

Minutes
of a Meeting of
Yatton Parish Council
Amenities & Properties Committee
held on
18 October 2010
at Hangstones Pavilion

Meeting Commenced: 7.30 p.m.

Meeting ended: 9.05 p.m.

Present: Councillors Graham Humphreys (Chairman), Maurice Blunsdon, David Crossman, Martyn Hooper, Susan Morris and Ian Payne

In attendance: Clerk and five members of the public

Public participation

Les Howland asked if regular inspection of the allotments was now on the grounds staff work programme and the Clerk assured him that it was.

Glenys Foster reported that she had cut back brambles along Stowey Road.

Win Lowman spoke on behalf of YACWAG about the wildflower garden at Glebelands. The Parish Council had a grass-cutting regime but it had not been followed. Following the regime would give a better result. Win was also concerned about the rubbish being put in compost bins there.

Robin and Sarah Morris also spoke about the wildflower garden and were unconvinced about the need for it, when there was plenty of wildlife habitat outside the village. The wildflower garden compared unfavourably with the rest of Glebelands. Could it be turned into a sensory garden?

MATTERS FOR DECISION

AAP384: Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Clare Bessant, Mike Cox, Viv Wathen and Jean Watson.

AAP385: Declarations of Interest

None

AAP386: Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 September 2010

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

AAP387: Exclusion of public

RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda items 13 (bollards at Cherry Grove), 14 (safety surfacing at Rock Road) and 15 (work on Hangstones path) on the ground that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because consideration may involve disclosure of information exempt under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (information relating to the financial affairs of the authority).

AAP388: Management of Glebelands, including the wildflower garden

The Clerk assured members that the contractor had a copy of the grass-cutting regime. However the contractor had no particular expertise in wildlife management. The current contract did not provide for any penalty clauses if work was not done at the right time; the normal rule was that a contractor would be paid once the work was done.

Members considered whether the contract could be revised to provide for work to be done on time, or whether YACWAG might be asked to take over the management of the garden. Members also considered that signage needed to be improved.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That all options for future management be considered;
- (2) That YACWAG be asked to make formal proposals for future management;
- (3) That local residents be asked for suggestions
- (4) That other voluntary organisations such as Yeo Valley Lions be approached
- (5) That the Clerk report back to the next meeting.

AAP389: Management of Rock Road play area

The Clerk reported concerns of a member of the public about equipment at the play area. This item was to have been considered along with

Playbuilder funding for equipment at Hangstones but now that Playbuilder had been cancelled the Parish Council had to consider play equipment throughout the parish in the light of its own resources. The play area continued to be well used.

The Clerk also reported that the Youth Offending Team would trim the hedge between the play area and the Youth Club and this should make it easier to detect anti-social behaviour in the play area.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the horse rocker be removed;
- (2) That quotes be obtained for shot-blasting and repainting the remaining equipment;
- (3) That further consideration be given to equipment to replace the horse rocker.

(Replacement of safety surfacing was considered later, minute AAP397.)

AAP390: Provision of grit bins

The Clerk reported a request from a resident of Ashleigh Road for a grit bin near the corner of Grassmere Road and Ashleigh Road. The only suitable site was a grass verge on Grassmere Road. Martyn Hooper reported a request for an additional bin on Mendip Road.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That subject to the agreement of North Somerset Council and local residents the existing bin at the corner of Grassmere Road and High Street be moved to the grass verge on Grassmere Road;
- (2) That subject to inspection by the Clerk and the agreement of North Somerset Council an additional grit bin be sited on Mendip Road.

AAP391: Provision of dog bins

The Clerk reported that a resident had suggested that the dog bin formerly at the corner of Chescombe Road and Binhay Road could be re-sited near the far end of Chescombe Road.

RESOLVED that that dog bin be re-sited near the corner of Chescombe Road and Mendip Close.

AAP392: New signage at Hangstones, Rock Road and Broadcroft

The Clerk circulated drafts of new signs for the fields and car parks. They were intended to be more welcoming and informative, but also to cover the Council's liability.

In discussion members suggested removing contact information for the hospital (since an emergency number was given), removing the 'mission' statement and enlarging the 'welcome' statement.

RESOLVED that with these amendments the Clerk obtain quotes for signs based on the drafts.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

AAP393: Summary income & expenditure report (Annex 1)

Noted

AAP394: Clerk's report

(1) The title to all the Parish Council's properties, with the exception of the Village Green and Cadbury Hill, had now been registered. Congresbury Parish Council had agreed to so-operate with the registration of Cadbury Hill.

(2) The Clerk had placed an order to replace the netting behind the mini-goal post on Hangstones.

AAP395: Future Agenda items

(1) Play equipment and picnic table at Broadcroft.

(2) Signage

(3) Management of Glebelands wildflower garden

(4) Management of Rock Road play area

(5) Possible projects for Yeo Valley Lions

(6) Custody of old deeds no longer required as evidence of title (possible historical interest)

(The public left the meeting.)

MATTERS FOR DECISION

AAP396: Bollards at Cherry Grove

The Clerk reported one quote, giving a number of alternative specifications for bollards. He advised that given the need for the work to be carried out in the near future one quote would suffice.

In discussion members expressed a preference for round treated timber bollards rather than square timber or recycled plastic.

RESOLVED that the quote from P A Fencing to supply and erect 19 round treated timber bollards in the sum of £1330 be accepted.

AAP397: Replacement of safety surfacing at Rock Road play area

The Clerk reported two quotes.

RESOLVED that in view of the amounts the matter be referred to full Council.

AAP398: Further work on path at Hangstones

The Clerk reported a quote for further work to enable the grass near the path to be cut. However members considered that this work was part of the work necessary to finish off the construction of the path properly.

RESOLVED that Safety Green, the path contractors, be informed that the Parish Council was not yet satisfied that the construction of the path had been finished off properly.

Chairman

___/___/2010