



Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Karen Green
The Grange, Vicarage Lane
Radcliffe on Trent
Nottingham
NG12 2FB

Tel: 0115 9335808

Email: clerk@rotpc.com

Web: www.rotpc.com

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held at Grange Hall on Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 7pm

In attendance: Cllr Jo Spencer, Cllr Oliver Bere, Cllr Harry Curtis, Cllr Gillian Dunn, Cllr Matthew Douglas-Kirk, Cllr Irene Dovey, Cllr Tracy James, Cllr Anne McLeod, Cllr Sue Clegg

Also present: Lisa Simpson (Hall Manager – Acting Clerk), Claire Sutcliffe (Parish Council Administrator) and 1 member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Karen Green (Parish Clerk), Cllr Alice Tomlinson, Cllr David Graham, Cllr Martin Davis, Cllr Shaun Moroney, Cllr Phil Thomas, Cllr Ian Rhodes, NCC/RBC Cllr Roger Upton, RBC Cllr Abby Brennan – approved.

Cllr Jo Spencer confirmed all happy for her to chair the meeting in the absence of the Amenities Chair and Vice Chair.

2. Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business. Limited to 15 Minutes

Standing Orders were suspended at 7.02pm

The Chair of the Radcliffe Conservation Group gave the following update:

- The work required at the weir has been given to contractors to complete. The issue of a safety rail is still in hand but should be sorted in the next few weeks. Richard Bennett of Canal Trust is the contact.
- The tree planting project has experienced some issues with The Woodland Trust and Trent Rivers Trust but they hope to move forward with this soon.
- Willow trees at the Lily ponds have been cut back to improve the aesthetic.

Standing Orders resumed at 7.05pm

4. Proposal to Accept the Minutes of the Finance and General Purpose and Amenities Meeting held on 30th November 2021

Resolved: "That the minutes were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman."

5. Chairman's Announcements

- Grange Hall has been missed off the agenda. It was very busy last week, almost back to normal levels. Lots of bookings coming in.

- Suggestion to reinstate a Housekeeping Working Group. Will be added to the next agenda in order to elect members.

6. Clerk's Report on Previous Minutes

Part funding for The Grange hedge whips has been received and the whips themselves have been planted. The Gazebo Planters have arrived and they are being filled with gravel/soil at the bottom and covered with compost. Plants will be from the proposed quote.

7. Discuss and agree a way forward for the wet flower bed at Rockley Park

John Simpson (Senior Groundstaff) advised he had a meeting with the Carbon Clever Working Group in November to determine which plants should be used for planting in Rockley Park. Last summer some plants failed and they are not sure why. Over the winter some plants have been under water. Severn Trent have been to check for a possible leak but couldn't find anything. A decision is required as soon as possible whether to go with herbaceous plants or turn back to a grassed area. Cllr McLeod will contact a local geologist to see if he can advise John. Have until April to decide but the sooner the better or the higher quality plants won't be available. Suggestions made for planting an area as a Jubilee Memorial or possibly some raised planters.

8. Proposal to update Cemetery fees from April 2022

A larger discussion took place around the various fees connected to the cemetery as it is felt that we may be currently charging less than many others in the area. A comparison to ensure we are competitive is required and any profits can then be invested in improving the area with specialist grass cutting and regular maintenance of the trees and hedges as there have been some complaints from residents regarding overgrowth.

Resolved: To update the Burial and Monument fees as proposed from April 2022.

9. Agree works to propose to Budget Working Group for remaining 2021-2022 budget

Item deferred to next F&GP Agenda on 8th March 2022 as not for the Amenities Committee.

10. Agree whether/how to use remaining available Welcome Back Fund

This has to be used by 31st March 2022. Proposal to spend on plants. Raised planters can be used as long as they are not fixed.

Resolved: To use the remaining Welcome Back Fund on non-perennial plants and moveable planters for the village.

11. Proposal to accept costing of the change of lighting to LED and repair of the guttering at Wharf Lane Pavilion

The lighting is adequate but the Football Club want to update it to LED. Agreed that some repairs are necessary but as it's a rental property we need to know first how viable the site is. A detailed condition survey should be procured to ensure it's fit for purpose. This can then be used to encourage the lease to be signed.

Resolved: To obtain quotes for condition survey and send to F&GP for approval.

12. Proposal to update the checking system used for Parish Council defibrillators

An email has been received from Community Heartbeat, the company who maintain the defibs, to say they recommend weekly checks so it is proposed we stick to this as they are done at the same time as the playground inspections so it requires very little resource and the system currently works well. Cllr Bere advised this is in contrast to the EMAS guidelines which indicate monthly checks are sufficient.

