



SHERFIELD ON LODDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE VILLAGE GREEN AND LEISURE FACILITIES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE LIDDELL HALL AT 7.30 PM ON TUESDAY 23 JANUARY 2018

	In Attendance	Apologies	Absent
Cllr Attwood (Chairman)	✓		
Cllr Batting	✓		
Cllr Darker	✓		
Cllr Effiong	✓		
Cllr Gaiger	✓		
Cllr Johnston		✓	
Cllr Neale		✓	
Cllr Rowland	✓		

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Catherine Ryle (Clerk), Pamela Darker (Village Green volunteers), Fred Berntsen (Loddon Sports), Bob Weller (Sherfield Allotment Association) and 1 member of the public.

180122 To receive Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Johnston and Cllr Neale and were accepted. The Cricket Club representatives had sent apologies.

180123 To receive any Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

No declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest were received.

180124 To approve the minutes of meeting held on 24 October 2017

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Village Green and Leisure Facilities Committee meeting held on 24 October 2017 as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were signed.

180125 Public participation

No members of the public wished to speak.

180126 To receive a report from Loddon Sports

Fred Berntsen reported that he had met with representatives of the Hampshire Football Association and Sports England who had carried out an inspection of the pitches. The playing area had been inspected, samples were taken and the drainage into the ditch along the Bramley Road was looked at. The main comments had been that the surface was uneven and waterlogged. A written report is expected – the Clerk said that she had chased this.

180127 To receive a report from Sherfield Cricket Club

No representatives of the Club were present. The Clerk said that she had made the Club aware that the current licence agreement would expire at the end of December 2018 and would be reviewed. Steve Dummer had indicated that the Club would continue to play. Councillors discussed the use of the pavilion and pitch by the Cricket Club and it was agreed that a preparatory discussion of renewal terms would be useful. Cllr Rowland had contacted the Cricket Club to arrange a meeting.

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- 180128 To receive a report from Sherfield Allotment Association**
The report (Appendix A) had been circulated prior to the meeting and was **NOTED**. It was explained that the review prior to Christmas referred to the Parish Council confirming continuation of the existing arrangements after the first year. Cllr Attwood said that he would arrange a meeting to review allotment matters with Bob Weller. Any issues and comments could be highlighted to the Parish Council through the regular written report. The Clerk had received two outstanding allotment rental payments and there was one tenant on notice to quit.
- 180129 To receive a report from the Village Green volunteers (previously circulated) and consider the suggested tasks for January and February 2018**
The report (Appendix B) was **NOTED**. Mrs Pamela Darker said that the hedges round the tennis court had been cut back. It was noted that the moss on the tennis court should be sprayed and Cllr Gaiger would do this. Anna Scott would be asked for advice on the area of scrub to the left of the Horse Pond as there had been a suggestion that this could be cleared while others wanted it retained to support wildlife. Pamela would ask the pond champions for reports. On a proposal by Cllr Darker, seconded by Cllr Batting, the tasks notified for January and February in the attached report were agreed.
- 180129.01 To discuss the footpath signs at Winton Cottage and opposite Mole Country Stores**
Cllr Effiong had contacted the Rights of Way officer who would arrange for the signposts to be replaced.
- 180129.02 To consider the proposed Notice of Intent (NOI) for the area round the playground and behind Loddon Sports Pavilion**
Cllr Darker tabled copies of the proposed Notice of Intent. This was discussed. It was agreed that residents of Poplar Close adjacent to the line of oak trees should be invited to a meeting to discuss the Parish Council's plans. On a proposal by Cllr Effiong, seconded by Cllr Rowland it was **AGREED** that Cllr Darker should prepare an amended NOI for presentation to Full Council.
- 180129.03 To discuss work to a large depression next to Centre Ditch to enlarge the cricket outfield**
Cllr Attwood reported that he had made enquiries about having this area filled in. On a proposal by Cllr Rowland, seconded by Cllr Effiong, it was **AGREED** to recommend further investigation of the likely costs and that a proposal should be put to Full Council.
- 180129.04 To discuss remedial repairs to the verge alongside Greenway**
There were concerns about rutting of the verge due to vehicles parking on it. This was a particular problem during the current wet weather. Possible solutions were discussed. On a proposal by Cllr Darker, seconded by Cllr Rowland it was **AGREED** that a letter should be written to residents of Greenway asking them to avoid parking on the area particularly during wet weather due to the damage caused.

