

**St Leonards & St Ives Parish Council
Amenities Committee Meeting**

Minutes of the meeting held at 7.00pm on 2nd December 2015
In the Committee Room at the Village Hall, Braeside Road, St Leonards

Members Present: Cllr C House, Chairman

Cllr R Adkins

Cllr B Goringe

Cllr Mrs A Warman

Cllr Mrs J Carter

Cllr Mrs J House

In attendance: Mrs Ann Jacobs, Clerk, Cllr R Warman observing.

311. Declarations of Interest & Requests for dispensations: None received.

312. Apologies: Cllr R Bryan; Cllr N Hindmarch and Cllr M Dyer (attending the EDEP meeting)

313. Public speaking - none

314. Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2015 pages 59 & 60, were agreed unanimously, as a correct record and signed. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J House, seconded by Cllr Mrs A Warman.
Nem. Con.

315. Matters Arising from the Minutes were duly noted:-

1. Min. 266 – Letter sent to County Councillor P Richardson confirming acceptance of his offer for a wildflower meadow at Horton Road Village Green. A timetable for the work has been requested.
2. Min. 268.4 – Bowling Club representative contacted but has advised that they now have a landscape gardener who is a Member. He will be lightly trimming the hedge only. Concerns have been explained about frost and he has noted this.
3. Min. 268.2 - Canford Drains are scheduled to come and look and will do a clear and report what further work is needed. Due to workloads it has been delayed. The Clerk is chasing them for a definite date.
4. Min. 265. Letters despatched.

316. Correspondence: None.

317. Braeside Road and Play Park Area –

- i) Report on the Play area - repair to seesaw reported to Lengthsman but a special tool is required, enquiries have been made to obtain it.
- ii) Dog fouling in the play area – none since middle of September.

318. Dogs: The Clerk reported that the weekly check showed improvement of the main area. Cllr Mrs Warman reported fouling amongst the leaves around the Village Hall building.

319. Skatepark Request- Members received a request from a resident to consider installing a Skatepark at Horton Road Village Green. This was discussed. It was noted that this had been considered in 2007 at which time the site and idea was considered unsuitable for a number of reasons: safety of access to the site; security of the site; ROSPA guidance is for all access to the area to be of a hard surface to avoid mud and grass getting on the structure this combined with the cost of the park was thought to be prohibitive; close proximity to housing; propensity for graffiti and ongoing costs of regular checks and maintenance. There is already a BMX track at Watchmoor Wood along the railway. This was discussed. It was noted that the BMX type of use seems to be quieter than skateboarding and designs could now build in more sound absorbing. Provision of sufficient facilities for Youth in the Parish was a consideration. The site suggested may not be ideal and cost was a major factor. It was noted that the request was from one individual. The Clerk reported that the Council had previously agreed that significant changes in use to the Village Greens would need a proper consultation with the neighbours adjacent. The Clerk will respond that for the proposal to be considered further significant evidence of support and demand from residents of this Parish including addresses would be needed. Cost would be a major factor and forward the Rospa advice. Proposed by Cllr Mrs A Warman, seconded by Cllr B Goringe. Agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will respond as directed.

- 320. Wildflower Meadow Area Horton Road Village Green** – County Councillor Peter Richardson has also agreed to purchase a bench for the site which will be ordered in January. A new bin is to be ordered to replace the broken one cost approximately £160+ VAT, as this is a replacement for a broken item it's immediate replacement is permitted under financial regulations.
- 321. Litter** – Members noted that the Contractor who collects litter and empties the litter bins at Braeside and Horton Road is retiring. A new Contractor has been approached to start from 1st December 2015. A letter of thanks has been sent to Mr Duckworth who has worked for the Parish for almost 28 years. War on Waste has now been engaged to add this on to their existing contract for dog waste a revised signed contract will be sorted out with them to include this additional service.
- 322. Contracts for Ground Maintenance** – Members discussed a draft contract for grounds maintenance which had been compiled by combining the West Moors model and on the existing contract. The Chairman had concerns about ensuring a formal paper trail. The Chairman pointed out that a signed contract is needed to protect the provision of the service. This was discussed. It was noted that the proposal was not defining the number of cuts, Contractors need stability and some degree of flexibility due to the weather. The existing Contractor has worked for the Parish for over 20 years. Cllr Mrs Warman asked for an addition to ensure signs for example at Lions Wood are kept clear of vegetation. The Clerk will put the draft to the Contractor and ask him to provide a price for the new contract which includes some additional work so the monthly sum will increase but there is provision for the extras included within the agreed budget. The Contractor will be asked to put on the invoice "As per Grounds Maintenance Service Level Agreement". Proposed by Cllr R Adkins, seconded by Cllr Mrs J House. Agreed unanimously.
RESOLVED: The Clerk will amend the draft as directed and put the document to the Contractor with a request for a total cost for the service for the year.

323. Exchange of Information:

1. Next meeting 2nd March 2016

Meeting closed at 7.42pm

Chairman