuning of the piano would be too costly for the PC overall. It was Resolved: "That the Clerk write to thank the ex-resident very much for considering the Grange Hall, however declined the lovely offer of the piano offer due to the costs involved in servicing, maintenance and tuning/parts to bring the piano up to a good playable standard."

14. Amenities Financial Forecast April 2019 – Part January 2020

Noted and Accepted. There has been a net budget under spend which will be discussed later in the agenda.

15. Skate Park Update

The new concrete Skatepark build is now progressing very well and the work is scheduled to finish by the end of February. There has been a few incidents of vandalism and last weekend there was a small amount of graffiti and concrete damage to one area. The Skatepark Committee are aware and have their own Social Media page, the 'Canvas' signs have also been taken down. Donors and donations for the project was then discussed. There will be a big Skatepark reopening event on Saturday 18th April 2020 and 'Canvas' will be helping with the promotion. Other organisations such as Trent Barton and East Midlands Trains have been invited and 'East Midlands Today' will also be there. The Committee are currently considering a suitable person 'cut the ribbon' and all Cllrs are welcome to come along. It was also noted that the grass around the new facility will be re-instated and there is also a retention which is part of the Skatepark Tender requirements. The Chairman discussed how the vandalism issues are being addressed. Regular Skatepark users are encouraged to 'own' their space at the new facility, a 'Soft Skatepark Opening' will be held before the main re-opening event and a post will be placed on Social Media about the serious damage graffiti can cause to the concrete Skatepark. It was also noted that vandalism is constantly monitored and it was agreed that every time damage is done, people should be made aware through Social Media.

16. Rockley Park

Anti-Social Behaviour and Security (Opening/Locking – Cliff Top Fence)

There has been a bad spell of anti-social behaviour at Rockley Park and the Chairman thanked the staff for dealing with the issues. Residents were shocked at the type of damage caused when the PC posted a message on Social Media, however this was an effective way of relaying the anti-social behaviour. Previously the opening and locking of the Park Gates was an issue. At the time of the antisocial

behaviour the back gates leading onto the Cliff Path had been left open, this was because it was easily accessible to anyone through a hole in the flimsy back fence. The current situation is that the front gates only are being locked by PC Staff weekdays and weekends by a resident. The back fence has now been repaired, cameras have been installed and a post has been cemented into the park walkway to deter vehicles driving on the lawns. It was also agreed that once the bungalow has a tenant living there, and the new Skatepark facility is opened it will hopefully make a big improvement to the Park security.

17. 19 Rockley Avenue (The Bungalow) Update

Cllr Deavin and the Clerk recently met with a Managing Agent from Royston and Lund who was very professional. They recommended that the bungalow could be let for £895 per month, but noted there was only parking for one car. If the corner planter was removed and the area extended it could accommodate two vehicles. Cllrs agreed in principle for quotes be sourced via the office to either excavate the area at the front of the bungalow which would be more expensive or to remove the existing planter to extend the space. The costings would then be brought back to Committee. It was noted that the set budget for upgrading the bungalow is at £1,000 underspend so this could go towards extending the parking for the property. Spare keys will be cut this week, and other administration for the property will be completed. It is hoped that a new tenant will be occupying the bungalow over the next month or so on the basis that the PC Groundstaff will maintain the grass in the very large garden every 10 days during the summer months. A conversation regarding the gates will also need to be had with prospective tenants.

18. Play Areas

Wharf Lane Refurbishment - Update

All the floor safety surfacing is completed and the three tier tyre stack has been removed. The only outstanding work is the re-painting of all the play equipment as the Contractors are waiting for better drier weather. It was noted that the total project cost was £22,000, and £19,000 of the works have been completed.

19. Valley Road Site Visit 16.12.19 – Report from Working Group

Cllr Deavin and Cllr Graham made a visit to Valley Road Play area on the 16th December and agreed it was a marvellous facility which is under-used. The wobble bridge has been mended, although the equipment could do with repainting. It was agreed that the old paint needs to be removed on the tractor and slide before any repainting is done in primary colours. A quote will now be sourced to carry out the work.

20. Play Area Working Group Meeting 13.01.2020: to Consider Recommendation of Replacement Equipment at The Grange and Other Repair Works Highlighted in Quarterly Operational Inspections (Funded via 19/20 net budget underspend – to approve recommendation to F&GP Committee)

) The Grange: The Play Area Working Group considered the 3 Company options for a new slide and new springer for The Grange. The prices reflect that both installations are ordered. The Group preferred a Proludic Diabolo slide and a Wicksteed Springer. This affected the single prices dramatically therefore the Clerk recommended that the same Company is used for both pieces of equipment. More quotes are being sourced for comparisons and this will be revisited. It was Resolved: "That the Amenities Committee agree in principle to recommend that F&GP release funds. Clarity on equipment and costs will be available for the next F&GP meeting."