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- 180129.05 To consider the request that the Parish Council pays for a wood chipper for up to £500 for a week and make a recommendation**
The Village Green Volunteers would like to hire a wood chipper to use in connection with work on Middle Green under the current Notice of Intent as this would generate a large quantity of wood. Cllr Attwood had inquired about prices and said that the charge was £175 per day or £380 per week. The Clerk advised that risk assessments would be required.
On a proposal by Cllr Rowland, seconded by Cllr Effiong, it was **AGREED** to recommend that the Parish Council should pay for hire of a wood chipper for the identified work on Middle Green up to a cost of £500 provided that appropriate risk assessments were undertaken and that the chippings were re-cycled as explained by Cllr Attwood. The Clerk advised that costings should be presented to Full Council.
- 180129.06 To investigate the purchase of a circular bench to be placed around the stump to the left of the War Memorial and to include memorial plaques as previously identified**
Cllr Attwood said that a more recent suggestion was that the stump should be removed completely and a new tree should be planted. It was agreed that further investigations should be made into the potential removal of the stump and manufacturers of a bench to match the existing one.
- 180129.07 To discuss ways of encouraging residents to report incidents of aggressive dogs on and off leads to the Parish Council**
Cllr Rowland explained that members of the public can report incidents to the police by calling 101. They can also take photographs and send these to the police. There was a discussion of how people can be influenced to keep their dogs under control, with some councillors favouring a change to the bye laws to require that all dogs on the Village Green are kept on a lead. Consideration would have to be given to how this could be enforced. Members of the public had a personal responsibility to report incidents they were concerned about.
It was agreed that the issue should be highlighted in the next Loddon Valley Link article with the advice to call 101.
- 180129.08 To discuss projects for S106 community monies**
- **areas in front of and to the side of the cricket pavilion (rubber matting or crumb layer)**
 - **new guttering for cricket pavilion**
 - **provision of heating in pavilion**
- Cllr Rowland advised that she was investigating S106 funds in her capacity as borough councillor. This item was deferred.
- 180130 To discuss concerns raised by a resident about pedestrian access across the Village Green and the impact of recent fencing**
Cllr Rowland had received correspondence which had been shared with members of the parish council. The footpath referred to was near Court Farm. After discussion Cllr Attwood proposed that the fence should be left as it was and this was agreed. Clerk to write to the resident.



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- 180131 To consider reverting to holding the Village Green and Leisure Facilities committee meeting in alternate months**
It was agreed that these committee meetings should revert to alternate months starting immediately.
- 180132 To consider the replacement of the plank crossing the ditch to the BMX track with a pipe and scalplings with no cost to the Parish Council**
On a proposal by Cllr Attwood, seconded by Cllr Gaiger, it was **AGREED** to accept Dave Miller's offer to carry out this work at no cost to the Parish Council.
- 180133 To consider the quotations received for resurfacing the BMX track and make a recommendation**
Cllr Attwood handed a copy of a second quotation to the Clerk at the meeting. As this information had not been received in time for it to be distributed to councillors, it was agreed that the item would be discussed at Full Council.
- 180134 To receive an update on the old football pavilion and consider arrangements for an assessment to be undertaken**
Cllr Rowland had put an item on the Parish Council Facebook page inviting chartered surveyors to contact the Parish Council if they were able to assist with an assessment of this building.
- 180135 To confirm the date of the next meeting**
The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 27 March 2018.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

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APPENDIX A

Allotment Report To The Village Green & Leisure Facilities Committee

January 23rd 2018

The Hazel saplings have been planted along the allotment fence-line at the Bow Gardens entrance. This was carried out by allotment volunteers.

