

Amenities Committee Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held on 4th March, 2009 at 7.30pm

Members Present: Chairman Cllr Mrs Smith

Cllr Mrs V Bell

Cllr J Crow

Cllr R Bryan

Cllr M Dyer

Cllr Mrs J House

In attendance: Mrs Ann Jacobs Parish Clerk

Open Forum: None

450. Declarations of Interest – Cllr Bryan declared a personal interest in item 6.

451. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from: Cllr R Dudman; Cllr I Maddock and Cllr Mrs A Warman.

452. Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 4th February, 2008, pages 72 & 73 were confirmed as a correct record and signed. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J House, seconded by Cllr Mrs V Bell.

453. Matters arising from the Minutes:

1. Min 406 – repairs to footpath 19 at Horton Road entrance – Still awaiting confirmation of price from contractor. The Clerk is chasing this up.

454. Correspondence - The following correspondence was noted:-

1. Street naming and numbering: severed land 7 Struan Drive, to be known as 5A Struan Drive
2. Street naming and numbering: 12 Lions Lane split into 12 and 12A Lions Lane.

455. Horton Road:-

1. The Clerk thanked Cllr Bryan for his prompt action following the report of a dangerous branch overhanging the bus stop. The Clerk asked Members to retrospectively approve the cost of £55. This was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Bell, seconded by Cllr M Dyer. Cllr Bryan has received a copy of the procedures and contact numbers for future reference.

RESOLVED: To approve the cost of £55 to remove the branch overhanging the bus stop at Horton Road.

457. Braeside Road and Play Park Area – The report from EDDC was awaited.

458. Dog Bins – A request for a dog bin for Lions Hill was considered. It was noted that this land, including the entrance route is outside the remit of the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to write to the Herpetological Trust and request consideration be given to the request utilising some of the mitigation reserve.

459. Annual Price review of Contracts:- The Clerk reported that both contractors advised that a 5% price increase would be applied to the annual contractors. This was discussed, mindful of the professional and reliable service provided over a number of years by both contractors and that this was within the budgetary provision, members approved the price increase for both companies. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Bell, seconded by Cllr Mrs J House. Agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To approve and renew the annual contracts, including 5% increase, for dog bin clearance and grass cutting for 2009/2010.

460. Youth Club – The Clerk reported an informal request for an increase in hard play surface at Braeside Road recreation ground behind the Scout hut. More information had been requested but the idea was currently in the initial stages, members of the Club did not want to waste time on planning a project that may not be supported. Members discussed the request in principle. Several Members had looked at the area and reported on the close proximity of adjacent properties, particularly if there was a possibility of a need for additional lighting or additional requirements. It was agreed that the area was unsuitable. Members suggested that the Club should consider hiring the main hall, for soft ball or other use once per month or during the winter.

461. Exchange of Information:

1. Next meeting, 1st April, 2009. Noted.
2. Cllr Dyer reported an enforcement notice being issued at 77 Boundary Lane, due to car sales.

3. Cllr Crow reported the AGM at Oaktree caravan park. There are now over 300 sites on Oaktree and with the Oakdene caravan park in addition an increase in dogs using the adjacent forest. Members of Oaktree ask if the Council would look at installing an additional dog bin on Footpath 7 due to the volume of dog fouling. It was noted that this land, is outside the remit of the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to write to the Forestry and ask them to give consideration to the request.
4. Cllr Bryan reported a verbal complaint concerning the lack of lighting around the hall. This will be passed to the VHMC.
5. The Clerk will seek advice on the condition of trees on Parish lands.

The meeting ended at 8pm.

Chairman