) Play Area Gates: New closers are required for Upper Saxondale and Wharf Lane. It was difficult to source quotes for these gates as they are old and after inspection of both areas, a quote for closers (only) and a quote for new gates have been obtained and therefore there is a large difference in the price. It was Resolved: "The Amenities Committee approved the recommendation made by the Play Area Working Group for Paul Hunt to supply and fit closers to the gates at Wharf Lane at Upper Saxondale for a total cost of £700.(F&GP to confirm)"

) Wharf Lane Adventure Park: The Devils Island Basket Swing is very popular and well used along with the climbing wall rope (netting). Following the quarterly Playground Inspection Streetwise have taken down the equipment as the shackles and basket swing itself is seriously worn, and the climbing rope netting has been taped up further to prevent any accidents. The

Inspector is concerned that if the swing is removed permanently then another piece of equipment not intended for group use will take its place and if the climbing wall netting is removed there will be nothing at the back for the child to climb onto. Cllrs were asked to consider replacing the Hags equipment from this year's underspent budget, although the replacement basket and netting are expensive. Investigations into whether other Companies can supply the equipment will be made and the equipment will be monitored. The Budget Working Group to convene a meeting to discuss Finance.

- J) Wharf Lane Basketball Backboards: It was agreed that the quote to replace the rotted through basketball backboards was too costly, so the office will now source a quote for the spares only and PC Groundstaff will fit them.
21. Grange Grounds: To Consider Removal of Two Trees (Boules Area and Back of the Grange)
Cllr Deavin and Cllr Spencer met with Boule team members. The Boules group previously complained about the amount of bird droppings they have to clear up before a game and suggested moving the Boules Court to another area of the Grange Grounds. This suggestion was not feasible as this would be at a cost to the group. All other options were considered by the group and Cllrs agreed to also consider the removal of one of the large overhanging yew trees near to the Boules Court which is blocking light from the Oak and shedding tree matter. The tree removal would be approximately £500. The removal of the Venerable Mulberry at the back of The Grange was not considered as the report from the PC tree surgeon states it is a rare tree which is in its winter state only and is not dead.
It was Resolved: "The PC approved for the office to arrange removal the large overhanging Yew Tree at the Boules Court at an estimated cost of £500 and for the spare logs from the tree to be free for residents to collect. The Venerable Mulberry Tree will not be taken down."
22. Public Realm:
Additional History Sign Shelford Road: Update on Funding Contributions Available and to Consider PC Contribution
A resident had enquired whether another History Board could be placed at the top of Shelford Road near to The Radcliffe PH. Discussions and considerations of funding options have taken place and NCC Cllr Cutts had indicated she could fund the new board, not aware of installation costs for one board. The ES Solutions installation costs however are £1,150, Cllr Cutts offered £250 and the Radcliffe History Society offered £300. There will be a £600 shortfall to carry out the project, therefore this will be deferred for discussion at a future meeting.
23. Finger Post Wharf Lane: Offer Update from RBC Councillors
Permission from the NCC Highways has been refused for a new Wharf Lane Finger Post as it is too busy, and there are other items such as lampposts and utility boxes at this corner. The three RBC Cllrs have instead offered to spend this money intended for the finger post on new Skatepark signs at Wharf Lane. It was Resolved: "That the PC accept the offer from the RBC Cllrs for new Skatepark signs at Wharf Lane as an alternative to the Wharf Lane Fingerpost and agreed the signs should encompass a historical account of the Skatepark and Radcliffe Olympic and to include walks in the area."
24. Happy To Chat Bench: Update from RBC Councillors
Cllr Upton is leading and funding this project and currently a plaque is being made for the bench outside M. A. Mills in the village. The metal plaque will contain the National Wording and will be made by A and R Signs for £27 in total and it will be installed as soon as possible. Cllr Upton will also suggest to the PC Clerks in Rushcliffe that there should be one Happy to Chat Bench for each Parish.
25. The Fountain (Water Trough Repair Update)
Records from 1901 confirm that The Fountain is the responsibility of the PC, although it was not listed until 1984. The broken finial still has not been fixed to The Fountain, previously M.A. Mills own Stone Masons offered to repair the finial FOC, however the RBC Conservation Officer asked that a Specialist dealing with listed monuments carry out the repairs and so two quotes from Contractors via the RBC approved list have been obtained. It was Resolved: "It was approved for the Clerk to clarify with the 2nd Contractor details of materials used, and if satisfactory to place an order to repair the finial at a total cost of £280."