30 saplings were planted, kindly supplied by Cllr J Darker & Cllr J Attwood so thank you for that.

A large amount of pea sticks have been utilised from the work carried out by the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Trust on the Village Green these will be put to good use by the allotment holders.

I have been informed by the Clerk that one allotment holder has been given a notice to quit due to non payment of deposit & rent this plot will become available on the 3rd February. Two others have been given a 14 day notice to pay for unpaid rent.

I have had four enquiries for allotment plots and asked each to fill an application form in. However at this point I have not received any forms hopefully they will arrive at some point. So at the moment we have only 1 person on the waiting list which is an out of parish and already a plot holder who would like an extra plot.

There are no vacant plots at the moment.

It is hoped that the financial report which was to be handed out at the Parish Council allotment AGM will be available soon.

I had asked when the review would take place for the allotment manager set up now in place however I was informed that the review was held before Xmas. I had hoped that the review would include the opportunity for the allotment manager to be involved in a discussion of the last year and any areas for change and future thoughts etc.

Bob Weller

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APPENDIX B

Report by VGVs to VG & LF Committee 23 January 2018

Reports from the meeting of the VGVs. 14 November 2017 and 2 January 2018

Work carried out October to January

- A branch overhanging the path outside the village on the A33 has been cut back.
- Work continued on the trees and ditches in the Notice of Intent between the cricket field and Reading Road
- There were 2 Saturday meetings in November: 1 cut back the remaining harvest hedge behind the Play Area. 2: A small group assisted Oliver Bartrum (wearing the waders) with thinning out the bulrushes in Jubilee Pond.
- The bridge behind the Village Hall has been repaired together with some benches.
- The broken drain in the ditch has been repaired with a couple of pieces of concrete.
- The spring bulbs have been planted in front of the brick pillars at the entrance to the village by the slip road.
- The signs with the Bye-Laws have been put up.
- HIWWT cleared the overgrowth and saplings wound the pygmy gorse in the SINC in Middle Green
- The Notice of Intent was prepared for Middle Green and has been approved by BDBC.
- Supports for planks to make a "bridge" were put in Jubilee Pond for the safe passage of VGVs for necessary maintenance work on the island. This is being made clear (in the LVL) that it is not for use by the general public and the planks are removed when not in use.
- Gorse bushes have been ordered to replace the ones near to Centre Ditch.

January/February Plans

- Finish tidying up area by Centre and Cross Ditches.
- Work starting as approved by the NoI for Middle Green.
- Saturday sessions will not start till March
- Cutting back the withies
- NoI being prepared for the area behind the Sports Pavilion

The total number of volunteers involved in the mid-week sessions since 29 December 2016 to December 2017: 31. The number of hours worked: 1,387.

4 Saturday sessions: no. of volunteers: total 18. Number of hours worked: 56.

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SUGGESTIONS FOR THE VGLF/PC

- 1 The footpath finger post near Winton Cottage needs attention as well as the one opposite Mole Country Stores. (DE will talk to Emma Broadbant.)
- 2 Agreement to spend up to £500 for the hire of a chipper to deal with the cuttings on Middle Green.
- 3 Agreement for filling in the large depression between the cricket field and Centre Ditch with earth and grass to improve the look and extend the outfield. It would be easier to keep tidy in keeping with the rest of the field.
- 4 Agreement to put the outstanding plaques on the existing bench on the RHS of the War Memorial.
- 5 Consider purchasing a bench similar to the Jubilee one to go around the stump on the LHS of the Memorial. The VGVs would level the ground and install it. Allow up to £1000.
- 6 Remedial repairs of the verge along Greenway. The car owners should be reminded it is part of the VG
- 7 Encourage any incidents involving aggressive dogs on or off their leads to be reported to the PC.
- 8 Suggestions for the S106 money:
 - Improving the area in front of the Cricket Pavilion. Eg rubber matting/chippings.
 - Making a path from the road round to the front of the pavilion.
 - New guttering for the cricket pavilion.

Pamela Darker
12 January 2018