

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Facilities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Yaxley Parish Council on 23rd June 2015.**

Present:- Councillors G Bellamy, R Butcher, S Butler, S Howe, S Howell, J Lusted, M Oliver, D Porteous, A Rees, S White and J Willis.

In attendance – H Taylor and G Hill for item CF7.

CF1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

On the proposition of Councillor A Rees seconded by Councillor J Willis, it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor G Bellamy be elected Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor G Bellamy in the Chair.

CF2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received and accepted on behalf of Councillor K Gulson and Reg Bingham (both personal).

CF3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors G Bellamy and D Porteous declared disclosable pecuniary interests in item CF8 by virtue of being a Council allotment holder and refrained from voting on this matter.

Councillor S Howe, S Howell and M Oliver declared disclosable pecuniary interests in item CF9 by virtue of being Members of the Fenland Trust and therefore potential business partners with Yaxley Cricket Club, they refrained from voting on this matter.

Councillor M Oliver declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item CF12 by virtue of being Managing Director of Fenland Stoneworks and refrained from voting on this matter.

CF4. MINUTES

Councillor A Rees proposed approval of the Minutes of the Committee held on 24th March 2015. This was seconded by Councillor M Oliver and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

CF5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

On the proposition of Councillor J Willis, seconded by Councillor J Lusted, it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor A Rees be elected Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

CF6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No Member of the Public wished to speak.

CF7. GRASS CUTTING PROGRAMME

The Clerk circulated a list showing the extent of the grass cutting undertaken by the Grounds Maintenance Team. Members were advised that the team aims to cut the areas every two weeks with the focal points of the village being cut weekly, if timed allowed. Members were advised that April/ May were the team's busiest period for grass cutting

due to the grass growth. In the discussions that ensued a Member referred to an option used by Peterborough City Council whereby certain areas are left longer with pathways cut through. In response to which, Mr Hill explained that this method would be problematic when coming to cut it at the end of the season. Attention was then drawn to the Cemetery and the difficulties of maintaining the old area given the uneven ground and headstone formation. Councillors referred to a previous suggest that this area be gravelled and it was agreed that Members discuss this further when they visit the area in July (date to be agreed).

On a related matter, a Member referred to an area of overhanging vegetation on Daimler Avenue which was blocking the footpath. The Clerk explained that the bushes in question were the responsibility of the house owners on Morgan Close and that the County Council had been informed with a view to them taking enforcement action to get them trimmed back.

Having been advised that the Grounds Team have sufficient grass cutting machinery at the moment but would benefit from an additional motor vehicle, Members suggested that this be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration.

CF8. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported upon the action she had taken in response to a number of complaints relating to the condition of certain allotments. She explained that 7 allotment holders had been reminded, by letter, of the terms of the allotment tenancy and had been given to Mid July to put their allotment in order. Having been advised that it would be beneficial to have a pool of Councillors available to help with allotment inspections it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher that himself, Councillors S Butler, S Howe, S Howell, J Lusted and S White be called upon for allotment inspections. This was seconded by Councillor S Howell and **RESOLVED**.

Members' attention was drawn to a request for a fence around Whiteheads Allotments. Given that any fence would need to be met from the allotment income and would result in a significant increase in allotment fees, Councillor R Butcher proposed that the request be refused. This was seconded by Councillor Howell and **RESOLVED**.

Finally, Members agreed to consider alternative allotment sites at a future meeting.

CF9. REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES – CRICKET/FOOTBALL PITCHES AND MULTI ACTIVITY AREA

By way a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) Members reviewed the hire charge for the Cricket/Football pitches and multi activity area. Having been advised of the rates charged by alternative sites and a proposal to offer a discount for regular bookings it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher that with effect from 1st September 2015:

- the cost of hiring the cricket pitch be increased to £45.00 for an adult game and £22.50 for a junior game and training sessions be charged at £7.50 per hour for use of the pavilion;

- that a discount of 10% be given to those booking 6 games in advance for all the pitches; and
- the new hire rates for use of the football pitches at Middleton's Road, Queens Park and the Multi Activity Pitch be as follows:

QUEENS PARK FOOTBALL PITCHES		
Pitch A and B	Adult	£57.00
Pitch A and B	U16	£40.00
Pitch C and D	9 v 9 U11 and U12	£25.00
Pitch E and F	7 v 7 U9 and U10	£20.00
Goalkeeping Training Pitch	With lights	£16.00
Goalkeeping Training Pitch	Without lights	£14.00
MIDDLETONS ROAD RECREATION GROUND		
Pitch H and J	Adult	£45.00
Pitch H and J	U16	£30.00
Pitch K	9 V 9 U9 to U10	£20.00
Pitch L	5 V 5 U7 to U8	£16.00
MULTI ACTIVITY AREA (ASTRO)		
Off Peak (Weekdays before 5.00pm)		£20.00
Peak - Weekdays after 5pm and weekends without floodlights		£30.00
Peak - Weekdays after 5pm and weekends with floodlights		£35.00
Peak U16's - Weekdays after 5pm and weekends without floodlights		£22.00
Peak – U16's Weekdays after 5pm and weekends with floodlights		£27.00

This was seconded by Councillor S Butler and **RESOLVED**.

CF10. REVIEW OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Having reviewed the terms and conditions for pitch hire at both Middletons Recreation Ground and Queens Park, it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher that the changes before them be implemented with effect from 1st September 2015. This was seconded by Councillor S Howell and **RESOLVED**. (Copies of the revised booking forms are appended in the Minute Book).

CF11. ANNUAL PLAY AREA SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

Consideration was given to the content of a report produced by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) summarising 3 items identified as Medium/Low risk as part of the annual play inspection report. Having been advised of the action undertaken by the Clerk and Grounds team in response to the inspection it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher that the report be accepted and its contents noted. This was seconded by Councillor S Howell and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

At the same time, Members asked that the extension of the play area in Middletons Recreation Ground to include either a toddlers area or exercise equipment be investigated by the Clerk.

CF12. REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

By way of a report by Historic England (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) Members noted the listing of the War Memorial in the Cemetery as Grade II for its special architectural or historic interest. In so doing, Councillor Oliver explained that this would have implications for the future maintenance of the memorial including cleaning.

CF13. VERTI DRAINING – QUEENS PARK

With the assistance of a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Annex to the Minute Book) Members’ attention was drawn to the observations of Rob Bradshaw of the Football Association on Queens Park following a site visit. The Clerk was pleased to report that Mr Bradshaw had been impressed with the facilities there and had suggested various short and long term improvements which should be considered alongside usage and income received for the area. Having been advised of the opportunity to take advantage of Sport England Cambridgeshire Equipment Bank project (SECEB), which could source materials and equipment at a reduced cost, Members discussed having the area aerated. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher that the SECEB be approached to undertake verti drainage on the Queens Park playing facilities this autumn, subject to the cost not exceeding £1000. This was seconded by Councillor S Howell and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

CF14. DEFIBRILLATOR.

Members received details of a national scheme being run by the British Heart Foundation to provide defibrillators in the community (details of the scheme are appended in the Minute Book). Having been advised that the defibrillators could not be kept in a locked area or coded cabinets, Councillor R Butcher proposed that possible locations be investigated. This was seconded by Councillor S Howell and **RESOLVED**.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed

Chairman.