26. Growth Board Working Group: Update on Village Scheme
Cllr Clegg confirmed the Growth Board Working Group had not yet met, however members will arrange a meeting date after tonight's Amenities meeting.
27. Lamp Post Poppies: To Consider Scheme for VE Day, VJ Day and Remembrance Sunday
Cllrs agreed it was a good idea for Lamp Post Poppies to be put up in the Village Centre to commemorate VE and VJ Day and Remembrance Sunday this year. Previously the Radcliffe British Legion had supplied the PC with lamppost poppies, however these are not now available. It was confirmed twenty poppies are required and that they are £3 each. It was Resolved: "That the Clerk arrange the purchase of twenty lamppost poppies for the village, and the PC will put up the poppies for this year's VE day, VJ Day, and Remembrance Day. The poppies can also be displayed for any other Village Events/Commemorations in the future."
28. NCC L.I.S Scheme 2020: To Consider
Applications for the 2020 NCC LIS Grant Funding Scheme expires on the 28th February 2020. Cllrs considered if PC should apply, however applications for LIS funding had been successful over the past 2 years for large projects, the PC is currently short -staffed and time limited to obtain 3 quotes to bring back to Committee, to then submit a Grant Funding Application by the end of February. It was Resolved: "That the PC will not submit NCC LIS Scheme Grant Funding application(s) in 2020."
29. Lily Ponds & Dewberry Hill 5 Year Management Plans: To Consider Agreement in Principle (Prior to Final Tweaking)
Noted and discussed. It was Resolved: "That the PC agreed in principle to approve the 5 Year Management Plans for the Lily Ponds and Dewberry Hill." Cllrs thanked Phil Taylor for all his hard work on this document.
Standing Orders suspended at 8.40pm to allow Phil Taylor from the Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers to speak:
-) Lissette Cartier also from the Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers to be thanked for her work on Dewberry Hill and Greg Chapman for his work at the Lily Ponds.
 -) The Management Plan work is in its final stage and Phil Taylor will submit the final elements to the Clerk who will forward the document to all Cllrs.
 -) They are detailed and slightly different to the original documents as they contain simplified information from the Volunteers who work and spend time at the areas.
 -) Riverside Plan details discussed and a community contribution S106 arrangement was suggested for this area as a full page ad had appeared in the local evening post by developers at Shelford Road encouraging potential new home owners by stating 'it was a very attractive location with lots of riverside walks.'
 -) It was thought that the very muddy section at the bottom of Slack Hollow steps could be upgraded to make it easier for walking for Radcliffe residents and visitors and this has now been included in the plan. Selective tree planting and promoting native Black Polar to prevent the growth of weeds along the riverside has also been suggested in the plan.
 -) Cllrs are encouraged to email Phil with any comments, queries or suggestions in the next four weeks.
- Standing Orders reinstated at 8.45pm
- The Chairman and PC Chairman again thanked Phil and the Radcliffe Volunteers for their work.
30. Wharf Lane Pitch – Advertising Boards: To Consider
It was the view of Cllrs that the advertising boards could be displayed when there is a football match being played however if not they should be taken down and stored to restore it to a 'green space'. The Chairman and Cllr Rybacki will obtain further information from the Chairman of Radcliffe Football Club before any decisions are made.

31. Leisure Hub Proposal: Update from Working Group Meeting Held 20.01.2020

The PC Chairman confirmed the Working Group Meeting went very well on the 20th January and is of the view that it is vital a Leisure Hub is built in the village. There is a big concern about Bingham Road Playing Fields as the lease runs out this year and negotiations are in process for a new lease. This is the only area in the village that children have their football matches, as the pavilion at Wharf Lane is inadequate and not fit for purpose. A new Leisure Hub should be built as a proper utility building and be used for all sports (not just football), the youth of the village, possibly badminton, arts and other activities. Other villagers have expressed an interest to join the Working Group including a very keen lady who is a member of the F.A, a lady interested in dance and an architect who can supply C.A.D. drawings. A need must be demonstrated for the Leisure Hub and to possibly create a Facebook page and a 'Survey Monkey'. A date for the next meeting will be arranged and the PC Chairman welcomes Cllrs to come along to this.

RBC Cllr Upton noted Cllrs should be concerned if the Bingham Road Lease is not renewed and notice is given to quit this year, the Community will ask the PC if any other arrangements have been made. The PC Chairman then confirmed that more land is needed for more pitches in this Parish and the whole village community needs to support ROTSA to keep the Bingham Road facility.

32. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

33. Councillors' Reports

- J Cllr Clegg confirmed four PC Cllrs attended the Police Priority Setting Meeting last week. There were concerns about parking on pavements in the village and it was agreed to advertise this via Social Media to make people aware of the problems visually impaired people have with their guide dogs getting round these cars. It was also noted there was a bad spate of crime around Christmas time for Radcliffe. Residents were also advised to lock windows and doors and to hide keys.
- J Cllr Harvey confirmed that there had recently been an awful lot of vans stolen in Radcliffe and surrounding villages. Van owners have been advised to look after their vehicles.
- J The Chairman confirmed that the Chair at the Charity Run Playgroup in the village is resigning, so there is now a vacancy for a Chairperson. Cllrs were asked if they are aware of anybody who would like to be Chair for the Playgroup, because if there is no Chair or full Committee the group will not be viable.

34. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 09 March 2020. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed: ChairmanDate