

Minutes
of a Meeting of
Yatton Parish Council
Amenities & Properties Committee
held on
21 September 2009
at Hangstones Pavilion

Meeting Commenced: 7.30 p.m.

Meeting ended: 9.35 p.m.

Present: Councillors: Graham Humphreys (Chairman), Clare Bessant, Trevor Bidwell-Ford, Maurice Blunsdon, Mike Cox, David Crossman, Susan Morris, Viv Wathen, Jean Watson

In attendance: Councillors Ian Payne and Lucy Perrott, Clerk, Pete Moorman (groundsman) and four members of the public.

Before the meeting councillors toured Hangstones field.

Public participation

Les Howland reported a plague of milk thistles. The Clerk agreed that grounds staff would identify the offending plots.

Les also referred to Agenda item 12 (bonfire policy on the allotments) and said that permitting bonfires last year had worked well.

Glenys Foster reported that the path between Well Lane and Beech Road was untidy, and that there was an overhanging branch.

Pat Stevens asked about the intended use of the 'triangle' on Hangstones field where the grass was growing back. The Clerk confirmed that it was still available for recreation.

Pat reported more disturbances at Hangstones at weekends and asked whether access to the field at night-times could be prevented. The Clerk doubted whether this was practicable but urged residents to contact the police as soon as there were problems.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

AAP266: Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Martyn Hooper

AAP267: Declarations of Interest

David Crossman declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda items 10 and 11 (ball stop fencing at Hangstones and Broadcroft) as one of the tenderers rented land from him.

AAP268: Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 July 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

AAP269: Review of charges for hire of the Council's properties

Members noted a report from the Clerk

RESOLVED that the Clerk ask other parishes for details of hire charges and that the matter be further considered at a future meeting.

AAP270: Measures to prevent cars being driven onto Hangstones field without permission and to prevent fly-tipping on the Hangstones overflow car park

Members considered various options to prevent cars being driven onto Hangstones field and to prevent fly-tipping on the overflow car park. The Clerk reported Wendy Griggs' concerns that replacing the former chain would mean that there was inadequate parking space. However members considered that those likely to use the overflow car park would have a key to the chain. Members were not in favour of further restricting access to the main car park.

RESOLVED that the chain be reinstated, but extending over a narrower area, and that to reduce any safety risk the chain should be sheathed or wrapped, and equipped with a handle.

(Maurice Blunsdon left the meeting.)

AAP271: Remedial work on Hangstones pavilion to prevent flooding

The Clerk reported that he had received one quotation which was under £1000.

RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorised to obtain further quote or quotes and accept a quote under £1000, provided that it is made clear to contractors that the purpose of the work is to prevent flooding.

AAP272: Management of the BMX track and neighbouring mounds on Hangstones field

The Clerk reported that the Rospa safety inspection had revealed no risk other than long grass, and that the insurance cover was satisfactory.

RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorised to place an order for reducing the mounds (but not the BMX track) to make the area accessible, and for cutting the grass, and that any proposals by users for re-designing the track be considered at a future meeting.

AAP273: Purchase of a container to be sited at Hangstones

Members considered purchasing a container to store (among other things) Christmas lights and goal posts. Members asked the Clerk to investigate whether planning permission would be required.

RESOLVED to purchase a 40 foot second-hand container for £1250 + VAT and £220 + VAT delivery.

AAP274: Ball stop netting at Hangstones and Broadcroft

Members considered that ball stop netting on both sites was desirable.

RESOLVED that the three quotations obtained by the Clerk be considered as the last item of the meeting; and that the press and public be excluded from further consideration of this item on the grounds that its consideration may involve disclosure of information exempt under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person).

AAP275: Policy on permitting bonfires on the Mendip Road Allotments

Members considered that last year's trial had been a success.

RESOLVED that in this and future years bonfires be permitted on the Mendip Road allotments between 1 October and 31 March (inclusive) subject to the same conditions as last year.

AAP276: Management arrangements for Cadbury Hill

The Clerk presented a draft management protocol (Annex 1) which would ensure that management was in accordance with the Financial Regulations of both Congresbury and Yatton Parish Councils. The protocol had been approved by Congresbury Parish Council.

RESOLVED that the protocol be adopted and reviewed after a year

AAP277: Proposed management plan for Cadbury Hill submitted by the Managing Agent

Members considered a costed action plan submitted by Graham Morgan

RESOLVED that Trevor Bidwell-Ford, Mike Cox, David Crossman and the Clerk meet members of Congresbury Parish Council and Graham Morgan to discuss the management plan, to include a site visit, with a view to making recommendations to the next meeting of this Committee.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

AAP278: Summary Income and Expenditure report (Annex 2)

Noted

AAP279: Future Agenda items

- (1) Play equipment expenditure (Niccy Lockhart to be asked for comments)
- (2) Timing of street lights
- (3) Removal of bush at Burial Ground to provide more cremation plots
- (4) Users' proposals for improving the BMX track

The press and public left the room. David Crossman, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, left the room.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

AAP280: Ball stop netting at Hangstones and Broadcroft (resumed)

Members considered three quotations.

RESOLVED that weldmesh netting on Hangstones was not required, and that the Broadcroft netting should stop at the tree.

RESOLVED, by 6 votes to 1, that the quotation from Greenfields, in the amounts of £2638.20 + VAT (Hangstones) and £1669.54 (Broadcroft) be accepted. Trevor Bidwell-Ford asked for his vote against to be recorded.

Chairman

___/___/2009