

Minutes

of the Meeting of

Yatton Parish Council Amenities & Properties Committee 6 July 2009

held at Hangstones Pavilion

Meeting Commenced: 7.30 p.m.

Meeting ended: 9 p.m.

Present: Councillors: Graham Humphreys (Chairman), Trevor Bidwell-Ford, Maurice Blunsdon, David Crossman, Viv Wathen, Jean Watson

In attendance: Clerk, Niccy Lockhart (Youth Worker), Charles Clarke, John Ellis, Les Howland, Susan Morris, Ian Payne, Pat Stevens

Public participation

Pat Stevens commented, in relation to Agenda item 11 (control of rabbits on Mendip Road allotments) that the current tenancy agreement prevented plot holders from erecting fencing without the consent of the Council.

Pat also commented on Agenda item 9 (Stowey Road barrier). He was surprised that North Somerset Council based its risk assessment on past accidents. He felt they should be more pro-active. He also said that while it was true that Stowey Road was residential it had a high volume of traffic. He accepted, however, the view that a barrier could be seen as low priority.

Les Howland also commented on Agenda item 11. The rabbit warrens were in the brambles at the far end of the allotments, The problem was much worse this year.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

AAP251: Apologies for Absence

None

AAP252: Declarations of Interest

None

AAP253: Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 June 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

AAP254: Site meeting on Broadcroft, 2 July 2009

Jean Watson submitted a written report.

RESOLVED that action be taken as recommended in the report and in particular:

- A 1 metre strip of long grass should be left along the fencing
- North Somerset Housing should be asked about the possibility of sensor control or time switches on their lights
- Quotes should be obtained for a fence against the allotments of sufficient height to prevent balls being kicked over
- A Youth Forum should be arranged
- A copy of the report should be sent to PACT

AAP255: Renewal of the Cordon Sanitaire contract for water monitoring at Hangstones Pavilion.

The Clerk apologised for not having the amount quoted for the contract at the meeting.

RESOLVED that this be considered at full Council on 20 July.

AAP257 Provision of a barrier at the access to Hangstones field between 38 and 40 Stowey Road.

Members considered a report from the Clerk.

RESOLVED that:

- A sign be erected directing users requiring disabled access to the car park
- Apart from this no further action be taken on a barrier unless any new safety issues arise.

AAP258. Management of the BMX track and neighbouring mounds on Hangstones field.

The Clerk reported that there were safety issues around the BMX track, and also that some of the mounds made management of the area difficult.

Members considered it important that young people felt they had ownership of the area. Young people did not want highly structured areas. It was possible that any work done by the Council would give rise to further action by users

RESOLVED that:

- The Clerk check insurance cover for the skatepark and BMX track
- The Clerk arrange for a ROSPA safety inspection
- The Clerk enquire how other BMX tracks are managed

AAP259 Management of the long grass on Hangstones field next to Stowey Road (number 40 and upwards)

The Clerk reported that the large area of long grass made management difficult. Residents were also concerned about brambles against their fences.

RESOLVED that:

- The brambles should be cut back
- A strip of long grass should be left against the fences
- The remaining grass should be cut and taken away at the end of July, and then allowed to grow back apart from a firebreak twice the width of the existing one.

AAP260 Further to consider hedges and fences around Hangstones field.

The Clerk reported a quote of £840 from Will Gray for hedge laying, together with £118.15 for the purchase of whips, and a quote from A J Hunt for £200 + VAT for fencing by the garage.

RESOLVED that these quotes be accepted, the fencing to be done immediately and the hedge laying in November.

AAP261 Control of rabbits on the Mendip Road allotments

Members asked whether landowners were responsible for vermin on their land.

Trevor Bidwell-Ford will speak to the landowner and ask permission for the brambles to be cut back.

RESOLVED that during the current infestation allotment holders be permitted to put up fences, at their own expense, the height not to exceed that for a standard rabbit fence.

AAP262 Future of the £2000 reserve earmarked for play equipment

RESOLVED that the reserve be earmarked for play equipment generally, proposals to be discussed with Niccy Lockhart and the Youth Forum

AAP263 Provision of a new hob in Yatton Youth Club

RESOLVED that the Clerk have delegated authority to accept a quote.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

AAP264 Summary Income and Expenditure report

Noted

AAP265 Management plan for Moor Street Bow

The Clerk reported that James Field of Avon Wildlife Trust had inspected the site and was preparing a management plan. He was broadly satisfied with the Council's management but proposed cutting back part of the grass.

Chairman

___/___/2009