Resolved: To continue with weekly checks of the Parish Council defibrillators **Vote - 8 for, 1 abstention**

13. Request from resident to plant more trees/more wildlife/wildlife pond in Radcliffe and to have a water fountain to refill bottles

Planting has already been covered and everyone is in favour of extra trees etc. The water fountain suggestion was discussed a few years back but not really viable.

Cllr Upton sent an email detailing his reasons for opposing this: -

'I see on the agenda there is an item requesting a public water fountain for refilling water bottles. I would really caution against this. There are issues about getting a water supply off the Severn Trent water main. Then a water meter is needed and presumably the PC will pay the bills? Perhaps more importantly is the need to keep the tap and its mechanism clean and in good working condition. Then there is the problem of vandalism and deliberate contamination of the fountain and its water tap, and the need to have regular legionella testing! It's a subject that comes up from time to time, and I think that the lack of these public water fountains shows that they have many and difficult problems both with their installation and their ongoing maintain an emergency. I personally think it's better to get water bottles refilled at cafes, etc.'

Cllr Brennan endorsed these comments.

Cllr Douglas-Kirk advised there are stickers that shops and cafes can get to put in their window to show they are happy for the public to come in and fill up their water bottles. He will find the website link and share this.

14. Events Working Group notes and update

The Hall Manager gave the following update:

- A bank of volunteers is needed to run the cinema events held in the hall.
- A calendar of events for the year is going to be produced and shared on social media.
- Cllr Moroney has proposed that there should be 4 key events held as a maximum.
- Discussed whether to put up the cinema ticket price and agreed upon £3 for daytime, £4 evening and to keep the kids one at £2 to keep it affordable for family groups. Also, need to find a suitable online ticket provider that will also provide us with a mailing list that can then be used for marketing other events.
- Cllr Dunn highlighted in response to the CPR training proposal in point 8. of the notes, that these types of events aren't covered in the Events Working Group's Terms of Reference so these would need to be updated as things evolve. It could be that this type of event is treated as a service to the village.
- The cost of around £700 to update and make safe the sound system equipment for the hall was agreed in the budget meeting on 8th February 2022 so no longer needs to go to F&GP.

15. Correspondence

Email received from Cllr Upton with the following update: -

The replacement commemorative oak tree sapling has been planted in Grange Hall Grounds and needs regular watering.

Approximately 400 "beech whips" have been planted along the Vicarage Lane boundary fence line to replace those that died or went missing!

The Post Office Parade and Gazebo planters are now all installed and planted up.

16. Parish Councillors and Outside Organisations Reports

- Waiting on news about the fountain for the village – The Clerk and Cllr Upton will need to update on this in due course as no one else aware.

- East Leake PC have recently opened a new community hub which may be something ROTPC could look for funding for.
- Cllr Spencer attended the Business Support Group meeting held at The Royal Oak in the village on 28th January 2022. Bingham Rd parade of shops need support as they feel they are left out compared to the Post Office parade. We should encourage business owners to come to meetings to talk to us. Could possibly have a Facebook page for village businesses to encourage residents to visit them.
- Cllr James attended the 'Veterans UK Welfare/Transition Support: a masterclass for local authorities' session on 3rd February 2022. She also advised that at 12.15am on Saturday night she walked past the Skate Park and the lights were on which is unacceptable. This has been happening for 2 years now and needs to be sorted.
- Cllr Curtis confirmed that the carnival will be able to go ahead this year and so the Working Group is looking for stall holders for the day.
- Cllr Spencer showed a photograph of two grave plots in the cemetery which have white gravel on which is in breach of the Terms & Conditions. The office will draft and send letter to the next of kin asking them to remove it within one month. If others see this, they may do it too.
- Cllr Moroney had the Councillor Training provided by NALC and felt it was very worthwhile. It was suggested that perhaps all councillors should have this.
- The Hall Manager confirmed that she spoke to NALC regarding holding future meetings on Zoom and it is not permitted. If a councillor attends a face-to-face meeting via Zoom, they cannot vote and can only speak when Standing Orders are suspended. They do agree that this needs updating however so hopefully it will change in the near future.
- Cllr James asked if the pop-up gazebo can be used for Radfest on 18th June and also if this can be advertised using the large banner space where there is currently a Slimming World banner as this needs taking down now.

17. Reports from Borough and County Councillors

None.

18. Date of the next meeting Tuesday 5th April 2022 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.37pm

I declare that the above is a true record of the meeting

Signed

Date

Chair

Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council